



NEIGHBORHOODS USA NEWSLETTER AWARD
FIRST PLACE WINNER!

VOLUME 31 • ISSUE 1 • 2022

First Community Night of 2022

BINGO

The EMCC community enjoyed the first bingo night of 2022. The themes for the month were Black History and Valentine's Day. Verónica Castillo, the new EMCC Assistant Director joined the entertainment as a bingo caller. A variety of prizes, pizza dinner and balloons provided a festive atmosphere. Check out EMCC's Facebook page and website for future events. ■



2022 Woody Carey Scholarships: APPLY TODAY!

Since 2013, EMCC has been awarding scholarships in honor of Dr. Ellwood "Woody" Carey who served as a volunteer on the EMCC Board of Directors for over 25 years and held various Board positions over his tenure. The "Scholarship Program" is a meaningful and long lasting tribute to Woody's legacy, loving spirit, and positive values, especially in the area of equal opportunities. This program is especially meaningful because when he went to college the scholarships he obtained were essential to him being able to afford to attend. ■

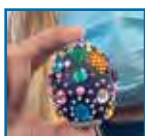


Scholarship applications are available at EMCC
and on the center website www.eastmadisoncc.org.

Applications are DUE MAY 27th at 5pm.

Visit EMCC's website at www.eastmadisoncc.org

**EMCC Kids
Explore
the Arts**
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**Tribute
to Sashe
Mishur**
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**EMCC Youth
Worker
Wins Award**
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**Thanks to
Community
Partners**
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Youth explore different cultures in the Multicultural Arts program

In the multicultural arts program, youth learn about cultures and art elements around the world. EMCC youth program staff take the children on "explorations" to learn about the world with an emphasis on cultures and current events.

During a Middle Eastern unit, the children created colorful geometric art. Recently they learned about Ukraine and created beautiful, delicate eggs. Field trips are a highlight of this program and most recently included the Overture Center's International Festival and Rainforest Rhythms at Olbrich Gardens. ■



Special THANKS to American Girl's Fund For Children for supporting this much-loved program at EMCC.





American Family Insurance is pleased to help underwrite East Madison Community Center's newsletter.

THANK YOU
to American Family for printing Centerpoints!



We are on Facebook! On Facebook, we have our up-to-date schedule of events. You will also be able to see pictures of EMCC events. Give us a "Like", so you stay up-to-date with what is happening in the community.

EMCC says goodbye to a shining light

by Typhanny Greene

February 14th a wise sage departed this life and continued her journey on to the next.

Sashe Mishur was a teacher, a leader, a fighter, a bright light when she walked into the room. She always shared her wealth of knowledge and love with all she encountered.

Sashe first came to EMCC when she started having her drumming circle at the center.

In 2008, we were lucky enough to snag her to come work at EMCC. She and her partner, Kate Moran, started a Break Dance group after seeing a performance and falling in love with the dance style. Sashe was 70 years old then.

Twice a week a variety of people came to EMCC to learn from each other and grow in not only their break-dancing skills but life skills as well. We were really doing the 'each one, teach one.' Everybody's got a move. If you knew something, you taught it to someone else. That's how it grew. They participated in a number of



Photo: Hedi LaMarr Photography

Sashe Mishur

*was a teacher, a leader, a fighter,
a bright light when she walked into
the room. She always shared her
wealth of knowledge and love
with all she encountered.*



break dance battles which are good-natured competitions between individuals and small groups all held at EMCC. In 2017 Sashe was honored for her work with aspiring emcees and hip-hop dancers by the Madison Area Music Association.

Sashe will be missed, but always remembered at EMCC. The Celebration of Life for Sashe was held at EMCC. ■



VOLUNTEER STAFF PROFILE



CYNTHIA WALTON-JACKSON: EMCC Volunteer

I have been involved with East Madison Community Center (EMCC) for more than 25 years in various capacities. I became aware of EMCC "The Center" through the after school program. In those days, EMCC would pick up the kids after school and bring them to the center which was a tremendous help to me as I worked until 4:30 each day. After work, I would rush to EMCC to pick up my kids and every day they would ask to stay longer, so I would stay and wait for them. As I waited I would ask to help with this or that, phone coverage, small tasks and light office work. As time went by I became an official volunteer. Often we were at the

Center more than we were at home, the kids loved it and I did too. Over the years I have had many roles at the center; I have been on the Board, "Center Mom", kitchen staff, unofficial office cleaner, van driver, Holiday toy pick up, staff coffee pick up, and sometimes the annoying one :) etc. Officially through my job I was able to assist community members with tax preparation and filing. I truly Love East Madison Community Center, the staff and the community. I hope to continue to be an integral part of the volunteer staff for many years to come. It's a gift to have evolved from the "Center Mom" to now the "Center Grandma." In my opinion it's the Best Community Center in town!!!! ■

YOUTH

News

YOUTH PROFILE

OPEN ARTS STUDIO fills the Center with creative energy!



Izach Beal

Age: 8

School: 3rd Grade, Emerson

Favorite School Subject: Math

Years attending EMCC: One Year

Favorite EMCC Program: Learning Center

Hobbies: Soccer, Video Games

Favorite Food: Noodles

Adult Role Model: John Harmelink

When I'm older I would like to: Work at the Center

The first Open Arts Studio of the year was filled with colors, paints, warm hats appearing on looms and more! It was a great meeting of creative minds who enjoyed an afternoon of laughs and conversation, while learning new skills. The younger participants painted ceramic bunny banks and canvases using a variety of art supplies.

EMCC volunteer, Perez Kirkpatrick, shared his love for knitting and introduced loom

knitting and the group were actively engaged making their own hats! One participant planned to "stop in for a bit" and ended up staying for nearly 3 hours and finished his hat! With so many participants, we had to do a "yarn run" and get more yarn. Stay tuned for future art classes and guest teachers. Keep an eye out in the next few days for some smiling faces and warm knit hats in the neighborhood. ■



MARK YOUR CALENDAR
Open Arts Studio • May 21st • 1-4pm



YOUTH PROFILE



Serenity Myles

Age: 8

School: 3rd Grade, Hawthorne

Favorite School Subject: Spanish

Years attending EMCC: 3 Years

Favorite EMCC Program: Science and STEM

Hobbies: Gym

Favorite Food: Pizza

Role Models: Dad, Mom, Sister and Brother

What I want to be when I grow up:

Art teacher and Mom

STAFF PROFILE



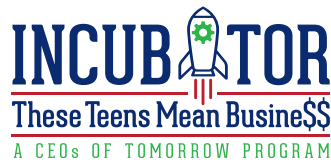
VERÓNICA CASTILLO: New Assistant Director

Verónica Castillo has lived in Madison for the last 11 years. She worked for Madison Metropolitan School District for six years as a bilingual teacher, instructional resource coach for talented and gifted students, and, lastly, as a 4k teacher for her last year. She transitioned from teaching to the non-profit, working for Madison Ballet as their Director of Outreach and recently for the Urban League of Greater Madison. Verónica is fluent in Spanish and excited to bring new programming and continue the great programming that is EMCC. Verónica has two kitties, LOVES art, and dances flamenco! Her door is always open, so please stop by say hello! ■

Youth staff member wins first place award for creative entrepreneurship

Elijah Smith, a motivated youth and teen program worker at the East Madison Community Center, recently received an exciting award for his creativity and entrepreneurial skills.

“My award was won for getting first place in a program called These Teens Mean Business hosted by CEOs Of Tomorrow. We had 8-9 weeks to come up with a business idea and present it to the judges and



see what happens. The goal of my project is to destroy teen obesity. I created a customizable backpack which includes a water bottle, basketball and instructional cards with basketball activities.

The 3rd place winner gets \$250.00, 2nd place gets \$500.00 and 1st place gets



Photo by John Harmelink



\$1000.00 and half of that money goes to the college of your choice. I plan to go to Madison College to study construction and architecture.” ■

STAFF PROFILE



ERICS PETERS: Assistant Youth Program Manager

My time in college has really helped me get a good view of the modern world today.

I gained skills and interests that have given me opportunities to further my career. I got my BA from UW-M! I finished my degree. This has opened doors for my career and has given me the access I need to build upon my skills and how I can better understand other people's lives. I have dreams and passions that have become more accessible to me because of this degree. I will do my best to use what I know to better my community. I hope everyone stops fighting and focuses more on what you have in common. If you look at what's in common you might be surprised at how similar we all are. I think my focus should be on helping others achieve their goals too. ■

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE



Sandy Xiong

Hi there!! My name is Sandy Xiong and I currently serve as the Secretary of the EMCC Board of Directors. My family lives in the Truax neighborhood and I've been involved with the center for many years. I attended EMCC when I was younger and worked as a youth worker throughout high school and college. Being on the Board of Directors is a rewarding experience as it gives me an opportunity to give back to the community that gave so much to me. In my free time, I enjoy biking, running and spending time with my family. I'm honored to serve on the Board and look forward to a great 2022! ■

Learn more about EMCC programs at www.eastmadisoncc.org



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



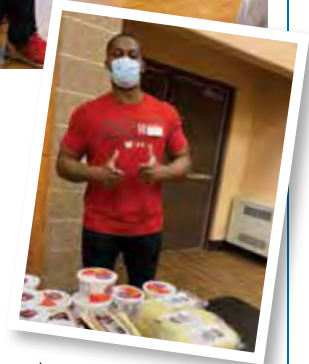
DAP & CONNECT HOME USA

The EMCC Digital Access Program (DAP) received an award from ConnectHomeUSA. ConnectHomeUSA is working to close the digital divide in HUD-assisted housing. Over 100 digital devices/hot spots have been distributed to residents in the EMCC service area. This service helped residents stay connected during the pandemic and reduced internet costs for many. ■



UW-WISCONSIN ATHLETES

UW-Wisconsin athletes volunteered at EMCC in the food pantry, First Impressions room and general cleaning. In only a few short hours, EMCC program rooms and the food pantry were well-stocked and sparkling clean! Thank you! Special thanks goes to Jackie Davenport of UW Athletics who coordinated the community volunteer project with the coaches and student athletes. ■



ALL OF US IS PRESENT AT EMCC ON TUESDAYS FROM 11 AM - 2 PM

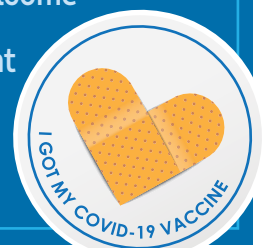
FREE COVID-19 VACCINES at EMCC

Provided by Public Health

Every other Tuesday starting April 12, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

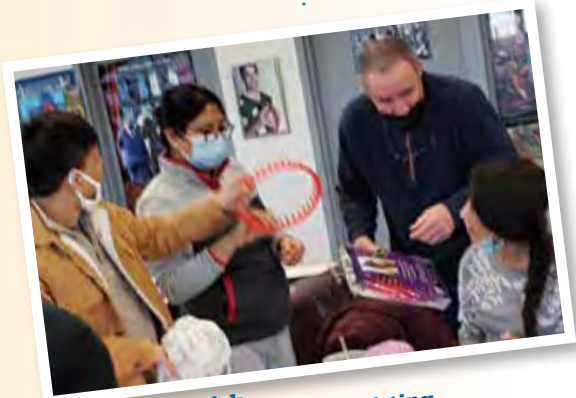


- Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson available while supplies last
- No ID, appointment or insurance required
- Everyone 5 and older is welcome
- 5-17 year olds need a parent or guardian present
- 1st, 2nd, or booster doses





- **Retired Senior Volunteer Program**
Knit items
- **Madison Knitters' Guild**
Knit items
- **Overture Center/ Beth Racette**
Community Ticket Program
- **UW Madison Students**
Service with Youth STEM class
- **Focus on Energy**
LED Bulbs for distribution
- **Madison Public Library**
Bubble Program
- **Doundrins Distillery**
Hand sanitizer
- **Jazzman Brown**
MLK Community Meal
- **Look2Consulting/ Bob Braier**
Food pantry and volunteer software
- **DaneNet/ Donald Rosby**
One-on-one digital literacy training
- **Madison Reading Project**
Monthly book and activity kit donation
- **Madison College**
Coolers for the summer program
- **Public Health**
Vaccination Clinics



Perez Kirkpatrick, Volunteer teaching - loom knitting

Thank You!

.....STAFF PROFILE.....



**REGINA LLOREN MCCONNELL:
Program Advisor**

Regina re-joined EMCC in 2020 as the interim Assistant Director and maintained this position throughout the pandemic.

She has now moved to a new role as a Program Advisor which enables her to be at home more with her family. You may still run into her at food pantry or other community events since she can't get enough of EMCC! ■

VOLUNTEER Opportunities

More volunteers are needed in the Food Pantry and First Impressions Clothing Program.

**Contact Verónica Castillo at EMCC
608-249-0861**



Tuesdays from 11:30am to 1:30pm

SPACE RENTAL AT EMCC NOW AVAILABLE

MEETINGS, REUNIONS, BIRTHDAY PARTIES, SPORTING EVENTS, CLASSES & MORE

EASTMADISONCC.ORG • 608.249.0861

Behind on your bill? MGE is here to help.



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NEIGHBORHOODS USA
NEWSLETTER AWARD
FIRST PLACE WINNER!

Current occupant or

E M C C C C E N T E R P O I N T S

EMCC 2022 VOLUNTEERS

Youth Volunteers

Ashley Bruno, Dominic Dean, Nate Fitzpatrick, Antuan Graves-Haskings, Alizae Horrighs, Zaniya Lewis, Serenity Little, Madison Vance, Shavonna Williams, Eric Xiong

Food/Clothing/Household Items Distribution

Mauriana Barksdale, Ally Becker, Marbeli Bruno, Martha Galston, Pat Haak, Rosie Haskins, Leonquel Jackson, Todd Johnson, Michelle Karsten, David Kennedy, Perez Kirkpatrick, Miranda O'Rourke, Lilly Soderberg, Gwendolyn Pointer, Mylas Sparks, LC Williams, CDA East, East High School, East Madison/Monona Rotary Clubs, JP Cullen

Program Volunteers

Marbeli Bruno, Martha Galston, Rosie Haskins, Cynthia Walton-Jackson, Perez Kirkpatrick, Gwendolyn Pointer, Zach Robinson, Ascendium Education Group, Exact Sciences, Madison College Service Learning Academy

Social Media/Graphic Design/Website

Allie Christensen, Sandy Wagener, Thomas Wilkowske

Board Members

Erika Brown, Marbeli Bruno, Larry Hamlin, Neri Haried, Rosie Haskins, Tracy Lomax, Dr. Melina Lozano, Meghan O'Dell, Jamal Palmer, Sharon Rice, Tauri Robinson, Je'Dauri Robinson, Renee Robinson, J. Alberto Quiroga, Alex Shade, Sandy Xiong

Resource Development

Larry Hamlin, Bunny Lenburg

thanks!



CenterPoints is published four times per year and distributed free of charge to a circulation of over 3000 by East Madison Community Center, 8 Straubel Ct. For information on CenterPoints articles, copy deadlines or advertising policies, call us at 608-249-0861.

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- Assistant Director: Verónica Castillo
- Youth Prgm. Mngr.: John Harmelink
- Assistant Youth Prgm. Mngr.: Erics Peters
- Admin. Assistant: Typhanny Greene
- Assistant Food Pantry Coordinator/Office Assistant: Martha Galston
- Accountant: Bonnie Krattiger
- Program Advisor: Regina McConnell
- Janitor: Nate Savado
- Youth Workers:
 - Ashley Bruno James Xiong
 - Nate Savado Pau Xiong
 - Elijah Smith

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