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IMPORTANT DATES

Board of Education Meeting
Thursday, April 11 & 25, 2019
7 p.m.
Administration Building
1220 Howard St.
For more information, call
(269) 337-1572

UPCOMING

April 1-5
Spring Break
No School

April 9-11
Various testing
grades 5-12

INSIDE

Summer Camp
Guide 2019
pages 7-18



Social Justice Awards Honor KPS Students, Alums

The City of Kalamazoo 2019 Social Justice Youth Awards were given to six current and former Kalamazoo Public School students for their leadership, volunteerism and advocacy for racial and social justice. All of the winners demonstrated a commitment to social justice through a wide range of community involvement and activism.

The social justice awards were originally named after Dr. Lewis Walker, the first African American Ph.D. faculty member at Western Michigan University. The Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations was named after Walker.



Winners of the City of Kalamazoo 2019 Social Justice Awards are, from left, Gregory Culp, Loy Norrix; Kaylana Jones, Kalamazoo Central; Emma Knutson, LN; Dr. Lewis Walker, for whom the awards were originally named; Delores Shackelford, K-College, KC alumna; Tanner Luther, LN; and Trinity Scott, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, KC alumna.

The students were honored following the city’s Martin Luther King Jr. Community Wide Day of Service. In addition to a plaque, each student received a \$200 award.

Gregory Culp, Loy Norrix High School, nominated by Chris (continued on page 4)

'You're brave and smart and thoughtful': Winchell Celebrates Custodian During Kindness Week

Every now and then a Winchell Elementary School student — usually one of the little ones — would come up to Larry Martin and whisper, “We’re going to do something for you, but I can’t tell you what it is.”

Martin would smile, because that’s what he’s known for, and nod as they bubbled with excitement.

So when he was called to the gymnasium in the middle of the Kindness Week assembly, the school custodian suspected that



Baron Ton Livingstone hugs custodian Larry Martin as other students crowd around during the Winchell Kindness Week assembly, which honored Martin for making the school a kinder place.

the “emergency” wasn’t too dire — but he didn’t suspect the outpouring of enthusiasm and love he’d find there.

The entire student body, many parents, all of the teachers, and even parents and students from years past were there to shower him with (continued on page 5)

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KPS Graduation Numbers Rise

In 2010, President Barack Obama spoke at the Kalamazoo Central High School graduation as the prize in the first annual Race to the Top Commencement Challenge for work toward establishing a college-going culture. It was an historic Kalamazoo moment. That year, our four-year graduation rate was 63.1 percent.

Fast forward eight years from this momentous occasion. In 2018, our four-year graduation rate had risen to 75.2 percent, a 12-percentage-point increase and the highest rate in the district's history under the current uniform federal graduation rate formula, according to the state's recent release of graduation rate data.

In the last five years, KPS, considerably poorer than the state as measured by free/reduced-price lunch eligibility, has narrowed the gap with the state in four-year graduation rate by more than half, from 11.8 percentage points to 5.2 percentage points. The state's four-year graduation rate is 80.6 percent.

Similarly, in 2018, our five-year graduation rate had risen to 80.4 percent, only 2.8 percentage points below the state's 83.2 percent rate. Since 2014, KPS has narrowed the gap with the state in five-year graduation rate by more than two-thirds, from 8.0 to 2.8 percentage points. KPS's

five-year graduation rate exceeded socio-economically comparable districts such as Flint (72 percent), Grand Rapids (70.5 percent), Lansing (65.9 percent), and Saginaw (79.6 percent).

According to data released by the Michigan Center for Educational Performance and Information, 80.6 percent of Michigan students who started public high school in fall 2014 graduated in 2018. Students at KPS's two traditional high schools exceeded those graduation rates, with Kalamazoo Central graduating 88.9 percent of students and Loy Norrix 82.8 percent of students in that cohort in 2018.

Improvement of four-year and five-year graduation rates is the fifth of the long-term goals established by the Kalamazoo Public Schools Board of Education in January 2009. Thanks to the tremendous efforts of KPS teachers, support staff, administrators, and community members, we have raised our graduation rates steadily over the last several years.

Indeed, if one analyzes average four-year graduation rates by



Michael F. Rice, Ph.D.
Superintendent

rolling three-year bands (e.g., 2009-11, 2010-12, and 2011-13 through 2016-18), KPS has increased its four-year graduation rates seven years in a row, from 63.7 percent in 2009-11 to 72.4 percent in 2016-18. If one analyzes average five-year graduation rates by rolling three-year bands, KPS has also increased its five-year graduation rates seven years in a row, from 69.4 percent in 2009-11 to 78.4 percent in 2016-18.

Of particular concern are African American male graduation rates, an area of special attention for us over the last half decade. For five years in a row, KPS has raised African American male four-year graduation rates, from 46.7 percent in 2013 to 61.5 percent in 2018, just 2.6 percent below the state graduation rate of 64.1 percent. Similarly, KPS has increased African American male five-year graduation rates as well, to 66.5 percent in 2018, just shy of the state's 67.2 percent graduation rate.

One more snapshot: In 2005, just before the announcement of the Kalamazoo Promise, KPS had 454 graduates. In 2018, we had 692 graduates, a 52 percent increase. It is true that our enrollment grew by 25 percent during the same period. It is also true that a good portion of our growth in graduates has to do with improved outcomes, not greater enrollment.

We have worked hard in many ways to improve the numbers of KPS graduates. Many of these efforts to improve the numbers of graduates have also helped to improve our graduation rates. Relatively recent efforts include staff and community multi-student mentoring, begun in 2015. Last year, 413 mentors mentored 1,168 students in 9,572 weekly mentoring sessions. Every administrator in the district has joined me in mentoring students. Gary Start, our deputy superintendent for business, and I have mentored at Phoenix High School since 2015.

In 2013, we restructured and expanded the enrollment of Phoenix. In 2015, we also began culturally responsive education professional development. In 2016, we created the Kalamazoo Innovative Learning Program (KILP), a second alternative high school. KILP will graduate its third graduating class in June.

Below are several initiatives we are watching carefully and which have the potential to increase graduation rates in the district.

- Creation and expansion of full-day pre-kindergarten at high-poverty elementary schools in 2013 and 2014.

- Expansion of full-day kindergarten from 176 to 962 students in 2008.

- Creation of Lift Up Through Literacy parent education and family literacy programs at sites throughout the community beginning in 2010. These programs have helped thousands of parents and grandparents learn to support their children around literacy.

- Improved curriculum and professional development at all levels in the district since the completion of the district's curriculum management audit in spring 2008.

- Upper elementary teacher subject specialization beginning in 2010.

- Adoption of new K-5 English language arts materials in 2013.

- Adoption of new K-5 math materials in 2017.

- Adoption of new K-5 writing materials in 2017.

- Distribution of eight books in the summer to all sixth, fifth, fourth, and third graders. Starting in 2010, 2012, 2013, and 2017, respectively. A total of 32,000 books are distributed each summer to students to help combat the summer slide.

We have made very significant progress over the last decade, progress of which we as a school community should be proud.

And yet to paraphrase Robert Frost...miles to go before we sleep.



TEACHER JOB FAIRS

Saturday, April 27, 2019 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Friday, May 17, 2019 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

West Main Professional Development Center
1627 W. Main Street • Kalamazoo, MI 49006

Kalamazoo Central Wrestlers Take Back-to-Back District Titles

Freshman Joshua Boggan is proud that the Kalamazoo Central High School wrestling team was district champion for the second straight year — but he can’t wait to see what they do next.

“It’s cool, but we’re not satisfied with that. We can get to regionals and possibly even state,” he said.

As a freshman, he feels the team has a lot of depth on which to build the next few years — if they stay focused and committed.

This was the team’s second consecutive team district championship — only the second time in school history that they have won back-to-back district wrestling titles. Before 2018, the school had not won a district title in 11 years.

“The success of this team was built through hard work in the practice room,” said coach Michael Schrum. “The coaches are always preaching that if you focus on the process of personal improvement and doing things the right way, then the wins will eventually come.

“These wrestlers show up every day and work extremely hard, and over the course of two years, they have truly changed the culture of our program.”

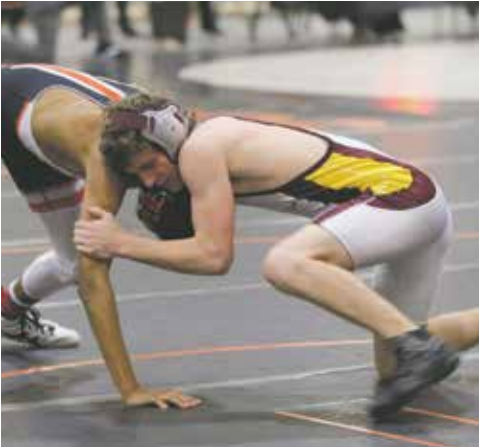
Schrum’s work with the team was honored by his fellow Division 1 wrestling coaches, who named him Regional Coach of the Year. This is his second year as head coach of the team. He is a 2003 graduate of KC, where he wrestled, played football and ran track. He works in the KC counseling office as a 504 plan coordinator and homeless liaison.

“Not only are the Giants succeeding on the mats, they are also thriving in the classroom as is evidenced by their accomplishment of earning Academic All-State the last two years,” Schrum said. “We prioritize working with teachers after school over practice if it’s needed. We want to send the right message that academics are always the top priority.”

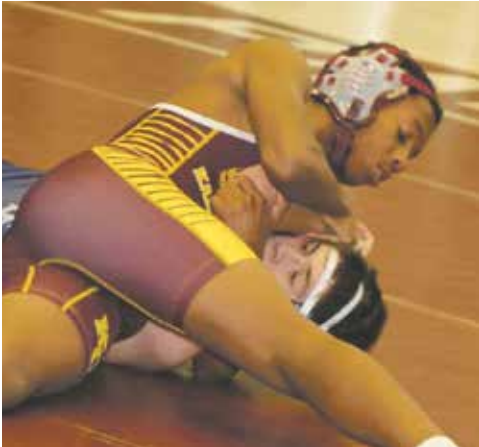
Team members are not



Team photo of the 2018–2019 Kalamazoo Central High School wrestling team.



Sam Henley



Brian White



Austin Post

only wrestlers, but some also attend the Kalamazoo Area Math and Science Center, and the Academically Talented Youth Program, and participate in mock trial, orchestra and band, he said.

“We always preach the importance of being well-rounded citizens, and we do not want our wrestlers to sacrifice their passion in other areas at the expense of being on the wrestling team,” Schrum said. “We love when our wrestlers are involved in other groups.”

Senior Sam Henley said that choosing to wrestle was the best decision he made during his high school career.

“It changed my life,” Henley said. “All the coaches were there for me. It was just so important to me. Wrestling made me a better person.”

Senior Kolby Goheen said Schrum pushes the team members to do their best in all



Joshua Boggan

areas of life, inspiring them to pay attention to details and to be there for each other.

“There are a lot of guys on the team who want to be leaders,” Goheen said. “We worked hard to make big changes to the team and those changes ben-

efited us and the team.

“This is a great team. It’s like a family. We’re all brothers. We always have each other’s backs and it’s always fun.”

Sophomore Leonardo Galasso, like Boggan, is proud of what the team accomplished this year, but he’s even more excited about the possibilities for the coming season — with a strong group of underclassmen ready to take the helm.

“Obviously we’re going to try to win state next year,” Galasso said. “We have a pretty tough regional, but we just have to listen to the coaches and do what they say and everything will work out.

“I think that everybody just believes in each other. When you have someone next to you, who believes in you that motivates you to do good things.”

Schrum was aided by assistant coaches Robert

Espinoza, Nico Lopez, Shane Kelly, and Josh Morehouse.

The 2018–2019 team roster was: Greg Beilby, Seth Billbrey, Joshua Boggan, Brandon Brown–Case, Nate Buchanan, Ketrovion Davis, Liam Denney, Jeffrey DeYoung, Alex Dolislager, Hector Dorantes, Lafayette Evans, Kanye Ford, Evan Fulkerson, Leonardo Galasso, Kolby Goheen, Sam Henley, Nathan Horwath, Makenna Lopez (manager), Awsten Mielke, Kevin Moore, Andrew Olmstead, Felix Owinga, Austin Post, Makayla Post (manager), Dylan Ramber–Jach, Samuel Rice, Xochitl Robertson–Rosas, Andrew Rudlaff, Nick Salvaggio, Simon Schwachter, Luke Skuratowicz, Colin Smith, Rhyann Smith, MarQuan Snell, Jeriean Steward, Jaiquan Tipton, Nicklas Vallier, Sean Vasquez, Maurice Wasson, Brian White, Cameron Williams, and Humberto Zamora.

Social Justice Awards Honor KPS Students, Alums for Volunteerism, Activism (cont. from page 1)

Aguinaga, principal, Loy Norrix

Community activities: True Heroes Under God, T.J. Duckett Career Training Camp, Salvation Army, and Loy Norrix PeaceJam

“He carries himself with a heart to help anybody regardless of their race, religion, sexuality or disability and even extends that to adults who work with or visit the school. He looks at all people the way he would like them to view him, not necessarily all the same. He believes that all people need some kind of help and is always looking for ways to help them.” He received the Lodge-Dennis Social Justice Youth Award, which is named in honor of the families of Dr. Betty and Tony Dennis, Western Michigan University.

Kaylana Jones, Kalamazoo Central High School, nominated by Lola Atkinson, first vice president, Metropolitan Kalamazoo NAACP

Community activities: YWCA, Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes, Ministry with Community, Kalamazoo Gospel Mis-

sion, and the NAACP

“Her passion to help her class and her community allows her to commit to leadership positions. She also works with others on her councils, so delegating jobs is something she often has to do. Kaylana is sure to stay knowledgeable on her rights and to speak up for herself or anyone she feels is being treated unjustly. She also treats others with kindness and respect and not as less than a person because she is aware that we are all equal.” She received the Dr. Lewis Walker Social Justice Youth Award.

Emma Knutson, Loy Norrix High School, nominated by Sveri Stromsta May, Loy Norrix teacher and PeaceJam advisor

Community activities: PeaceJam, Link Crew, National Honor Society. She has worked on many PeaceJam projects including the clothing drive, food drive, literacy project, and Serious Fun Global Partnership Fundraiser.

“Emma demonstrates leadership with smiles, her energy,

her willingness to help others to share their talents and time, and her drive to see a project from conception to finish. Emma is a person who puts others’ needs and concerns in front of hers, makes sure no one is left behind and that their ideas and voices are listened to.” She received the Schupan and Sons Social Justice Youth Award.

Tanner Luther, Loy Norrix High School, nominated by Pete Aerts, City of Kalamazoo Parks and Recreation

Community activities: Counselor in Training for Parks and Recreation, Open Roads Youth Advisory Board, Jeter’s Leaders, and Link Crew

“Our summer camps are extremely diverse and Tanner engages with all of the children. The campers love being around him, because he genuinely cares for them and wants the best for them. He gets along with each kid and finds a way to connect with them so that at any time he can be an asset to them. He does what he can every day to ensure that all kids are trying

new opportunities, that they are engaging with one another, and that they are treating each other kindly.” He received the Fifth-Third Bank Social Justice Youth Award.

Trinity Scott, Kalamazoo Valley Community College (Kalamazoo Central alumna), nominated by Galilee Baptist Church mentor Sadie Miles

Community activities: Kalamazoo Metropolitan Branch of the NAACP, Galilee Baptist Church Youth Ministry, Kalamazoo Central National Honor Society, and FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America)

“Trinity ensures that all people are treated without prejudice through her leadership as president of the Galilee Baptist Church Youth Ministry. The young people that join the church are of all colors and creeds. Trinity is oftentimes the first young person they meet, and she goes the extra mile to make sure they are both included and accepted willingly by the members at Galilee.” She

received the Life EMS Social Justice Youth Award.

Delores Shackelford, Kalamazoo College (Kalamazoo Central alumna), nominated by Lisa Boulding, Kalamazoo Central teacher and advisor for the FCCLA

Community activities: FCCLA, City of Kalamazoo Parks and Recreation, and Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes

“Delores understands that we all have so much to learn and so much empathy and understanding to share with one another. Through her work in our Kalamazoo community and within the state of Michigan through FCCLA, she has learned to embrace and celebrate how special and different we all are. Delores ensures all persons are treated equally and without prejudice through her dedication and work with the homeless and underprivileged, as well as those of different races, ethnicities, religions and sexual orientation.” She received the Consumers Energy Social Justice Youth Award.



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For more information, call Stephanie Ludwig at (269) 337-0264.



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Kalamazoo Public Schools
1220 Howard Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
(269) 337-0161

All other inquiries should be directed to:

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

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1220 Howard Street
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'You're brave and smart and thoughtful': Winchell Celebrates Custodian During Kindness Week (cont. from page 1)

attention and accolades. As part of the school's third annual Kindness Week, the PTO chose to honor one of their children's favorite people in the building—the one person they can always count on to know their names and to greet them with a warm smile — even when he's called upon to take care of their "emergencies."

PTO President Brynn Anderson said, "Mr. Martin is amazing. Children comment all the time that he is their favorite part of coming to school.

"He knows every name and never forgets anyone. He makes you feel so special and always has the best smile on his face. His job is less than glamorous but he doesn't ever complain or act like he is bothered by the tasks that are thrown his way. I had one child write in their letter, 'When I come to school after having a bad morning at home.... I know that Mr. Martin will greet me with a smile on his face.' I think that sums it up. He is the warmth of Winchell."

The PTO collected letters, photos, notes and drawings for Martin in three large "Appreciation Albums." Students Cecilia Gayney and Maggie McBride wrote and performed a song for him. Everyone had the chance to sign a huge banner that was displayed at the back of the gym during the assembly. The PTO also arranged for a substitute custodian to fill in for Martin that afternoon, so he could go to lunch with his wife and family, courtesy of the PTO.

Three students read from their letters of appreciation.

"Dear Mr. Martin, Thank you for all of your kind words, actions and things you do for the school. We really appreciate it. Your hard work and actions bring joy to the school," said Jasmine Liggins.

Connor Sloan said, "You make kids feel good about themselves. You are one in a million. At my old school the custodians were mean and grouchy."



Emilie Vander Naald, left, and Olivia Brooks hug Winchell Elementary custodian Larry Martin during the Kindness Week assembly.

"Mr. Martin thank you for all the love you gave the school," said Jadon Bell. "You gave the people friendly smiles. You're brave and smart and thoughtful. ... We thank you for all you have done."

Principal Mike Hughes said Martin is a role model of kindness, which is a trait the school celebrates. He has been the school's day custodian for 15 years.

"He is famous for knowing every student's name, even when they come back to visit," after graduating from Winchell, Hughes said. "Parents appreciate how caring he is to their kids, always greeting them by name with a smile."

Kindness Week is an annual tradition for Winchell, started initially to be part of the school's MLK celebrations and to combat what the school saw as political divisiveness in the country. Kindness Week includes random acts of kindness outside of school, donations for area charities, and Kindness Boxes, in which students are encouraged to deposit notes of thanks to those around the school.

After the school decided to honor him for Kindness Week, staff found out that Martin plans to retire at the end of the school year. As a special honor, Hughes started a Go Fund

Chicago for a weekend to enjoy a Cubs game.

At the assembly, Hughes announced, "Well, we earned a lot more money than that Mr. Martin, because a lot of people out there love you."

More than 175 people contributed more than \$4,200 to the fund. Many contributors no longer had students at Winchell, and quite a few were former students who are now in their 20s.

After the assembly serenaded him with "Take Me Out to the Ballgame," Martin, who is soft spoken, addressed the audience. "This was good. I couldn't imagine this — at least not like this. I'd like to thank everyone. I'm going to miss all of you."

Me campaign, with hopes of raising \$750 to send Martin to

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Young Poets Find Courage to Create in WMU Poetry Project

“When I have my children, I will wish their skin is caramel instead of dark chocolate, because apparently, my skin is bitter.” — Leasia Posey, Kalamazoo Central

Ten Kalamazoo Public Schools students were honored at the Courage to Create poetry event held at Western Michigan University’s Trimpe Multicultural Center in February.

The winning poets and their schools were:
Emily Bosak, Loy Norrix High School
Caila Chapman, Loy Norrix
Kamryn Kimbrough, Loy Norrix
Leasia Posey, Kalamazoo Central High School
Jayla Parker-Vincent, Hillside Middle School
Kaitlyn Miller, Hillside
Elleghia Fraanza, Hillside
Eddie Anderson IV, Hillside
Xavier Williams, Phoenix High School
Akasha Wormley, Milwood Magnet School

Courage to Create, worked with them on poetry exercises to help find a focus for their writing, and followed up with editing and to practice reading the poems aloud, Clark said.

The project is a collaboration between KPS, CIS, the WMU Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and Friends of Poetry.

“From those who have long stood to those who could stand no more, you are the key to connect, to stand, and to unite.” — Akasha Wormley, Milwood Magnet School

The event at Western Michigan University’s Trimpe Multicultural Center is a way for the students’ poems to “have a life outside” of the room where they’re written, Kerliowske said.

“The emphasis is on the writing as well as the performing,” she said. “A poem isn’t really done until it’s heard.”

At the Courage to Create event, the Top 10 scoring poets received Kindles. Prizes are also given to the school with the highest level of participation, which this year was Hillside

Middle School, and to Hillside teacher Heidi Ellis, who received the Inspirational Teacher Award.

Submissions are being accepted now for the 2020 competition and may be submitted online at www.wmich.edu/mlk/c2csubmission.

“I run to nowhere. Drums of courage beat me on under neon lights. My path is my own. Seven more blue sunsets until I am free from fear.” — Caila Chapman, Loy Norrix



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“Trees are tall, Oceans are blue. If others can drive, Asians can too.” — Tiann Johansen, Kalamazoo Central

Courage to Create was launched five years ago as part of Western Michigan University’s MLK Day celebrations. It was started by William Craft, director of information technology in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and Dr. Kathy Purnell, an attorney who teaches part-time at WMU.

“The idea was to inspire creativity,” Craft said. “We wanted to create a community where they could express their voices with the help of established poets.”

Poetry workshops were held for high school students who want to create poetry that addresses issues of social justice and equality, said poet Elizabeth Kerlikowske.

Since then, it has been expanded to include middle schools. And, this year for the first time, in addition to the MLK day workshops, Kalamazoo area poets worked with students during after-school sessions. Some of the poets included Kerlikowske, Buddy Hannah, Ed Genisys, and Jennifer Clark.

Working through Communities in Schools of Kalamazoo, the poets visited groups of students to introduce them to



Poet Jennifer Clark waits with Milwood Magnet School student Akasha Wormley before they read their poems at the Courage to Create awards ceremony.



Lucianna DeMorrow reads her poem at the Courage to Create ceremony at Western Michigan University.



Kalamazoo Central student Leasia Posey performs at the Courage to Create poetry reading.



Hillside Middle School Principal Atiba McKissack congratulates student Elleghia Fraanza for winning an award at the Courage to Create poetry reading.

SUMMER CAMP 2019

INSIDE: 5 Camp Facts..... 8 Types of Camps.....10 Picking a Camp.....14 Free Summer Fun.....16



Courtesy Camp Kidwell

SUMMER CAMP 2019

Five Camp Facts



1. Camp is older than dirt. Started in 1861, the camp experience turned an impressive 150 years young in 2011. Getting kids out in nature or off on new adventures isn't a new idea, but one that has obviously been popular with kids and their parents since the good ol' days.

2. There is a camp for every budget. Whether you are considering day camps or overnight camps, there is a camp for every budget. Camps often offer special pricing or financial assistance, and some camp experiences qualify for tax credits or for payment with pre-tax dollars. Check out the ads for camps featured in this section, as many indicate that they have scholarships available. Another resource for information about finding camp scholarships can be found at the American Camp Association (ACA) website at www.acacamps.org/campers-families/planning-camp/preparing-camp/affording-camp.



3. It's a great way to try new things. Camp is a place to try new activities and hobbies. According to ACA research, 74 percent of campers reported that they tried new activities at camp that they were afraid to do at first. Those activities often leave lasting impressions. In the same survey, 63 percent of parents reported that their child continued new activities from camp after returning home. The beauty of many camps available in our area is that these experiences can last one or two weeks, so if it is not the child's idea of fun, then they aren't stuck doing it for a month at a time.

4. Brains stay engaged. Education reform and concern over summer learning loss have pushed academic achievement into the spotlight for summer camps. Research shows that participation in intentional programs, like camp, during summer months helps lessen summer learning loss. Because of the "hands-on" nature of camp, children who struggle in traditional education settings may find they do better at camp.



5. You'll meet more than just new friends. Research shows that attending camp gives kids opportunities to practice being around and appreciating people with attitudes, values, and abilities different from their own. It helps expand kids' worldview and teaches them important things about diversity, empathy and understanding. At the same time, camp is also a great way for children to meet and work with others who like the same things they do, whether it's rocketry or anime or archery. Kids can also develop relationships with trusted adults other than their parents and learn a useful skill: being able to negotiate on their own with an adult for what they need.



SUMMER CAMP 2019

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- ♦ Full- and half-day camps for grades 1-5
- ♦ Specialty camps for ages 9-12 in Mixed Media, Toy & Model Design, and Filmmaking

Summer Art Classes

8-week Saturday youth classes begin June 15
Adult classes begin the week of June 11
Scholarships for summer available: apply by May 7

Spring Break Art Camp: April 1-5
Spring Art Classes Begin Saturday, April 13
6-week term means lowest tuition of the year

Register online: kiarts.org

Register by phone: (269) 349-7775

KALAMAZOO INSTITUTE OF ARTS
435 W. South St. / free parking



crescendo academy of music

your community music school

Study and learn in a positive and supportive atmosphere with professional, enthusiastic, experienced, university-trained teaching artists. Music instruction for all ages and abilities. Monthly performance opportunities. Need-based financial assistance available.

- **Private instruction** on strings, woodwinds, brass, piano, guitar, percussion, voice, theory and composition
- **Crescendo Fiddlers**
- **Chamber Ensembles** for strings and winds
- **Crescendo Community Voices** for teens and adults with mental and/or physical challenges
- **Music Together® Mixed Age** classes for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers
- **Epic Broadway!** musical theater camp begins in June

Epic Center, Suite 12, 359 S. Kalamazoo Mall
information@crescendoacademy.com
www.crescendoacademy.com 269/345-6664

GILMORE PIANO CAMP

June 23–28, 2019, at Sherman Lake YMCA



Day and Overnight Camps
269.342.1166 • thegilmore.org/piano-camp

GILMORE EDUCATION

SUMMER CAMP 2019

Different types of camps to consider

There is no reason for summer boredom when there are so many different types of camps to choose from! The different types of camps to consider in choosing one that is right for your child include:



Traditional/General – Traditional/general camps offer a little bit of everything like team sports, swimming, boating, fishing, archery, performing arts, arts and crafts, music, dance, hiking, wilderness adventure, and rock climbing. Some of these camps can be resident camps, where the campers stay overnight for a week or for several. Others are day camps, which can last from 2-3 hours a day or all day.

Traditional/general camps also have different types of programming. Programs can be *structured*, where the schedule is prearranged; *semi-elective*, where the camper has some choice in activities; or *elective*, where the camper decides his or her entire schedule.



Academic – Academic camps focus on specific areas of study designed to either improve grades or explore special topics, like the sciences. Some examples of what academic camps offer are: ESL, STEM, SAT Prep, foreign languages, tutoring, study skills, biology, computer gaming, general science, rocketry, robotics, and physics. The schedule is usually structured and can be rigorous. Many camps also have fun activities to give kids time to rest and play.



Arts – Arts camps can specialize in dance, music, performing arts, comedy, creative arts, technical theatre, painting, and visual arts. Many are held in theaters, on college campuses, and at dance companies. The programs are normally exclusive to the art. Some camps are for children who already have experience and there may be auditions required.

Sports Specialty – Sports specialty camps usually focus on one sport. There is extensive instruction and campers spend most of their time playing or learning about the sport. Some examples of sports specialties are football, soccer, baseball, basketball, volleyball, golf, and tennis.



Religious – Religious camps are predominantly Christian, Jewish, Baptist, Catholic, Lutheran, and Presbyterian. Some religious camps can be traditional/general camps, where they offer the same activities as a traditional camp with a focus on a specific religion. Other religious camps can be week-long day camps often called Vacation Bible School.

SUMMER CAMP 2019



Wilderness Adventure – Wilderness adventure camps are overnight and can last anywhere from a couple of days to a month or longer. They are usually in a forest or a mountainous area. Campers sleep in tents and sleeping bags. Some of the activities are: backpacking, hiking, camping, rock climbing, white water rafting, survival skills training, canoe trips, and mountain biking.



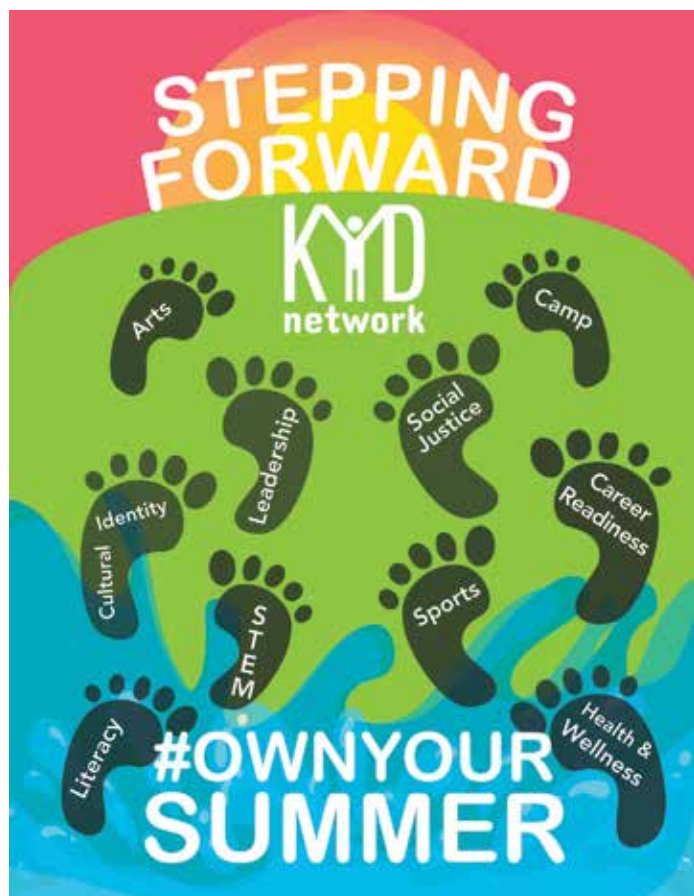
Community Service – Community service camps offer programs for kids to be involved in helping local communities. Some camps offer enrichment credits toward graduation. It is normally labor intensive and includes things like building houses, installing water systems, farming, engineering, animal care, and nature preservation.



application, providing medical documents, or speaking directly to their admissions personnel.

Special Needs – Special needs is a broad term that is used to separate traditional and specialty camps from those that cater to kids with specific needs. A special need includes, but is not limited to: cancer, autism, physical disability, burn victims, grief/loss, and LGBTQ. Similar to traditional camps, these camps offer activities such as horseback riding, swimming, climbing, team sports, and arts and crafts. The camp may also offer education for kids and their families specific to the need. There may be group therapy sessions or one-on-one counseling. If the camp specializes in disease or physical disabilities, there are most likely nurses or doctors on site as well as medical facilities. Some camps have an approval process. This may mean filling out an

– Information provided by the National Camps Association



OUT OF SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM FINDER

There are 83 programs in the Kalamazoo area. We're here to help you find a program that meets your needs.

Neighborhood:

Age:

Meals:

Keywords:

Map Satellite

We want youth in Kalamazoo to be Stepping Forward into summer. Use our Program Finder and summer planners to connect to organizations across Kalamazoo County.

To find info on content, meals, and cost (many of these programs are free), visit www.kydnet.org/program-finder.

Visit www.kydnet.org/summer to find our family planners.



www.kydnet.org

SUMMER CAMP 2019

KINGDOM SPORTS
 8151 MERCHANT PLACE
 PORTAGE MI 49002
 269.226.2000
 INFO@KICSPTS.NET

AGES 2-14 2019 SUMMER CAMPS
 GULL LAKE | THREE RIVERS | PORTAGE
 RECREATIONAL & TRAVEL SOCCER
 SKATEBOARDING | GOALKEEPER

BIRTH YEARS 2011-2001 CLUB TRYOUTS
 JUNE 15, 2019

KICSPTS.NET

the **Y** Financial Assistance is Available!

SHERMAN LAKE YMCA
SUMMER CAMP 2019

Register today!
 WWW.SHERMANLAKEYMCA.ORG

25
 1994-2019
 SHERMAN LAKE YMCA
 OUTDOOR CENTER

We Make Reading Possible **SLD IN READ**

Specializing in literacy development since 1974

Specialized support for literacy success in and out of the classroom.

* Tutoring * Professional Development * Parent Workshops

www.sldRead.org
269.345.2661

Comstock CLC Summer Fun Program

For School Aged Children 6 to 12 years
 Program Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-4pm
 6/17 - 8/23
 Call to reserve your spot (269) 345-7243

Before/After Care 6:30-9am and 4pm-6pm

Community Learning Center - 1046 River Street - Kalamazoo, MI 49048

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
Pippi Longstocking
 BOX OFFICE: 343-1313 ONLINE: KazooCivic.com

THE CIVIC Academy of Theatre Arts
 A LIFETIME OF LEARNING

2019 SUMMER CLASSES ENROLLING NOW!

FOLLOW US:     

Summer 2019

FINANCIAL AID is available for students of all ages!
 To apply or register for classes visit: **KazooCivic.com**

SUMMER CAMP 2019



**ARE YOU
READY FOR
A SUPER
SUMMER?**

SUMMER DAY CAMPS

PRE-K - 12TH GRADE
JUNE 17 - AUGUST 30

Imagine, explore and
discover at one of the
nation's top aerospace and
science education centers!

LEARN MORE
airzoo.org/camps



6151 PORTAGE RD. PORTAGE, MI 49002
EXIT 78 OFF OF I-94 (269)350-2848



WHERE LEARNING IS WILDLY FUN







BINDERPARKZOO.ORG/LEARN

SUMMER CAMP 2019



★ 2019 ★
SUMMER SPORTS CLINIC

JUNE 17 - AUGUST 30

AGES 7 - 13 ★ **9AM - 3PM**

Baseball
Softball
Basketball
Football
Volleyball

Golf
Soccer
Lacrosse
Team Sports
Sports Performance

REGISTER AT:
**NLATHLETE.COM/
SUMMER-CLINICS**
269-303-4086

The Dome
12733 North U.S. Highway 131
Schoolcraft, MI 49087

Former Schoolcraft Elementary
300 E Cass St
Schoolcraft, MI 49087

Picking Camps: Start early and ask questions

Soon that last school bell will ring and kids will be ready for summer. For parents and caregivers, however, the thought of summer's arrival can be stressful as they try to figure out the best ways to keep their kids active and engaged during the summer break.

One of the best ways to keep your kids from going stir-crazy (and making you crazy) is to sign them up for various camps throughout the summer. But with so many options and types of camps from residential to day camps, science to arts, academic to adventure, choosing the best camp for your child means starting early and asking the right questions.



children, just like adults, appreciate being made aware of or involved in the decisions that affect them.

3. Get recommendations. Ask other parents and caregivers for recommendations of summer camps that match your child's interests. You can often learn about the physical environment and the camp's daily operations, including things like noise level, type of food served, and staff diversity, that could affect the quality of your child's camp experiences. It doesn't hurt to ask former campers about their experiences as well, and to share what you learn with your child.

4. Make a budget and stick to it. Summer camps can be expensive, so decide early how much you will set aside for your child's camp experiences. Make sure to find out if the camps you'd like them to attend offer scholarships or other financial aid, because many do. Don't let a camp's price tag keep you from considering it for your child; you might be surprised at what financial help is available.

5. Do your homework. As you narrow down different camps for your kids, make a list of any concerns and questions you may have for each camp. Camps' websites are a great place to learn about rules, procedures and special considerations for campers, including what to bring and what to leave at home. If you still have questions after reviewing the information, reach out to the camps. Camp directors will gladly talk to you and tell you how they can address your concerns. They have heard and been asked it all, so don't feel like any question is a "silly question."



1. Start now. Camps fill up quickly. April is the peak time for parents to sign their kids up for summer camps, so don't put off too long making your decisions. Also, some camps require health appraisal forms or deposits to secure a spot, so you need to plan ahead to ensure that you have taken the steps needed to reserve your child's spot in a camp.

2. Decide on the type of camp. Do you want your child's camp experience be to learn new skills, develop self-confidence, increase their athletic ability or provide adventurous, age-appropriate activities? As you narrow down the types of camps, be sure to include your child when finalizing the selection. Some

Kids Summer

Improv Camps

CRAWLSPACE
THEATRE PRODUCTIONS

AGE 4-6
June 24-28
9AM-NOON

AGE 7-10
July 8-12
9AM-NOON

AGE 11-13
July 15-19
9AM-NOON

AGE 14-17
July 15-19
1PM-4PM

crawlspace theatre.com/summercamp

SUMMER CAMP 2019

GET IN THE SWING WITH GOLF!

Kalamazoo Junior Golf Association provides affordable, quality golf experiences for kids of all ages



LEARN TO GOLF

Instructional session meets Tuesday mornings June 25-August 6 at Red arrow Golf Course. Powered by The First Tee's 9 core values and healthy habits, sessions will also focus on rules, etiquette, and instructions about the golf swing.

PLAY GOLF!

Play in some of our 32 events at 20 different area golf courses. Age groups include 12 & Under, 13-15 and 16-18. Register before June 10 and receive memberships to the Red Arrow Golf Course, Youth on Course and the Golf Association of Michigan.

(269) 447-1484

Register online or get more info at www.kalamazoojunorgolf.org



Make your summer amazing at Pretty Lake Camp:

Free summer camp for children currently in 3rd - 7th graders.

Hiring paid summer staff.

Apply online at www.prettylakecamp.org

269-375-1950

summer@prettylakecamp.org

Applications are due by May 1, 2019.

2019 Spring Break Camps & Activities at

Branch Gymnastics

Located in Kalamazoo and in Battle Creek!

Branch has Action Packed Spring Break Offerings for all PreSchoolers & School Age Children!

- Daily PreSchool Camps
- Daily School Age Camps
- Specialty Skill Workshops
- Open Gyms

Pre-Registration Required. Visit www.BranchGymnastics.com

Branch of Battle Creek
393 Helmer Rd North
(269) 963 - 4770

Branch of Kalamazoo
6712 Financial Parkway
(269) 544 - 3000

APRIL 1st-5th

SUMMER CAMP 2019

No-cost, low-cost summer options

If camps aren't an option for your family this summer, but you want to keep your kids engaged and entertained, here's a list of no-cost and low-cost alternatives:

Super Rec

The City of Kalamazoo's Parks and Recreation Department offers plenty of fun through its Super Rec program. This free program for kids 7-12 years old is offered 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday June 17-Aug. 16 at five sites around Kalamazoo. The program includes fun activities including weekly field trips to places like Kik Pool, Continental Lanes, Rollerworld, and Kalamazoo 10 Summer Movies.

This is a drop-in program and spots go to the first 40 kids signed in each day. There is no registration to hold a spot, but you can sign up online each night after 6 p.m. to secure a spot for the next day.

Super Rec sites are:

- Douglass Community Center/LaCrone Park, 1000 W. Paterson St.
- El Concilio Kalamazoo (formerly the Hispanic American Council), 930 Lake St.

- New Village Park, 2400 St. Albans Way
- Rockwell Park, 1106 Trimble Ave.
- Woods Lake Elementary, 3215 Oakland Drive (Please note the Woods Lake Elementary site is only offered June 17-July 26.)

For more information, visit www.kzooparks.org or call (269) 337-8191.

June Jubilee

June Jubilee, held the first weekend in June (June 1-2 this year), is the official kick-off to summer in Kalamazoo. This weekend features many different events including an art fair, concert in the park, the Kalamazoo Do-Dah Parade and the launch of KPL's Summer Reading Challenge. Plan to spend several hours downtown to take it all in.

Hands-on Happenings

Not only does the Kalamazoo Valley Museum, 230 N. Rose St., have free admission, it also offers weekly Hands-On Happenings activities during the summer. Hands-On Happenings are focused around KVM's two summer exhibits: *The Secrets of Bees* and

Amusement Park Science. Museum hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday.

For more information visit www.kalamazoo-museum.org or call (269) 373-7990.

Hike Our Preserves (HOP)

The Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy is challenging kids to Hike Our Preserves (HOP) this summer with the chance to win a prize. Registration is \$7 per person and includes a free hiking stick (if you want one). Then you have all summer to hike 10 of the SWMLC preserves in and around Kalamazoo to earn a medallion and possibly qualify for other prizes. For more information visit www.swmlc.org/hop/ or call (269) 324-1600.

Learn about fishing

Not only can you learn about fish and feed them at the Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery, 34270 County Road 652 in Mattawan, but there are also trails to hike on the grounds. The visitor's center features information on a variety of fish species, their life cycles and habitats and how to protect and conserve Michigan's lakes, rivers and streams. Each summer, the hatchery hosts a free Hook, Line and Sinker Class which teaches kids the basics of fishing. For more information, call (269) 668-2876 or visit www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Take in a concert

Grab a blanket, chairs and a picnic and enjoy the numerous free family-friendly outdoor summer concerts in the area:

- Concerts in the Park, a program of the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, offers concerts in various parks around the Kalamazoo area. To see a schedule, visit www.kalamazooarts.org/organization/concerts-in-the-park or call (269) 342-5059.

- Kindleberger Park Summer Concerts offer shows at 6:30 p.m. on Sundays. Visit www.parchment.org/kindleberger-park/ for a schedule.

- Portage Parks and Recreation has concerts at the Overlander Band Shell, 7800 Shaver Road, on Thursday evenings in the summer. You can see the concert lineup at www.portagemi.gov/207/Parks-Recreation.

Join a reading program

Kalamazoo Public Library's summer reading program always has a fun theme and rewards for the number of books read. To find out this year's theme and when and how to register, visit www.kpl.gov.

SUMMER CAMP 2019

Western Michigan University
Department of English
presents

THIRD COAST CAMP FOR YOUNG WRITERS



WHO: Students entering grades 3-5 and 6-8 in the fall

WHEN: June 19-July 2, 9:00am-3:00pm

WHERE: Brown Hall, Western Michigan University

REGISTRATION: wmich.edu/english/camp

COST: \$250

(WMU Discount Available/Scholarships Available)

CONTACT:

tcwpcampforyoungwriters@gmail.com or

WMU Department of English (269) 387-2572

campuskids
2019 summer program
June 17 - August 23

For children who have completed kindergarten to age 12.
Toddler and preschool care also available.
Located on WMU's main campus.
Sign up by the week or for the summer.

W
WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Children's Place

wmich.edu/childcare/campuskids
2210 Wilbur Street | (269) 387-2277

SUMMER FUN IS HERE!

Camp Kzoo

With nine different weeks of special activities and trips, your child is sure to have a blast at Camp Kzoo! Registration fee covers the cost to all Kik Pool, Rollerworld, Continental Lanes, & K-10 Movie Theater trips. Weekly registration required.

**Youth, Completed Full Day
Kindergarten - 12 years old**

\$90 | **\$125**

City Resident

Non-Resident

June 17 - August 16 (no camp July 4)

Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Mayors' Riverfront Park & Youth
Development Center

Scholarships

Kalamazoo Friends of Recreation provides scholarships so all Kalamazoo City youth can participate. Learn more at kzfriendsofrec.org

Learn more at
www.kzooparks.org



Kalamazoo Nature Center CAMP

**2019 Summer Camp
for Age 3 - Grade 12
Register today!**

KNCCamp.org | (269) 381-1574



SUMMER CAMP 2019



Make media this summer!

Create videos, make animations,
learn green screen tech, edit,
operate cameras & audio.

Ages 8 - 11

June 17 - 21 | July 15 - 19 | Aug 12 - 16

Ages 12 - 17

July 22 - 26 | August 19 - 23

9 am - 5 pm | \$195/week

Extended day available

Register online at publicmedianet.org

359 S Kalamazoo Mall, 3rd Floor
269.343.2211



Jump into Fun!


girl scouts
heart of michigan

**Girl Scout Camp
is for Every Girl**

GirlScoutCamp.org



Lift Up Through Literacy Program

We Need You...Parents, Grandparents, & Caregivers!

The Lift Up Through Literacy Program offers fun hands-on literacy opportunities for family members once a week for 1 ½ hours.

We provide free books, a meal, child care, door prizes, field trips and an end-of-session incentive. Join us and learn more!!!

***A light dinner will be served at evening sessions.
For more information please call (269) 337-0833***

Spring 2019 April 9– May 30, 2019

	Boys & Girls Club on Lake Street	Stones/Christian Life Center	First United Baptist Church	Fresh Fire AME Church	Interfaith Homes	Mount Zion Baptist Church	New Life Fellowship C.O.G.I.C.	Skyridge Church	The Church of God Pentecostal
FAMILY LITERACY Ages K – Adult	Tuesday 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Tuesday 6:00–7:30 P.M.	Thursday 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Thursday 5:00–6:30 P.M.	Wednesday 5:00–6:30 P.M.	Thursday 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Tuesday 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Wednesday 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Thursday 5:30–7:00 P.M.

PARENTS OF NEWBORNS Up to 36 Months	Tuesday 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Tuesday 6:00–7:30 P.M.	Please join another NB site	Please join another NB site	Thursday 2:00–3:30 P.M.	Thursday 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Tuesday 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Wednesday 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Thursday 5:30–7:00 P.M.
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PARENTS OF PRE-SCHOOLERS Ages 3 – 5	Tuesday 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Tuesday 6:00–7:30 P.M.	Please join another PS site	Please join another PS site	Thursday 2:00–3:30 P.M.	Thursday 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Tuesday 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Wednesday 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Thursday 5:30–7:00 P.M.
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Community Site	Address	Phone Number
Boys & Girls Club	915 Lake St. Kalamazoo, MI 49001	(269) 349-4485
Stones/Christian Life Center	1225 W. Paterson Kalamazoo, MI 49007	(269) 343-7023
First United Baptist Church	821 S. Burdick St. Kalamazoo, MI 49001	(269) 381-3996
Fresh Fire AME Church	2508 Gull Road Kalamazoo, MI 49048	(269) 381-8050
Interfaith Homes	1037 Interfaith Blvd. Kalamazoo, MI 49007	(269) 382-5771
Mount Zion Baptist Church	120 Roberson St. Kalamazoo, MI 49007	(269) 388-3111
New Life Fellowship C.O.G.I.C.	1912 Birch Ave. Kalamazoo, MI 49004	(269) 381-1913
Skyridge Church	394 S. Drake Rd. Kalamazoo, MI 49009	(269) 375-3939
The Church of God Pentecostal	2929 East Main Kalamazoo, MI 49048	(269) 349-8181



Sobresalir Por Medio De La Educación

¡Los Necesitamos...Padres, Abuelos, & Encargados!

El programa Sobresalir Por Medio de la Educación ofrece oportunidades divertidas e interactivas acerca del alfabetismo para miembros de familias una vez a la semana por hora y media.

Proveemos libros, comida, guardería, premios, y paseos gratis, además de un incentivo al fin de las sesiones. ¡Únase con nosotros para aprender mas!!!

Se servirá una cena pequeña en las sesiones de las noches.

***Por mas información,
por favor llame al (269) 337-0833***

Primavera 2019 9 De Abril – 30 De Mayo 2019

	Boys & Girls Club on Lake Street	Stones/Christian Life Center	First United Baptist Church	Fresh Fire AME Church	Interfaith Homes	Mount Zion Baptist Church	New Life Fellowship	Skyridge Church	The Church of God Pentecostal
Educación Familiar Edades K – Adulto	Martes 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Martes 6:00–7:30 P.M.	Jueves 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Jueves 5:00–6:30 P.M.	Miércoles 5:00–6:30 P.M.	Jueves 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Martes 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Miércoles 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Jueves 5:30–7:00 P.M.

Los Padres De Los Recién Nacidos Hasta los 36 Meses	Martes 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Martes 6:00–7:30 P.M.	Por favor seleccione otro sitio	Por favor seleccione otro sitio	Jueves 2:00–3:30 P.M.	Jueves 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Martes 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Miércoles 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Jueves 5:30–7:00 P.M.
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Los Padres Con Niños En Edad Preescolar Edades 3–5	Martes 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Martes 6:00–7:30 P.M.	Por favor seleccione otro sitio	Por favor seleccione otro sitio	Jueves 2:00–3:30 P.M.	Jueves 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Martes 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Miércoles 5:30–7:00 P.M.	Jueves 5:30–7:00 P.M.
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Sitio	Dirección	Teléfono
Boys & Girls Club	915 Lake St. Kalamazoo, MI 49001	(269) 349-4485
Stones/Christian Life Center	1225 W. Paterson Kalamazoo, MI 49007	(269) 343-7023
First United Baptist Church	821 S. Burdick St. Kalamazoo, MI 49001	(269) 381-3996
Fresh Fire AME Church	2508 Gull Road Kalamazoo, MI 49048	(269) 381-8050
Interfaith Homes	1037 Interfaith Blvd. Kalamazoo, MI 49007	(269) 382-5771
Mount Zion Baptist Church	120 Roberson St. Kalamazoo, MI 49007	(269) 388-3111
New Life Fellowship C.O.G.I.C.	1912 Birch Ave. Kalamazoo, MI 49004	(269) 381-1913
Skyridge Church	394 S. Drake Rd. Kalamazoo, MI 49009	(269) 375-3939
The Church of God Pentecostal	2929 East Main Kalamazoo, MI 49048	(269) 349-8181

New Look, Expanded Vision for The Kalamazoo Promise

From The Kalamazoo Promise

The Kalamazoo Promise (The Promise) is unveiling a new look, paving the way for future changes in the organization and the students it benefits.

The updated branding initiative includes a new logo, tagline, and refreshed web presence. The tagline, “Your Path, Your Promise,” and the accompanying logo and website, illustrate a bright future for both The Promise and the community it impacts, while also acknowledging the successes of the past 13 years.

“We are very excited to reveal our new look,” said Bob Jorth, Executive Director of The Kalamazoo Promise. “The updated tagline, logo, and website are helping usher us into a new era of The Promise, with an emphasis on each student’s



The new logo for The Kalamazoo Promise.

path to their Promise, and we’re confident that the changes ahead will benefit our community.”

The new logo reimagines the graduation cap of The Promise’s previous logo, with an emphasis on pathways and the opportunity for students to choose their futures.

“I believe that our updated logo clearly illustrates the goal

of The Promise and our drive to continue to improve programming and resources for our students,” said Von Washington, Jr., Executive Director of Community Relations. “We want all students to explore their own path to their future, and The Promise is a conduit to reaching their goals.”

In addition to the refreshed branding, The Promise is slated to move to a new location during the summer of 2020, which will accommodate new programming and support community collaboration.

“We want the new building to be a hub for all Promise students anytime during their journey, whether they have questions, need support, or just a place to study,” said Washington.

Plans for the new building and programming include both the addition of new staff serving

as Pathway Coaches and a student center for academic assistance and resources to help students transition from high school to postsecondary education. The new multi-tenant location will also include spaces where students can intentionally cross paths with professionals, giving them the opportunity to witness a variety of available career paths.

“The Kalamazoo Promise provides invaluable resources to Kalamazoo students and their families,” said Jorth. “We’re

ready to continue to expand our capabilities, giving all students the opportunity to thrive.”

“We appreciate The Kalamazoo Promise and the partnership on behalf of our KPS graduates,” said Dr. Michael Rice, Superintendent of Kalamazoo Public Schools. “We look forward to working with The Promise in its expansion.”

For more information about The Kalamazoo Promise, visit <https://www.kalamazoo-promise.com/home.php>

Maple Street Coin Drive Raises Over \$3,700 for Loaves & Fishes

Pennies can make a difference.

That’s what Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts students learned during their coin drive during the holidays. Students raised \$3,738.94 for Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes through the fundraiser, which ran the month of December.

Parent Nicole Butz said she serves on the Parent Advisory Council, and it was there that she heard about a successful coin drive at another school. She brought the idea back to Maple Street and the students and staff ran with it.

Teachers offered incentives to help drive donations: David Fooy dressed as Buddy the Elf and Brian Bazydlo shaved his

beard when students hit certain dollar goals.

Butz said their original goal was to raise \$1 per student or about \$900. Students and staff exceeded that goal with their generosity and enthusiasm.

Greta Faworski, resource development director for Loaves & Fishes, stopped by the school in January to receive the donation.

She told students that their gift will provide about 12,000 meals for clients of the organization, which purchases about 40 percent of the food that it distributes to the community. Loaves & Fishes operates food pantries throughout the community, including 10 in various Kalamazoo Public Schools’ buildings.



Madalitso Mapondera

Artists' Corner

Arcadia Elementary School fourth graders created city skyscraper drawings from a bird’s eye view perspective. Students learned how to draw using one-point perspective. Each student added birds flying over the city to enhance the effect of looking down at the city. All students showed their creativity and individuality by adding logos of their favorite brands to the buildings. Their art teacher is Kyle Pfeuffer.



Alice Schuetz



A'Mire Perry



Layan Abdullah



Peter Aranda, back row, right, and his class pose with Maple Street Magnet School Principal Dr. Jeffrey Boggan and Greta Faworski of Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes, center, as the school presents the food bank, with a check for \$3,738.94. The money was collected during a coin drive challenge in the school.

EFE Culinary Students Put Catering Skills on Display

Education For Employment culinary students showed off their skills for Kalamazoo Public Schools' Teaching and Learning Council in December.

The students prepared Tuscan garlic chicken, garlic roasted potatoes, vegetarian stuffed bell peppers, roasted root vegetables and a variety of cookies.

Teacher Kharen Shelton said the culinary arts class draws juniors and seniors from school districts across the county. EFE provides hands-on technical training to students in the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency.

EFE classes are held in various school district facilities, rather than at a centralized vocational center, and include automotive engineering, medical technician and teaching concentrations.

The culinary students meet at the KPS Community Education



Kalamazoo Central student Moises Cardona helps prepare the buffet for the Teaching and Learning Council.

Center once a week.

"Students learn a variety of basic culinary skills including knife skills, baking, and savory



Pictured from left to right: Kevin Moore, Kalamazoo Central; Zeke Link and Mitchell Barker, Loy Norrix prepare to serve guests.

food preparation," Shelton said. "They also have the opportunity to earn national food safety certifications."

They also are exposed to concepts in cost control, management, marketing and nutrition. Students can apply

these skills to jobs in culinary arts, pastry arts, and hospitality management.

Shelton said students don't always get the opportunity to cook for others, but they enjoy showing off their skills. They have catered events for the Gilmore Piano Labs, worked with Chartwells, and baked cookies for the annual KRESA EFE and Education for the Arts open house.

"Students were excited and enthusiastic about the opportunity to cook for the council," Shelton said. "It was a great opportunity for them to practice all of the skills and cooking techniques that they have been practicing all year," Shelton said. "The faculty and staff were extremely complimentary and their words of encouragement boosted students' confidence and made them feel proud and accomplished."

KPS Secondary Art Show Opens with Reception April 12

More than 300 works of art will be on display during the Annual Kalamazoo Public Schools Secondary Art Show at the KPS Administration Building, 1220 Howard St.

The show will consist of works by students in the sixth through the 12th grade from across the district and will include 2D and 3D works.



Exhibiting works in the show helps students have a more holistic understanding of art, said Loy Norrix art teacher Gregg Stevens.

"All too often, students produce art that is in a vacuum going unobserved and not appreciated by others," he said. "By having the opportunity to share their work, students learn that one of art's

fundamental purposes is to be a mode of communication between viewer and creator. Without this interaction, one could argue that the most important reason for making art is lacking."

The opening reception for the exhibition will be 5-7 p.m. Friday, April 12. After the opening, the works will remain on display in

the Administration Building during business hours until May 15.

The Education For Employment Culinary Arts Program will cater the reception, a group of young Kalamazoo cellists will perform, and there will be creative activities for families.

The reception is free and open to the public.



Starting the Day with a Smile at Northglade Montessori

Northglade Montessori Magnet School brightened up a dreary winter morning with its annual Breakfast Buddies event. Parents, grandparents and other special guests were invited to enjoy breakfast with Northglade students before the start of the school day on Jan. 24.



Clockwise from left, Daniel, Ivy, Ron, and Aiden Pimentel are all smiles at the Northglade Breakfast Buddies.



Clifton, Chasiti, and Sarekeya Logan share breakfast at Northglade's Breakfast Buddies in January.



Clockwise from left, Tom Reich, Carla Koretsky, River Reich, and Teri Koretsky at the Breakfast Buddies event at Northglade in January.



Lucia, kindergarten, Karen, Emmanuel, third grade, and Jesse Williams shared a meal at Northglade.



Ernest Hightower with Kneveda Hightower at Northglade's Breakfast Buddies.

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KPS Students Honored in National Computing Contest

Loy Norrix High School junior Anna Puca received double honors in the National Center for Women & Information Computing's 2019 Aspirations in Computing competition.

Puca, who also attends the Kalamazoo Area Math and Science Center, received an honorable mention in the national competition and was named a finalist for the state award.

There were more than 4,300 applications for this year's honors.

Students must answer essay questions about technology, including their future goals and how they relate to technology and how they volunteer to advance the understanding of technology. Teachers must provide recommendations for the awards.

Puca hopes to major in computer science and to become a software engineer who develops mobile apps.

She takes computer sci-



Anna Puca

ence at KAMSC, where she is a member of the computer science team. She also participates in the online computer programming competition CyberPatriot, in which teams solve cyber security problems.

Puca said she is also on the KAMSC research team working with a mentor at Western Michigan University to develop a mobile app that will help those with

visual impairments sense objects around them that they can't feel when they use canes for mobility.

Several other KPS students qualified for NCWIT awards:

Kayleigh Kostrzewa, a Kalamazoo Central junior, was named a state finalist.

Lesly Mares-Castro, a Kalamazoo Central sophomore, received a state honorable mention.

Puca, Kostrzewa, and Mares-Castro have been invited to the state awards ceremony in Grand Rapids. Puca and Kostrzewa were state honorable mentions last year.

Four other students were recognized as Rising Stars in the state of Michigan: Loy Norrix sophomores **Princess-J'Maria Mboup** and **Emerson Wesselhoff** and Kalamazoo Central sophomores **Freya Kailing** and **Stephanie Nizzardini**.

Find the full list of national award winners and honorable mentions at www.aspirations.org.

Spinach Artichoke Greek Yogurt Chicken

Hello Kalamazoo! I want to welcome you to a much anticipated spring with this delicious, gluten-free recipe. **Yogurt** is our April Discovery Kitchen theme, loaded with protein and calcium to name a few benefits. Please enjoy this with family and friends. As always, best regards and bon appetit, Chef Shaun



Shaun Robinson is the district chef for Chartwells at KPS Food Service.

Ingredients

For the chicken:

3 tablespoons plain, non-fat Greek yogurt
 1/4 teaspoon garlic, minced
 2 tablespoons liquid from a jar of artichokes packed in water.
 Pinch each of salt, pepper and granulated garlic
 1 pound chicken breasts
 4 small artichoke hearts, packed in water (drained)
 Spinach
 Italian seasoning

For the Greek yogurt sauce:

1/2 cup plain, non-fat Greek yogurt

4 small artichoke hearts, packed in water (drained)
 1 teaspoon fresh garlic, minced
 1/3 cup shredded Parmesan and Romano cheese blend
 Salt and pepper to taste, and fresh chopped basil

Instructions

1. In a large container, whisk together the 3 tablespoons Greek yogurt with the garlic, artichoke liquid, and a pinch of salt and pepper and granulated garlic. Place the chicken into the container and spoon the mixture over top until it's

covered. Cover container and refrigerate for at least 2 hours.

2. Preheat **grill** to medium-high heat.

3. Wipe of any thick areas of yogurt from the chicken and slice a large pocket into the side of each breast using a **sharp knife**, making sure not to cut all the way through. Place as many spinach leaves as you can inside, (I did 4 leaves per breast) and then add 1 artichoke heart. Seal with toothpicks to keep the filling inside. Sprinkle with a pinch of Italian seasoning.

4. Grill until no longer pink inside, about 6-7 minutes per side, flipping once. Once cooked, place onto a plate, cover, and let rest for 10 minutes.

5. While the chicken rests, combine all of the sauce ingredients in a **small food processor** or blender and blend until smooth and creamy, scraping the sides down as necessary.

6. Serve chicken topped with sauce and basil.

Servings: 4

April Mobile Health and Dental Clinic Schedules

The Family Health Center Mobile Health Clinic and Mobile Dental Clinic serve Kalamazoo Public Schools students and their families. The medical clinic provides physicals, immunizations, well-child visits, among other services, while the dental clinic can clean teeth and provide sealants. The clinics take insurance and offer a sliding scale fee. Here are the April schedules for the clinics. Schedules are subject to change. For more information, visit www.fhckzoo.com/mobile-units, call (269) 349-2641, or contact the Community in

Schools of Kalamazoo office at your school.

Mobile Health Unit

April 8 - Prairie Ridge
 April 10-11 - Hillside Middle
 April 15 - Edison
 April 18 - Prairie Ridge
 April 22 - Edison
 April 24-25 - Loy Norrix
 April 29 - Kalamazoo Central

Mobile Dental Unit

April 8-9 - Spring Valley
 April 10 - Milwood Middle
 April 12 - Woodward
 April 18-19 - Hillside Middle
 April 22-23 - Linden Grove
 April 24-25 - Prairie Ridge
 April 29 - Northglade
 April 30 - Milwood Elementary



MATH MOVES: EXPERIENCING RATIO AND PROPORTION

FEBRUARY 2 - JUNE 2, 2019

Math Moves is a multi-sensory interactive exhibit that encourages visitors to set up, measure, describe, and compare ratios and proportions in a fun and active approach to problem solving.

SPRING BREAK HANDS-ON HAPPENINGS NUMBERS ON PARADE

APRIL 1 - 5 | 1 - 4 P.M. DAILY

CHAUTAUQUA EXPRESS CONCERT

APRIL 3 OR 4 | 11A.M. - 12 P.M.

4TH WALL THEATRE WORKSHOP

Interactive workshops for children of all abilities.

Space is limited, registration suggested.

SPRING BREAK PLANETARIUM SHOWS

APRIL 1 - 5 | DAILY | \$3/PERSON

11 A.M. Did an Asteroid Really Kill the Dinosaurs?

12 P.M. Space Shapes FREE

1 P.M. SpacePark 360

2 P.M. The First Stargazers

3 P.M. Dinosaurs at Dusk

FOODWAYS SYMPOSIUM 2019

THE FOODS WE CARRIED: MIDDLE EASTERN FOODWAYS IN MICHIGAN

FRIDAY, APRIL 5 | 5 - 8 P.M.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6 | 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Kick off Friday night at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum with the keynote speaker and light food. The symposium will continue Saturday at KVCC's Culinary and Allied Health building with classes and demonstrations. See our website for details and registration.

STATEWIDE ASTRONOMY NIGHT (SWAN)

APRIL 12 | 4 - 8:30 P.M.

Celebrate astronomy with this all-ages festival featuring hands-on activities, free planetarium shows, and thought-provoking speakers.



Handicapped accessible. Sign language interpreters may be scheduled with a minimum of two weeks' notice. Assisted listening devices are available in the Stryker Theater and planetarium.



The Kalamazoo Valley Museum is operated by Kalamazoo Valley Community College and is governed by its Board of Trustees

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**Samuel
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Grades K-2

Ugandan musician and dance instructor
Samuel Nalangria will perform a unique blend
of African storytelling, music, and dance.

Thursday, April 25 | 10:30 am | POW

Thursday, April 25 | 1 pm | WSQ

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