



**SHARE a little
MAGIC.**



Big Brothers and Big Sisters
of Toronto

Between Friends

Looking up to the Stars

MAY 2009

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Friendship Picnic | 2 |
| Calendar of Events | 2 |
| Larry Grossman Foundation | 2 |
| Award Winners | 3 |
| Big Night Out | 3 |
| Dawn to Dusk | 4 |
| Big Ticket News | 4 |
| Annual General Meeting | 4 |

Newly matched this February, Michael and Jeremy have hit the ground running. We recently had the chance to speak with Michael about his new match.

Q: Why did you become a Big Brother?

My impetus to volunteer came after witnessing a young boy in distress who called upon his Big Brother for support. It reinforced with me how the simple act of friendship could make a difference.

Q: What are your favourite things to do together?

Jeremy is a real skateboard fan and is very active. So far we have enjoyed getting outside as much as possible and enjoying ice skating, skateboarding and shooting hoops.

Q: What makes your friendship with Jeremy special?

Although my friendship with Jeremy has just started, I have noticed that he has a very big heart. We were lucky enough to get tickets to a Raptor's game and when we left the arena and witnessed a homeless man on the sidewalk, he was genuinely moved at his plight and insisted on giving him some of his spare change. That is a special quality.

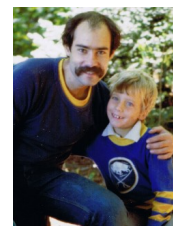
Q: Is Jeremy your first Little Brother?

Jeremy is actually my fifth Little Brother. Not surprisingly, I have had a range of experiences with my previous Littles. Each came from different backgrounds with their own personality. A couple of them faced significant challenges

Meet a Match

Big Brother Michael and Little Brother Jeremy

at a young age and I am proud to have been a small part of their lives. I received a telephone call about a year and a half ago from my first Little after not hearing from him for almost 18 years. At the age of 37 he called me to thank me for being a part of his life. To say that was a powerful moment would be an understatement.



Q: What has being a Big Brother taught you?

So many things. It has taught me patience, perseverance and how profoundly important it is to be a consistent, supportive presence in the life of any friend.

President's Message



Dear Friends,

During these past few months BBBST has had to make some difficult decisions due to the current economic climate. As many of you are aware we have recently been

put in a position where it was necessary to institute contingency plans in order to balance our 2009 budget. An unfortunate effect of these plans was the laying off of some of our staff. The lay-offs were a last resort after reducing expenses in other areas.

BBBST is reliant on corporate,

foundation and individual support to continue offering our invaluable programs to Toronto's children. Our hope is that this will be a temporary measure and that as the year progresses we will see our revenue streams increase.

Currently we are at capacity for our One-to-One Program due to these fiscal restraints. Our School and Site Based Programs are still enrolling interested adults who would like to make a difference in the life of a child and information on these programs can be found on our website at www.bbbst.com.

As we move into summer and the days lengthen and brighten we continue to remain optimistic about the future. Our loyal supporters certainly understand the need to maintain their financial commitments and we are extremely grateful to everyone who contributes to our Mission.

I wish you all a happy and safe summer and hope to see you at our Scotiabank Celebration of Friendship Picnic on Saturday, June 6th.

Until next time,

Cathy Denyer

Celebrate Your Friendship!

Join us on Saturday, June 6th at Bloor Collegiate Institute for our annual Celebration of Friendship Picnic.

Presented by Scotiabank, this year's picnic will take you to Hollywood and back! Relax in our Spa, have your face painted, dress as a star to get your photo taken, sit back and watch a Reptile Show, showcase your talent in our Incredible Race, and add your own star to our Wall of Fame. Don't forget your appetite!

To RSVP, email Gillian at greiss@bbbst.com with:

- Big's Name
- Little's Name
- Program
- Program/Match Support Coordinator

BIG BROTHERS LITTLE BROTHERS BIG SISTERS LITTLE SISTERS

Celebration of Friendship Picnic



SCOTIABANK PRESENTS A BBBST PRODUCTION
STARRING BIG BROTHERS LITTLE BROTHERS
BIG SISTERS LITTLE SISTERS
"CELEBRATION OF FRIENDSHIP PICNIC"
MUSIC BY DJ DAVE MESSAGES BY MEDIX SCHOOL SHOW BY
THE TRAVELLING REPTILE SHOW AND MUCH MORE

ONLY ON JUNE 6, 2009 12-4PM
BLOOR COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE (1140 BLOOR ST W)

Looking Forward:

Special Feature Event:
BBBST Walk-a-thon
June 20, 2009

Visit www.bbbst.com for more
information after June 1.

| June | | | | | | | July | | | | | | |
|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su | M | T | W | Th | F | Sa | Su | M | T | W | Th | F | Sa |
| 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

- Big Night Out Gala
- Celebration of Friendship Picnic
- Dawn to Dusk Invitational Golf
- Walk-a-thon
- Wild Water Kingdom Day

Larry Grossman Foundation for Kids



The Larry Grossman Foundation for Kids is a registered charitable organization dedicated to providing assistance to young children who might not otherwise be able to experience sports and music activities.

For the past year, the Larry Grossman Foundation for Kids has been a major supporter in arranging group outings and events for boys and girls enrolled in the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Toronto Group Program. The Foundation has been responsible for the Group Program taking rock climbing trips, visiting the Toronto Zoo, watching the Blue Jays, and playing bowling, golf, and beach volleyball games.

The foundation successfully enriches the lives of children and youth across Toronto by helping them participate in, learn from and enjoy sports and music.

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Toronto and the Bigs and Littles in the Group Program would like to thank the Larry Grossman Foundation for Kids for their ongoing and generous support of our agency.

Learn about agency events, programs, news, and things to do with your Little online at www.bbbst.com!



BBBST Presents our 2009 Award Winners

Big Brother and Little Brother of the Year Community Based Program

Robert Kligman and Kamran



"Robert has been like a treasure find for us as a Big Brother and I am thankful for such a person in my son Kamran's life. He is like a family member for us. Rob is a good listener, easy going, down to earth and gives good advice."

~Sevinj, Kamran's mother

Big Sister and Little Sister of the Year Community Based Program

Trish Barbato and Caitlin

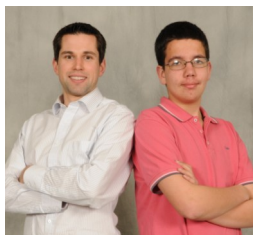


"Trish is a remarkable friend who has helped Caitlin push herself to the next level, be it in school, with friendships, hockey and with her overall confidence. They have done amazing things like ski, swim, play basketball and of course, shopping. Trish has a passionate zest for life, is family oriented and a role model."

~Peter, Caitlin's father

Big Brother and Little Brother of the Year Site Based Programs

Andrew Zimcik and Andrew



"Andrew's dedication to 'Young Entrepreneur Student' was extraordinary. My very shy son has shown an amazing improvement in his social and communication skills and was able to approach and confidently sell their finished product to complete strangers."

~Leonar, Andrew's Mother

Big Sister and Little Brother of the Year Site Based Programs

Marlene Ursabia and Alex



"We were fortunate to have Marlene and Alex take part in 'My Magic Hands', a Group Activity program. Marlene was exceptional in her commitment to the success of her Little, Alex both inside and outside of this program."

~Julie Eng, Magicana

James Marshall and Eleanor Hunter Award

Glenn Trotman, Kevin and Kenneth

"Glenn is an outstanding role model. He motivates me to be the best I can be and has guided me down the right path in life."

~Kevin



"Glenn has guided me to the person I am today. He encourages me to drive towards my goals and his intelligent ways of achieving them."

~Kenneth

Elaine Giffen and Little Sister Award

Natasha Audette and Mardi



"Natasha has been my daughter's Big Sister since she was 7 years old. Natasha is a very warm, welcoming and understanding person who has had a huge influence on Mardi. I know this relationship will last until my daughter herself becomes a Big Sister. Thank you Natasha."

~Diane, Mardi's Mother

Big Night Out

The **39th Annual Big Night Out** gala fundraiser is **Thursday, June 4th, 2009** at **The Liberty Grand**. Join us to celebrate the "stars" in our community - the men and women who volunteer their time as Big Brothers & Big Sisters and demonstrate how being a mentor and a friend can profoundly change a life. To purchase tickets, email events@bbbst.com or call Camille at 416-925-8981 ext. 4138.

Interested in becoming a Big Brother or Big Sister in the In School or Group Mentorship programs? Know someone who might be interested? Visit www.bbbst.com and register today!



Big Ticket to Summer Fun

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Toronto has great opportunities for matches to take advantage of the city's summer fun.

Ticket Donation Program

One-to-one matches can log on to bbbst-tickets.com to request free tickets donated by individuals and corporations. Selection criteria includes the speediness of reply, number of tickets previously received, and the match's activity within the agency. For more info email greiss@bbbst.com.

Group Tickets

Large ticket donations can become organized activities for our Group and Big Bunch programs.

BBBST Partnerships

Partnerships allow our matches to visit local attractions at discounted prices. Some partnerships include:

Little Sisters can receive free up-do hair styles for proms and semi-formals in May and June 2009 from [Hair Sprung](#).

Join us on July 11th for BBBST's [Wild Water Kingdom Day](#). \$20 gives both a Big and a Little entry.

Purchase one student –priced ticket (\$28) at [Soulpepper Theatre](#) and receive an adult ticket free!

Email greiss@bbbst.com for codes before purchasing tickets!

Around Town

Visit our website for ideas about free and low cost activities during the summer and beyond.



Interested in donating tickets or forming a partnership? Know of a free or low cost activity to add to our website? Contact Gillian at greiss@bbbst.com or 416-925-8981 ext 4116.



On **Tuesday, July 7th** be part of an exclusive group of 32 golfers who will CHALLENGE themselves to see how many holes they can golf in 12 straight hours at **Emerald Hills Golf Club**. This 27 hole course is reserved for you and your fellow golfers and the day includes limo service to and from the course, breakfast, lunch, dinner, drinks and more! To find out more, email events@bbbst.com or call Camille at 416-925-8981 ext. 4138.

BBBST Annual General Meeting

Join us at our
2009 Annual General Meeting

Thursday, June 18

5:30pm

Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP
1600—1 First Canadian Place
100 King Street West, Toronto

The following business shall be conducted at the Annual General Meeting:

A) The report of the Board and the ratification or confirmation of such matters as are required to be ratified or confirmed by the Act or the By-laws of the Corporation

- B) The financial statements for the preceding fiscal year and the report of the auditor thereon
- C) The appointment of the auditor for the ensuing year
- D) The election of Directors in accordance with the provisions of this By-law
- E) Such other business as may be required



**Big Brothers and Big Sisters
of Toronto**

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Toronto supports mentoring programs for children and youth between six and 18 years of age and currently serves over 1400 children annually.

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