

WINTER 2023

Posted.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF OSHKOSH

Donors brightened the holidays for Club youth by supplying toys, winter coats and boots, household supplies, and adopting families!



INSIDE

Get an update on our building project, learn about our mental health programming, and meet our 2023 Youth of the Year.



WineFeast, sponsored by Community First Credit Union, is Saturday, April 22, 2023, at the Best Western Premier Waterfront Convention Center in Oshkosh.

WineFeast reservations include Cellar Select (sponsored by Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel & Convention Center) and the private post-dinner Night Cap event (sponsored by Bergstrom Automotive). Cellar Select begins promptly at 5:00 p.m. with a champagne reception followed by a Toast to Our Youth (sponsored by TDS) and five-course dinner and wine pairing experience (sponsored by CR Meyer and Baker Tilly US LLP).

Guests will enjoy five mouth-watering courses, each with a wine pairing. Dinner courses for this year's event are sponsored by Greene's Pour House at the Granary (salad), Oshkosh Country Club (appetizer), The Roxy (soup), Best Western Premier Waterfront Catering (main course), and Suzy's Cream Cheesecakes (dessert).

During dinner, guests can participate in an exciting live auction (sponsored by First Weber Foundation) and enjoy a short program, including a mission moment video (sponsored by MARCO Promos), and a story from our 2023 Youth of the Year Savana about the impact the Boys & Girls Club has on Oshkosh youth and families (sponsored by Oshkosh Corporation).

Night Cap begins at 8 p.m. and is exclusively open to Cellar Select guests. Hear the smooth jazz sounds of the Mike Kubicki Quartet (sponsored by Menasha Corporation Foundation) while sampling wine, domestic and imported brews, and delicious light appetizers from several local restaurants. Guests will receive a complimentary Riedel wine glass (sponsored by Fox Communities Credit Union).

The evening includes opportunities to bid on over 50 unique items in our silent auction (sponsored by Verve, a Credit Union), take part in our reverse raffle (sponsored by Craft Coating), wine raffle (sponsored by Festival Foods), and our Faris Gourmet Popcorn, Hughes' Home Maid Chocolates, and Simon's Specialty Cheese raffles (sponsored by Silver Star Brands).

WineFeast reservations are \$150 per person or \$1,200 for a table of eight. Reservations include the Cellar Select dinner and a full-access pass to Night Cap. To purchase reservations for WineFeast, please visit bgcosh.org.

To learn about sponsorship and volunteer opportunities or for other questions, contact our Director of Development & Strategic Initiatives, Katie Talken, at (920) 233-1414, ext. 129, or katie@bgcosh.org.

WineFeast is in need of both silent and live auction items. Donating auction items gives businesses and individuals the opportunity to display their products and get free advertising. For more information on donating an auction item, please contact our WineFeast Auction Coordinator, Heather Holly-Pinnow, at WineFeastAuction@bgcosh.org.

All proceeds from WineFeast go to the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh and directly benefit families and children in our community.

SAVE THE DATE

▶ APR 22

▶ JUL 18

▶ AUG 6

WineFeast

Afternoon Tea

Alumni Golf Outing



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF OSHKOSH



Dear Friends of the Boys & Girls Club,

As we get started on a new year of exciting opportunities, we want to thank all of our donors who generously provided

extra support throughout the holiday season. You provided warm winter clothing and boots for youth, household and hygiene supplies for families, and adopted a total of 225 children through our Adopt a Family program. Because of you, we were able to serve 91 members, and their families dinner Thanksgiving week, and give out 17 more ready-made dinners to take home. With the help of our board and volunteers, we delivered 37 meals to families on the night before Thanksgiving. We also saw a great turnout for the Festival Foods Turkey Trot again this year, which benefits our Club and the Oshkosh YMCA. Thank you to everyone who participated!

Our Program Staff continue to be hard at work planning quality programs and finding new experiences for our kids. We've had some really fun collaborations over the past few months. Anytime Fitness came in and did a Mascot Camp. We've had therapy dogs visit. Nurses from UW Oshkosh talked to our kids about the importance of sleep. The Oshkosh Police Department has been doing a program with members that focuses on anti-bullying. Our members

also get to try ice skating with Dr. Eric's Skate Club and through the Share Winter Foundation, they get to take ski lessons at Nordic Mountain.

Because of donors like you, we've been able to build upon our Social & Emotional Learning program and added a new Behavior Intervention Specialist, which you will hear more about in this newsletter.

It is exciting to watch the construction happening around the Club as it begins to transform our spaces! See below for an update on our building project. Fundraising is going well, but we are still actively looking for donations to close the gap and help fund the rest of this project.

I welcome you to visit us and take a tour so you can see first-hand the wonderful things happening throughout our Club. To schedule a tour, please get in touch with me at (920) 233-1414, ext. 116.

Thank you for continuing to support our mission. I wish everyone the best year in 2023!

Tracy Ogden, CEO
Boys & Girls Clubs of Oshkosh, Inc.

An Update on Our Building & Community Center Project

Construction is moving along on the Club's Building & Community Center Project. The 5-part project, which includes an expansion of our elementary and middle school age spaces, a new Teen Center, a new playground and multi-purpose field, a community center, and a second gym, will double the size of our Club. Once complete, we will be able to serve 150 more youth daily.

In October, CR Meyer began construction on the Radford side of the building (ages 6-9). The bump-out of our classrooms will allow for 60 more children each day. This part of the building will be completed this February.

The building leased by Head Start began construction in December. All three floors will be renovated and two more classrooms will be added, allowing for 50 more youth. The Club will utilize this space during non-school hours for our 6-year-old members. A new circle drive on Monroe St. will provide added safety while children enter and exit the building. This part of the building will be complete in August 2023.

We also broke ground on our new edition which includes a second-floor teen space to teach workforce development and career readiness and expand mental health programs. This new building will also house a community center for local agencies to



come together to better serve families. Organizations include: Children's Hospital, Forward Services, Rawhide, and many more. The expansion will also include a renovation of our middle school age space. This part of the project will be complete in February 2024.

With 300+ children served daily, we plan to add a multi-purpose field for sports to be complete in June 2023, and a new playground courtyard and second gym due for completion in late 2024.

To give a gift to our Building & Community Center project, return the attached form, donate online at bgcosh.org, or call CEO Tracy Ogden at (920) 233-1414, ext. 116.

Members took a field trip to UW Oshkosh College of Nursing to learn about courses and get hands-on practice using manikins. They practiced checking pulses, taking blood pressure, and other nursing skills.



During the Club's annual Christmas party, families had fun with themed activities, snacks and a visit from Santa!



Over 2,500 walkers/runners joined in on the annual Festival Foods Turkey Trot benefiting the Club and the Oshkosh YMCA.

Teens visited Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services and learned about healthy relationships through a class taught by the staff.



Quest members got the opportunity to learn about Spain from the Academy for Global Studies at Oshkosh West High School. Students taught members about culture through discussions and activities like making pinatas, creating flag of Spain cookies, and Spanish dance.

Program Highlight: Social & Emotional Wellness & Behavior Intervention



Our Club has continued to expand on programs that support members' social-emotional mental health needs and create positive behavior patterns. 100% of Club members participate in weekly programming that is age-specific and developmentally appropriate.

Our Director of Social & Emotional Wellness, Caitlyn Cheslock, introduces Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) programs to members and staff that focus on mental wellness, mindfulness, appropriate relationships and responsibility for actions. Youth that need further support in an area may participate in targeted small groups. For example, a small group of 9 to 11-year-old girls participated in the SMART Girls program, which aims to improve conflict resolution skills for girls. Through discussions and activities, they focused on self-esteem enhancement, wellness, and building skills for developing positive relationships with peers and adults. The Club also refers members who need additional resources, such as therapy or crisis services, if there is a greater need or an immediate mental health concern.

The Club has also created calm-down spaces, including a Zen Den and "safe spaces" in each program area. These spaces allow members to have quiet time away from others to de-escalate. They may use calming toys, fill out a mental-wellness worksheet or simply take a break from others. Our Director of Social & Emotional Wellness also works with members individually to develop skills and offers a drop-in space for members who need a safe place to talk.

In addition, our new Behavior Intervention Specialist, Victor Brandt, works directly with members on handling behaviors and leads Club-wide behavior management strategies. He adds additional support by creating individual behavior plans for members who may struggle to express their emotions. Recently, program staff trained on Conscious Discipline (used within the Oshkosh Area School District), which includes classroom management, ways to support members experiencing hard emotions, and constructive ways to de-escalate children during outbursts and conflict situations in order to provide more productive support. Throughout the Club, members see posters with reminders in each room along with the "safe spaces". Using Conscious Discipline adds a level of consistency and familiarity for members because they use it in school with the goal of seeing greater success in improved behaviors and healthy expression of emotions.

Meet 2023 Youth of the Year



► Savana

The Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh is pleased to introduce you to our 2023 Youth of the Year representative – Savana P. The Club announced Savana as this year's local winner at the Youth of the Year Dinner, sponsored by Amcor, on October 27.

Each year a local Youth of the Year committee interviews several high school students at the Club. Savana competed against four other Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh teens: Mercy A., Gwendolyn K., Ethan M., and Madison S. They were judged on their service to their Club, community, and family, academic success, strong moral character, life goals, and poise and public speaking ability. As the Oshkosh Club's 2023 Youth of the Year, Savana receives \$10,000 from Charles F. Hyde Scholarship Endowment towards higher education. In March, Youth of the Year winners from local Boys & Girls Clubs across the state will travel to Madison to compete for the state title and additional scholarships.

Savana has been a Club member since she was in pre-kindergarten. She is currently a senior at Oshkosh North High School and president of our Keystone Leadership Club. She enjoys giving back to the community and being a role model for younger youth at the Club. Savana aspires to be a therapist in the future.

"Being the Youth of the Year means being the best I can be to help others," Savana says, "My Club has impacted my life tremendously and has shown me how being a leader can have a true impact on other people. By being in a leadership role, I am encouraging people to try new things and build relationships with others."

One of the things Savana is looking forward to in her upcoming months as Youth of the Year is meeting fellow members from other Boys & Girls Clubs and learning about their experiences.

Save the Date for the Youth of the Year Dinner on Thursday, October 26, 2023, at the Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel & Convention Center in Oshkosh. Savana will be recognized at the celebration dinner along with all the youth of the month winners from the 2022/2023 school year.

Thank you to the 2023 Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh Youth of the Year Judging Committee: Rachel Hansen (Oshkosh Corporation), Heather Holly-Pinnow (Pinnow Sheet Metal, Inc.), Aaron Johnson (Craft Coating), Kevin Ralofsky (Verve, a Credit Union), Chief Dean Smith (Oshkosh Police Department), Jeff Tremby (Oshkosh Coil Spring), Peg Wachtel (Charles Hyde Endowment), and Amy Weeks (Amcor).

Yes! I want to help ensure great futures for youth who are at risk in the Oshkosh area.

\$ _____ Gift Amount

Please put my gift towards the Club's general operations

Please put my gift towards the Club's Building & Community Center Project

For additional information or questions, please contact (920) 233-1414 or info@bgcosh.org.



Payment Method

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Donations can also be made online, by using the QR Code or at www.bgcosh.org through a safe and secured network. 





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Teens took tours of UW Madison and UW Milwaukee to explore campus life and learn about majors and career paths. In addition, they tour technical schools and learn about other options such as going into the military or workforce.

MISSION

To improve the lives of children and families.

VISION

The Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh will be a generation-changing leading provider of programs emphasizing youth development services and family outreach support to meet the needs of young people 6-18 and their families, especially those who need us most.

CONTACT US!

Phone: (920) 233-1414 | Fax: (920) 233-1816 | Email: info@bgcosh.org

Meet Our Newest Board Members



► Dale Glen

Dale joined the board in December 2022 as the board's treasurer. He is a principal at CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA). Dale previously served as the auditor

of our Club for over 10 years and then as a member of the Club's Finance Committee. Dale and his wife, Karen, as well as CLA, have been long-time supporters of our Club. Dale has worked with a variety of organizations in the manufacturing and not-for-profit fields and understands the financial and compliance challenges these organizations can face. Dale is looking forward to "bringing the financial advisory skills needed to help the Club continue to improve the lives of children and families in our community."



► Aaron Johnson

Aaron Johnson joined the board in October of 2022. He is the owner of Craft Coating, Inc. in Oshkosh. Aaron joined the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh board because of the tangible impact the Boys & Girls Club makes in the lives of families in Oshkosh and the surrounding area. Aaron is "very excited to

see how the Club's growth over the next few years will further its positive impact on the community." He is married to his wife Amanda and has two girls, Hallie and Kinsley.



► Marina Pashkevich

Marina joined the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh Board of Directors in September 2022. She is Vice President of Advanced Analytics and Artificial Intelligence at Oshkosh Corporation. Marina joined the board because she "wants to help the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh promote and enhance the development of

children by empowering them with knowledge, allowing them to identify usefulness, belong to the community, acquire new skills, and build confidence."

Board of Directors

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Dale Glen, *Treasurer*
Patty Shea, *Secretary*
Stephanie Gensler, *Advisor*
Mark Lasky*, *Advisor*
Heather Holly-Pinnow*, *Past President*

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Glenn Curran	Marina Pashkevich
Art Dumke	Walt Quinlan
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Ron Jankowski	Steven Toll
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*Denotes past board president

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