

**The Daily Dreamer**



**CAMP OF DREAMS**

**Whole Communities  
Whole Learners  
Whole Lives**

**Get Ready for Summer**

Camp of Dreams is getting ready to rock Summer 2009!

This year we will be taking 72 Dreamers to camp - the most kids Camp of Dreams has ever taken in one summer. On June 28<sup>th</sup> we will head to the grounds of the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center in Oregon, IL where another summer of learning, nature, and fun will begin.

We are excited to announce that 12 high school Dreamers will be at camp this summer as junior staff. These Dreamers bring valuable abilities and experience as former campers and will assist in cabins, help lead activities, and learn leadership skills out in the woods.

Camp this year will include some old favorites in addition to new activities including:

- Overnight canoe trips
- High Ropes course trips
- Science, math, martial arts and cooking classes
- Leadership and team-building exercises
- Campfires and s'mores
- All-camp games such as Capture the Flag, Scavenger Hunts, and Camp Olympics

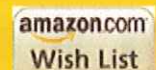
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**Summer Camp  
Wish List**

- Twin Sheets Sets
- Sleeping Bags & Blankets
- Backpacks & Tents
- Soap, Shampoo, Conditioner, Toothbrushes, & Toothpaste
- Board Games
- Speakers for Ipod
- 100 White T-shirts
- Disposable Cameras
- Construction Paper, Markers, Pens, & Notebooks

To donate any items, please call 312.649.5551 or find our



on our website:  
[www.campofdreams.org](http://www.campofdreams.org)



## Upcoming Events

### June

28- Camp Begins

### July

11- Camp Visiting Day

18- Camp Ends

26- Chicago Friends & Family (if you would like to attend, please call us)

26- College Tour Begins

31- College Tour Ends

### August

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

### September

12 - Community Days begin again

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Please consider using [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) or [www.igive.com](http://www.igive.com), and register as a Camp of Dreams fan. Every time you search using those sites, a donation will be made to Camp of Dreams. You can also shop with [www.igive.com](http://www.igive.com), and a percentage of your purchase will be donated back to Camp of Dreams.



We are also now part of Actof-Good.org. ActofGood.org is an internet-based social platform

that unites people with the causes they care about. You can become a member, synch your calendar to be alerted to Camp of Dreams' events, participate in discussions, check out photos, and connect with other supporters.

## Sweet Dreams 2009

Pops for Champagne was our gracious host again for *Sweet Dreams 2009*, Camp of Dreams' most successful fundraising event. Despite a rowdy spring thunderstorm, friends of Camp of Dreams came out to sample champagne, bid on auction items, and support our Dreamers.

Camp of Dreams is extremely grateful to the wonderful individuals and organizations that donated items and the generous bidders and prize winners.




At the end of the evening, *Sweet Dreams* raised \$30,000! This provides funding for 6 youth to fully participate in all Camp of Dreams events, one High School Service Leadership Retreat for 25 students, plus supplies for Community Days during the academic year.

Exciting auction items included trips to Cape Cod, Las Vegas, Carlsbad, and Laguna Niguel, lessons at Willowhill Golf Academy, tickets to popular Chicago sports teams, passes to notable museums, in addition to a wide variety of gifts and treats from local Chicago gyms, theaters, and restaurants.

From us and from our Dreamers — thank you for your support and see you at next year's event.



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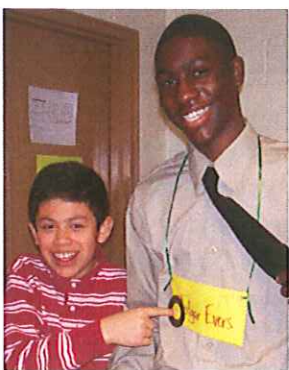
## High School Program Grows with Our Dreamers



This year Camp of Dreams began all-new programming to address the needs of our older Dreamers. On Community Days high school students participated in workshops designed to bolster the skills particular to their success and achievement at their grade level. These tailored courses focused on areas such as transitioning to high school, leadership training, civic engagement, and college preparedness.

Further, Camp of Dreams has two additional new programs just for our older Dreamers: quarterly Service and Leadership Weekends and an annual College Tour.

### High School Service Weekends



(pictured.)

This spring our Dreamers helped clean up and eco-garden at Washington Park on Saturday followed by Sunday at Wrigley Field as the Chicago Cubs battled the Houston Astros.

Our winter weekend enabled 15 Dreamers to take part in a cultural exchange service project with *Instituto del Progreso Latino* on Saturday followed by a Sunday of introductory snowboarding lessons at Four Lakes



### Annual Illinois College Tour

In July, Camp of Dreams will embark on the first ever College Tour, another new program just for high-school Dreamers. We will visit 6 different campuses across Illinois:

- Bradley University
- Illinois State University
- Lincoln College
- Millikin University
- Olivet Nazarene University
- University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign

At each campus our Dreamers will meet and tour with admissions and financial aid staff from the school as well as spend some time in the school's residential community.

Throughout the academic year our students have prepared for this tour by enhancing their study skills, exploring various career paths, and cultivating greater independence, initiative, and responsibility.

Our Dreamers have learned about various application processes and financial aid forms, developed criteria to determine the path of their post-secondary education, and are ready to hit the road.

### How can you help?

If you know anyone who can help us introduce our Dreamers to these college towns (Bourbonnais, Decatur, Lincoln, Peoria, Macomb) and host us for an evening activity or meal, please contact Lori Coomes at 312.649.5551.



# Camp of Dreams

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Victoria Thomas

## Administrative Staff

### Executive Director:

Carrie L. Newton

### Director of Operations:

Lori Coomes

## News and Notes

Jasmine Swoope (11th Grade) was recently accepted into Scholarship Chicago, a five-year program that provides access to college preparatory curricula and a four-year scholarship to the school of her choice.

Michael Manning (8th Grade) will be attending Lincoln Park High School next year in their prestigious Double Honors/Advanced Placement program, which includes both college prep as well as college-level courses.

## Community Days Wrap-Up

Our Community Days program for 2008-2009 concluded this May having served a record number of 156 Chicago youth! Overall, Camp of Dreams welcomed 82 new students this year. All three quarters offered new classes at the LEARN Charter School, which hosted our Dreamers every other Saturday.

In 2009 we offered classes in:



- Creative Writing

- Chicago History

- Cooking

- Nutrition & Exercise

- Lyric Analysis

- Music Appreciation

- Math and Logic

- Social Studies

- Science and Art

- and many more!



Our High School Dreamers enthusiastically finished their leadership and community classes. This new program helped 9th graders develop super-student skills in organization, critical thinking and time management (to name a few), while the 10th graders explored effective leadership. Both our 11th and 12th graders designed and implemented civic engagement projects in addition to formulating post-secondary plans.

Next year looks to be bigger and better!

## Who We Are:

Camp of Dreams is a Chicago 501(c)(3) nonprofit devoted to bringing uplifting, engaging, free educational and cultural enrichment programs to young people who would otherwise go without. We accomplish this through a year-round project consisting of four main programming areas: school-year Community Days, quarterly service projects, a week-long college tour, and our three-week overnight summer camp.

Our project brings a wide range of activities to our participants: Academics, Visual and Performing Arts, Mind and Body, Health and Wellness, and Service Learning. And in all of our activities, our young people learn about accountability, and about following through with themselves, their fellow participants, and their broader community. To receive more information about applying to, working with, volunteering for, or donating to Camp of Dreams, please see our website, [www.campofdreams.org](http://www.campofdreams.org), or contact us at [info@campofdreams.org](mailto:info@campofdreams.org) or 312.649.5551.

