



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF HARLEM

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF HARLEM AIMS TO RAISE \$2 MILLION TO SUPPORT CLUB'S MOVE TO NEW HEADQUARTERS, OUTFITTED FOR STEM & STEAM INITIATIVES

*BGCH Will Formally Introduce the Comprehensive Campaign to Complete & Scale Historic PS 186 On
November 5th At Its Annual Autumn In New York Event, Which Coincides With the Club's 35th Anniversary*

October 27, 2015 -- Boys and Girls Club of Harlem today officially launched a club-wide comprehensive campaign with a fundraising goal of \$2 million that will bring ultramodern STEM/STEAM access to the children and adults of Harlem. The campaign will kick off with the nonprofit's annual **Autumn in New York** event on **Thursday, November 5th** at **The Riverside Church's Assembly Hall**, during a celebration of BGCH's 35-year deep-rooted community presence. Led by the remarkable Cynthia Hardy Young, Founder and CEO of Pivot Global Partners, the campaign positions BGCH to play an active role in the rapidly shifting landscape of technology and education for the traditionally underserved youth of Harlem.

"Our 35th anniversary brings the Boys & Girls Club of Harlem to a new era in engaging children, youth and families. While celebrating our past we look to a bright future that includes a new home, P.S. 186, that will provide our children with state-of-the art facilities to meet the state-of-the art opportunities that are before them," said Dominique R. Jones, Boys & Girls Club of Harlem Executive Director. "We are thrilled to have Cynthia lead the way." BGCH hopes to raise \$2 million to support the transformation of P.S. 186 into the Club's new home while executing new approaches to learning that continue to advance the forward progress of Harlem youth.

"I've always been impressed with the work of the Boys & Girls Clubs in the various cities where I have lived. The clubs make a tremendous difference in the lives of kids in a unique way. After meeting Dominique, learning about her role, and listening to her explain the key initiatives for the Boys & Girls Club of Harlem and the campaign for PS186? I immediately said 'yes!'" said Hardy Young. "What's paramount is the impact the campaign will have on the entire Harlem community, not just kids. I firmly believe that there is no better way for me to spend my time than to help BGCH realize its goal to bring a state-of-the-art facility to Harlem that will concentrate on STEAM. It's automatic for me and I plan to be a committed and active lead for the PS186 campaign."

In keeping with the season, Autumn in New York will have a football theme and 6p kick off time with a cocktail reception in Assembly Hall, located at 91 Claremont Avenue (between 120th and 122nd Streets) in Harlem, New York, NY. Event host Rob Simmelkjaer will toss a coin to begin the celebration at 7p with honorary event chairpersons Keith Clinkscales, CEO Revolt TV, and Déjà "DéjàVu" Parker, radio personality with 107.5 WBLS/Emmis Communications ready to come in from the sidelines. Guests will have the chance to 'get on the field' with every contribution during a novel fundraising activity.

"This year's Autumn in New York event coincides with the Club's 35th anniversary. As we honor the past we are also preparing for an exciting future for the Club and the families we serve. I am so grateful for the hard work of our Board and distinguished host committee led by Keith Clinkscales, CEO of Revolt TV, and Déjà "DéjàVu" Parker, a champion for youth and WBLS radio personality. I am also grateful that Ms. Cynthia Hardy Young, founder and CEO of Pivot Global Partners will be leading our comprehensive campaign. She brings an impressive track record of business and civic leadership to us as we transition to our new home at the historic P.S. 186 site in 2016," said Christopher Watler, Boys & Girls Club of Harlem Board Chair.



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"We are so fortunate to have a community filled with caring and committed individuals, businesses and institutions that see what this time holds and have been generous in every way," Jones concluded. "Having leaders like Cynthia Hardy Young, CEO of Pivot Global and our Comprehensive Campaign chair will lead us in building the foundation for the great futures for the children and youth we serve."

BGCH wishes to thank to the following generous sponsors of Autumn in New York: Alembic Community Development, Monadnock Development LLC, Carver Bank, Buffalo Wild Wings, Harlem Haberdashery, Harlem CDC, Sundae Sermon, Convent Church, Fresh Direct, United Federation of Teachers, Heritage Health, Morgan Stanley, Raiford, Roman & Associates, and Soleil Caterers.

For more information on Boys & Girls Club of New York's 35th Anniversary, to receive detail on how to financially support the comprehensive campaign, or purchase tickets for the November 5th Autumn in New York celebration, call (212) 283-6770 or send an email to info@harlembgc.org.

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About Boys & Girls Club of Harlem

Since 1980, the Boys & Girls Club of Harlem has been at the forefront of youth development in our community. We are committed to providing after-school access to character-building, educational programming and opportunities otherwise unavailable to the Harlem youth (ages 6–18) that we service. We foster a safe environment where our young people can be themselves, have fun and, engage in interesting, constructive activities that channel youthful energy into challenging pursuits. The mission of the Boys & Girls Club of Harlem is to provide access and opportunities for youth to reach their full potential as responsible members of the community. For more information about BGCH visit www.bgcharlem.org or call (212) 283-6770. Follow Boys & Girls Club of Harlem on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram at HarlemBGC.