

Players Honored with State Award

Congratulations to our own RSVP Players, who were honored recently with the 2009 Ohioana Citation for Distinguished Service in Theater and Community Service by the Ohioana Library Association. The award, presented in the Ohio Statehouse rotunda in Columbus, is part of an annual recognition given to talented Ohioans for their contribution to the literary and cultural life of the state.

Formed in 1992 and part of Greater Cleveland Volunteers' RSVP program, the RSVP Players is a theatrical group who write, direct and perform various humorous and informational skits and short plays for groups throughout Northeast Ohio. The plays, geared mainly for senior audiences, include a variety of issues, the funny as well as the not so funny things that happen to us as we grow older.

In addition to their regular performances, the Players have collaborated with city and county organizations including the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging, the City of Cleveland Department of Aging and the Cuyahoga County Public Library in the creation and presentation of skits for special projects of these organizations.



A group of the RSVP Players with their award and citation. Standing l-r , Drinda Kiner, Sol Shack, Mary Carney and Norm Kiner. Seated l-r , Norm Leavitt and Patty Dotts.

The Players are always pleased to perform for local audiences such as senior residences and centers, church, civic, professional and social groups. If you would like to have the RSVP Players perform for your group, call Sue at the Greater Cleveland Volunteers office, 216-391-9500 ext. 115. .

Announcing our First-Ever Photo Contest!

To celebrate National Volunteer Week (April 18-24), Greater Cleveland Volunteers is holding a Volunteerism Photo Contest.

We are looking for pictures of volunteers in action, whether candid or posed. The photos can be taken in the Cleveland area, but don't have to be. The winning photos will be used on our Website and in our print publications, and the top winner will receive an award.

The contest is free to enter and is open to anyone 18 and over. We will be accepting submissions (digital photos only, please) from Feb. 5th through April 1st.

Please see our Website for all of the details, www.greaterclevelandvolunteers.org.

If you have questions, call Alan at (216) 391-9500 x113.



Station Highlight

YWCA Greater Cleveland

As we begin the new year, it is appropriate that we highlight the YWCA Greater Cleveland, one of our partner agencies that has offered new beginnings to women of all ages for more than 140 years.

As their website states, "from the beginning, the YWCA Greater Cleveland has existed to empower women, to support and educate them and to provide them with the tools they need to create fulfilling lives." The YWCA is the oldest and largest multicultural women's organization in the world with more than 25 million members in 122 countries.

Last year the YWCA received a total of 96 hours of service from Greater Cleveland Volunteers members, including: Debra Drake, Doris Ivey, Mildred Lowe, Vera Brown, Mary Tinsley, Gertrude Kelso, Joy Freda, Barbara Tate, Kathy Reid, Jessie McClain, Darlene Harris, Thelma Braxelton and Kathleen Piotrowski.

"Volunteering itself is a gift," says Sandra Norvell, the YWCA's volunteer coordinator. Our volunteers

help us complete tasks on time and reach our goals. These very special people give us the gift of their service, and genuinely support our mission."

Ms. Norvell described the various volunteer opportunities at the YWCA, which includes the need for mentors and tutors for the young women involved in the NIA (Nurturing Independence & Aspirations) and for the girls who are working to earn their GEDs. Additionally, the YWCA has volunteer opportunities for administrative and clerical duties, data entry, web research, grant writing, one-time special events and for storytellers for the Early Learning Center.

If you are interested in volunteering for the YWCA call Rita at the Greater Cleveland Volunteers office, 216-391-9500 ext. 122.



Greater Cleveland Volunteers members assist with a mailing at the YMCA. They are (l-r) Thelma Braxelton, Vera Brown, Jessie McClain and Darlene Harris.

Second MedWorks Clinic to be Held in May

If you missed the opportunity to volunteer for the first MedWorks Health Clinic held last July, you have another chance. The next MedWorks clinic will be held on Saturday, May 1, and Sunday, May 2, from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. at the Free Clinic of Greater Cleveland, 12201 Euclid Avenue.



Non-medical help is needed in registering patients, escorting them to the correct medical areas and other assigned duties. If you are interested in volunteering for a few hours at this worthwhile event, please respond to contact@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org or phone the Greater Cleveland Volunteers office, 216-391-9500, and provide us with your first and last name, e-mail address, phone and day that you will be available to volunteer.

Become a friend to a Cleveland 4th grader at lunchtime.

Although this school year is halfway over, It's not too early to be thinking about becoming a Mentor when school starts in September.

Call Carol Hasek at the Greater Cleveland Volunteers office, 216-391-9500 x 125 for info.

P.S. Spread the word to others you may know who might also be interested.





The Voice of Experience

Happy New Year!!! We are half way through the school year. Even though there are many changes occurring in the Cleveland School District, our tutors and mentors are steadfast in their mission and are working diligently with their students!

This year has been a great year so far with incredible training sessions facilitated by our Literacy Coordinator and Trainer Sue Speizer along with the help of the Experience Corps Staff. Our tutors have been educated on such topics as: types of learning styles, identifying learning disabilities, student behavior, the Reading A-Z and Accelerated Reader programs used by the District. School and community professionals have offered their expertise to enrich the knowledge of our tutors. We have held trainings at a variety of locations and most recently at the Barbara Byrd-Bennett Professional Development Center where our members were able to work with Cheryl Skelton, Director of Professional Development for Cleveland schools. The members worked in the computer lab learning how to navigate the school District web site to find literacy training programs and methods.

The new leadership position of Literacy Booster has been introduced to support our members in the schools with training and tutoring issues. The Literacy Booster position offers one more leadership opportunity working in tandem with Lead Tutors and Ambassadors helping to make sure that our tutors have the best support.

We are proud of all of our tutors and mentors who are community leaders every day as they teach our young children the skills they need to become successful in life. If you would like to tutor or mentor, please call the Experience Corps office, 216-391-9500.

Debra Kay, Experience Corps Project Director

Books for Kids

We need books!

Our Experience Corps Books for Kids program distributes over 6000 books a year as gifts to the children we tutor, and to all students in our schools through Book Fairs. We need new or gently used storybooks and early readers for grades K through 4.



Cash donations are accepted to purchase books and supplies for tutors!!

For a complete list of supplies you can donate, call the Experience Corps office: 216-391-9500
Or see our website
www.greaterclevelandvolunteers.org

We also need general Tutoring Supplies!

- reading flashcards
- Educational games
- Markers & crayons
- Construction Paper

Shop Talk... *from the Development office*

Alan Goldman, Development Director

We are very pleased to thank our donors for their generous support. The following individuals and organizations provided funding to Greater Cleveland Volunteers from July 17 through December 31, 2009:

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See Next page . . .

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Thank you very much

CONGRATULATIONS TO....

Greater Cleveland Volunteer Evelyn Boyd, who was featured in an article by Regina Brett in The Plain Dealer about her work with the Reach Out and Read program. Mrs. Boyd has contributed more than 500 new storybooks to an inner city pediatrician's office that gives the books to children waiting to see the doctor.



Be among the first to get the latest news from Greater Cleveland Volunteers! And help us in our efforts to join the country in "going green" Provide us with your e-mail address and we will be sure to send you the Greater Cleveland Volunteers News online as soon as it is published. And if your e-mail address changes, please let us know that, too.

Upcoming Team Events List

Date	Time	Day	Staff	Event Name	Location
Through Feb.	varies	varies	Lynette	Science Olympiad	Mayfield High School
01/04-2/23	varies	varies	Kirsten	Painting Project	The City Mission
1/22-1/29	10 am- 9 pm	varies	Rita	Home and Garden Show	Lakeshore Expo (Euclid)
2/4-2/12	10 am- 9 pm	varies	Rita	Home and Garden Show	I-X Center
2/7,2/28 - 3/5	8am - 3pm	Sun - Fri	Rita	Homeless Standdown	Cleveland Convention Center
2/12	6-9 pm	Fri	Jan	Sweetheart Dance	New Avenues to Independence
3/18-3/28	varies	Thurs-Sun	Rita	Cleveland International Film Festival	Tower City Cinemas
3/19	12 noon-1pm	Fri	Rita	Yu Wei Chinese Dance Show	Tri C Metro; Main Stage Theater
4/18	10 am-5pm	Sun	Jan	Earthfest	Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
5/1/5/2	8 am - 6 pm	Sat-Sun	Kirsten	Medworks Health Clinic	Free Clinic of Greater Cleveland

This is a list of upcoming Team Events (one time volunteer activities). We will be adding to the list as new events become available, so please check back regularly to find something that you would like to help with. If you want to be contacted to volunteer at any of these events, please call the Greater Cleveland Volunteers office at 216-391-9500 and give the receptionist your name, your phone number, and the name of the event(s) you are interested in. We will call you a week or so before the event and give you full details regarding the time, location, volunteer positions, etc. Some events may have a small fee for parking or other things. Be sure to inquire about any costs

before signing up for an event. Thank you!



**Come join Greater Cleveland Volunteers as we watch
the Lake Erie Monsters hockey team play at The Q!**

**Get ready for some icy action as the Lake Erie Monsters play the
Grand Rapids (MI) Griffins on**

Sunday, February 28, 2010, at 3:00 pm

Seats are in Section 106, and the ticket price is only \$18 per person.
(Regular admission is \$20 per person.)

You can buy tickets

Online at www.greaterclevelandvolunteers.org/events.php

Or by sending a check to Greater Cleveland Volunteers, 4614 Prospect Ave., #205,
Cleveland OH 44103

(Make sure you include your name, address, phone number and the number of tickets you would like to order)

Some exciting facts about the game:

- Everyone who buys a ticket is entered into our raffle drawing. You could win a chance to ride on the Zamboni machine.
- It's another opportunity to root for an Ohio team playing against a Michigan team.
- It's Pucks & Paws Day – You get to bring your dog to the game! (Really)
- The Monsters will make a contribution to Greater Cleveland Volunteers for every ticket sold!

We hope to see you there!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



EAST SIDE

RESOURCE CENTER ASSISTANT (rb) – Assist community members in obtaining health wellness and community wellness resource information via a variety of media resources. Must have knowledge of basic computer/internet skills and possess good customer service and communication skills. Flexible schedule.

SOUTH POINTE HOSPITAL

CRAFTS ROOM AIDE (rb)– Assist with hand sewing, gluing, packaging, cutting and assembling kits for clients in crafts for sale workroom of sight center. Must be willing to perform repetitious tasks, follow directions and be able to work with others.

CLEVELAND SIGHT CENTER

KITCHEN AIDE (rb) - Receive food from caterer, serve meals and prepare home delivered meals for clients of senior center. Assist nutrition site coordinator in gathering data for reports as required and assist with record keeping. Experience in preparing and serving large quantities of food preferred.

MURTIS H. TAYLOR MULTI-SERVICE CENTER

COMPUTER LAB AIDE (lm) – Assist users of community center's computer lab in signing onto computers and provide support to program staff.

Must be proficient in computer skills and customer service.

.UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT

LUNCHROOM HELPER (kf) – Assist lunchroom aides at intermediate school cafeteria. Must have patience and enjoy interacting with students. Needed Mondays-Fridays, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

COLUMBUS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL – BEDFORD HEIGHTS

HOSPITALITY DESK (jv) – Greet, welcome and direct visitors during the day at seniors' residence and provide lunch relief for Receptionist. Must possess some understanding of physical, emotional and social needs of older adults.

JUDSON AT UNIVERSITY CIRCLE

VIRTUAL VOLUNTEER (rb) – Complete occasional computer/ clerical projects; assemble materials into kits or complete donated craft projects for medical center at your own home. Volunteers must have equipment to complete projects offsite (computers, craft supplies, etc).

UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS CASE MEDICAL CENTER

WEST SIDE

TRANSPORTER (lm) – Escort residents of seniors' facility to social gatherings, walks around the grounds and in-house appointments. Must be able to push wheelchairs and interact with patients. Needed at least once a week.

ELIZA JENNINGS HOME

KNITTER (lm) – Produce hand-made knitted or crocheted items for patients of hospital, including blankets, newborn hats, sweater and bootie sets and other items as requested, and deliver them to the hospital. Must be able to produce items at home that meet the hospital's standards and needs.

LAKEWOOD HOSPITAL

SKILLED TRADE ASSISTANTS (lm) – Help identify, sort and repair donated pieces of electrical, plumbing and door hardware for store of agency that builds homes for needy families. Needed twice a month, Tuesdays-Fridays, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

TUTOR (kf) – Assist high school age students with algebra and math for agency that provides academic tutoring, counseling and career services to students in grades 1-12. Spanish speakers preferred. Flexible schedule.

ESPERANZA

DOWNTOWN

DOCENT (kf) – Conduct interpretive tours of music-themed museum for visitors of all ages, including members, groups and special events. Previous experience in giving tours, teaching and/or customer service required. Must complete intensive 10-week training program and background check.

ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM

PLEASE POST THIS LIST OR GIVE TO OTHERS THAT MAY BE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING

CALL (216)391-9500
(Program Coordinator/staff initials next to volunteer opportunity)

Greater Cleveland Volunteers

4614 Prospect Avenue,
Suite 205
Cleveland, Ohio 44103

(216) 391-9500
Fax: (216) 391-9010
contact@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org
www.greaterclevelandvolunteers.org



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Greater Cleveland Volunteers is funded in part by the State of Ohio and by United Way. Greater Cleveland Volunteers gratefully acknowledges the support of Hillcrest Hospital and IKON Office solutions in printing this newsletter.

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WELCOME OUR NEWEST VOLUNTEERS

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