

# ON THE ROAD TO A **BRIGHTER** \_\_\_\_\_ **FUTURE**

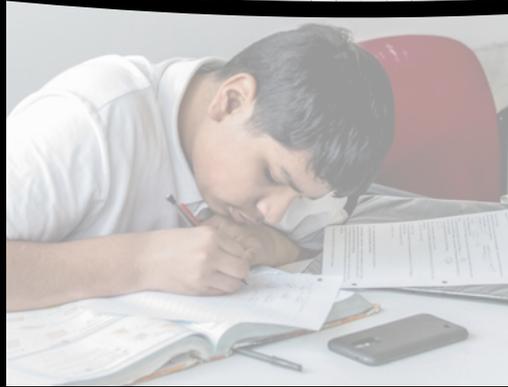


**BOOKS BEFORE BOXING | 2018**

See where we're headed >



# IT STARTS WITH STRONG ACADEMICS



## 2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

We're proud of our 11-year track record of success and we're on target to achieve more in the year to come. Our students are on the road to a brighter future. Join us on our journey!

	<b>100%</b> high school graduation rate since 2007	<b>150+</b> students, boys and girls ages 8-18
<b>88</b> college, academic, health and community partnerships	<b>334</b> hours of student-performed community service	<b>1,300+</b> hours of assistance provided by volunteers
<b>100%</b> of students scored above national averages in learning interest, critical thinking, and academic motivation	<b>30%</b> increase in school attendance	All of our programs are provided <b>FREE</b> of charge, all year round



# ATHLETICS + HEALTH AND WELLNESS



We foster academic champions and some athletic champions, too – from youth boxers who bring home national titles to students who are gaining strength, confidence, flexibility and more. Here’s just some of what we achieved throughout the year.



## YOGA

Weekly classes with support from lululemon Detroit



## DANCE

New dance instruction by Class Act Detroit



## STRENGTH + CONDITIONING

Daily strength and conditioning with our coaches



## SOCCER/RECREATION

Activities in our expanding outdoor space



## HEALTHY MEALS + COOKING CLASSES

Through our partnership with Forgotten Harvest



## ONSITE HEALTH CARE

Mobile eye exams, mouth guards, flu shots + more



# ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS



Learning beyond the classroom goes to the heart of what we do, whether our students are raising honey bees or mastering computer coding to prepare for high tech jobs of the future. Our programs expose students to a whole new world of opportunities.



## STEAM LAB

Daily programming in robotics, digital literacy and more



## COMPUTER CODING

We're preparing our students for high tech jobs of the future



## MUSIC STUDIO

Class Act Detroit teaches students the basics of music and production



## ART + HISTORY

Award-winning French artist Nicolas Henry served as an artist-in-residence



## BEEES IN THE D

With the help of Bees in the D, we raised 250,000 honey bees



## SUMMER PROGRAMMING

From horseback riding to paddle boarding, swimming and more



# COLLEGE + CAREER READINESS



We're incredibly proud of our 100% high school graduation rate, a winning streak that's continued for 11 straight years. This year, more DBG seniors graduated and several received college scholarships for their outstanding work. Our college and career readiness efforts have gained momentum with the addition of several new initiatives.

## COLLEGE APPLICATION ROUNDTABLE

A panel of college students and community leaders offer insight into the college selection process through conversation and student-driven questions.

## COLLEGE ESSAY AND WRITING CLASS

Taught by Marygrove College English professor Rose Gorman, students in grades 8-12 are improving their skills in preparation for high school and college level writing.

## AMERICORPS VISTA MEMBER

Samantha Rudelich, a University of Alabama graduate and Ann Arbor native, is helping build a program that includes enhanced job training and job shadowing opportunities, scholarships and financial aid planning and SAT/ACT prep.



## CAREER DAYS

PwC Detroit brings a diverse group of professionals to DBG, from fighter pilots to EMTs, to help students explore different career pathways.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks our partners, PwC Detroit, Shamrock 555 and the H.T. Ewald Foundation, three of our graduating seniors received college scholarships and tuition assistance this year totaling \$53,000.



*The Downtown Boxing Gym is so important to me because it changed my life. When I walked in the door, I didn't even think about going to college. This place changed it for me because they made me believe in what I could do and that I can be anything in life. So, I'm gonna go for it.*

– Jordan, 11<sup>th</sup> grade





# A GROWING TEAM



Behind every one of our success stories is a partnership of coaches, staff, parents, business leaders, community advocates, professional athletes, our 250+ alumni, and countless volunteers. Each plays a pivotal role in our whole child approach to shaping young champions. We are a family.

## MENTOR OF THE YEAR



Our founder and CEO, **KHALI SWEENEY**, received a 2018 Governor's Service Award for Mentor of the Year

## 40 UNDER 40



Our executive director, **JESSICA HAUSER**, was named to this year's Crain's Class of 40 Under 40

## THE APPRENTICE



A 2015 graduate of our program, **KADEEM ANDERSON**, is the first-ever apprentice at DBG



*Education is the key. It gives you hope. It gives you opportunity. It's a pathway to success. I want our program to be a resource globally. I want people to look at DBG and say, 'That's a blueprint, that's a working model. This is what happens when you do it right.'* – **Khali Sweeney**



## HONORING SLP

Stephen Luigi Piazza was our rock, mentor, cheerleader, outside-the-box thinker, big dreamer and most importantly, our dear friend. He loved our program, our students and the city of Detroit – and we loved him back. We were devastated when SLP passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. He remains a benefactor to our program through his Shamrock 555 Foundation, which gave one of our students a college scholarship this year. His legacy lives on at the Downtown Boxing Gym!



## NEW ROLES – NEW FACES

During the course of our growth, we added several new positions this year.



**Kunjan Patel**  
Chief Operating Officer



**Leslie Andrews**  
Senior Director Strategic Direction



**Katie Anderson**  
Academic Director



**Meredith Potter**  
Development Administrator/  
Event Coordinator

# AND YOU!



## GROW WITH US IN 2019 AND BEYOND

### 250 BY 2020

With new funding, we will reach our goal to increase the number of students in our program to 250 over the next two years.

That means we'll bring in **AN ADDITIONAL 100 STUDENTS** off our **800-STUDENT WAITING LIST.**

### LEAN + GREEN

We're drawing up plans to **UPGRADE AND ENHANCE** our 27,000 square foot facility to **ACCOMMODATE OUR GROWING STUDENT POPULATION** and make the building **ENERGY EFFICIENT.**

### INVEST IN THE FUTURE

By supporting education and students, you are investing in the **FUTURE OF OUR COMMUNITY.** The widespread benefits are immeasurable and grow infinitely with every **CONNECTION TO OUR PROGRAM.**



## HOW YOUR DONATION HELPS

The Downtown Boxing Gym is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Your tax-deductible gift can help in so many ways. Here's a look at how your dollars change lives.

**\$25**

#### SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Pencils, notebooks, folders, scissors, glue, colored pencils, crayons, etc.

**\$250**

#### EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Gardening, soccer, paddle boarding, art, music and STEAM-related programs

**\$50**

#### ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT

Jump ropes, boxing gloves, Yoga mats, soccer balls, and weight-training equipment

**\$500**

#### ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

Engineering, computer programming, and technology workshops

**\$100**

#### ACADEMIC RESOURCES

Flashcards, SAT/ACT preparation materials, and educational games

**\$1,800**

#### ANNUAL SPONSORSHIP

Everything a student needs, from Monday-Friday, all year long

**THE MORE YOU GIVE, THE BRIGHTER THE FUTURE!**

# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

PLEASE JOIN THIS AMAZING GROUP OF SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS



GENERAL MOTORS MOBILITY



CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE SENT TO 6445 E. VERNOR HIGHWAY, DETROIT, MI 48207  
[DOWNTOWNBOXINGGYM.ORG/DONATE](http://DOWNTOWNBOXINGGYM.ORG/DONATE)