

THE LOTUS LAMP

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A Gala Pre-Kwanzaa Event



Take our word for it! You had to be there to appreciate just how much fun we all had at our annual Pre-Kwanzaa Celebration. Hopefully, the above pictures can give you some idea as to how festive and enjoyable it all was.

“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.”

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Early Learning Center News

The Lotus Academy Early Learning Center will have a new director as of January 20th. We wish Mothura Serquurr the best in her new job, and we also want to welcome her successor, Mothura Alma Doumbouya.

Mothura Alma comes to us highly recommended and tremendously qualified. Her educational background is all about children (an associate degree from Community College in Childhood Education, her bachelor's degree from Alvernia College in Child Welfare and Behavioral Health, and she is finishing up her master's degree in Education Technology). She also has a wealth of experience, having worked as a pre-school specialist at the Free library and as a child care specialist at a number of day care centers. She will be meeting with and greeting the parents on January 13th at the Early Learning Center.

ASHE! BRAVO! KUDOS! to the parents at the Early Learning Center for a job well done! Their bake sale fundraiser was a huge success. They raised enough money to purchase four new computers for the children. We are looking forward to using them to broaden the educational foundation of our youngest Lotus students. Asante Sana (thank you) to those parents who made it possible!

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

This is the third year that the Lotus Parent Partnership Committee has organized the "In-Service Day" to commemorate Martin Luther King's birthday. It is an occasion where his work is honored by calling upon the many Lotus parents and supporters to come to the school to pitch in on some vital beautification, cleaning, and repair tasks. The idea is to pool our efforts to make the Lotus Academy a more positive and uplifting place to be in. We have had an outpouring of parents the last couple of years, and the morning has been an overwhelming success.

We plan to follow up on last year's success and make this one even better. Monday, January 19, 2004 is the date for our third Lotus Academy Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. We are gearing up to have a very successful event and we encourage all parents, teachers, and students to come out and participate.

The day begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 12:00 noon. A continental breakfast will be provided for all of the early arrivals, and a light lunch will be served at the end of the day. All parents who are there for the full "day" will receive six (6) parent partnership hours, in addition to honoring the memory and spirit of one of our great heroes.

Lotus Board Of Directors

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Lotus Academy will be held on Thursday, January 22nd, at 5:45 p.m. at the Lotus Academy. The Board is now considering a number of exciting new developments for the K-8 program as well as the Early Learning Center. In addition, the 30th anniversary special events are being planned. We also have two new parent members, Ronald Morris, Sr. and Vincent Allen. E-mail us at board@lotusacademy.org if you would like more information about the Lotus Board of Directors.

Lotus Advisory Council Meeting

The next Advisory Council meeting is to be held on Wednesday, January 21st, at 6:00 p.m. We need a parent liaison person for each of our classes. This parent would be the teacher's voice and ears at the meetings, letting us know how we can help with that particular class room (projects, special events, etc.). If you decide to take on this very important assignment, you would also earn six (6) parent partnership hours per trimester. In any case, we hope to see you at the next meeting as all of the parents continue to make Lotus an even better school.

"I would try to teach the children [and] make them know that those agonies by which they are surrounded are a criminal conspiracy to destroy them.

JAMES BALDWIN