



DC SCORES



Our Mission

DC SCORES inspires youth to lead healthy lifestyles, be engaged students, and become agents of change in their communities.

Our Model

DC SCORES creates a positive connection for students to the school and surrounding community by creating a bridge from the school day to after-school. We strongly believe that innovative and creative after-school programming helps increase a student's level of school engagement, physical fitness, self-worth, and sense of belonging in his/her community. We hire and train motivated DC public school teachers to run the program at each school, thus providing each student with direct access to a trusted mentor. Writing and soccer coaches are given a year-long curriculum, supplies and equipment, and are supported by DC SCORES program staff to ensure standardized, flexible, and contextual daily lessons. Our program maintains a low ratio of students to teachers and gives ownership to each school so that the school's community embraces the program.

Our Reach

DC SCORES enrolls over 700 students between the ages of eight and 15. Our program engages approximately 30 students each day at 23 public and public charter schools – 17 elementary and six middle schools – covering District Wards 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. During the summer, more than 100 students participate in our summer camp.

Our History

Julie Kennedy, a former teacher at Marie Reed Learning Center in Adams Morgan, invented this complementary combination of activities in 1994 when she began working with a group of 15 girls. Ms. Kennedy quickly learned that the team-centered relationships built on the soccer field translated into poetry workshops where students build on individual and team strengths to express themselves. Through the development of teamwork and leadership, students were prepared to act as change agents through a commitment to their communities through service-learning projects. The program quickly expanded to multiple wards throughout the District as an increasing number of teachers and principals were drawn to the concept. In 1999, Julie Kennedy worked to begin sites in Boston and Chicago, thus creating America SCORES, headquarters to programs in 13 cities across the United States: Atlanta, Bay Area, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, New England, New York, St. Louis, Seattle, and Washington, DC.

The Case for DC SCORES

Compared to 11 of the nation's largest urban centers, the District of Columbia has the highest percentage of below basic readers: 61% and 52% of District fourth and eighth graders, respectively, are below basic reading levels while 27% and 34% of fourth and eighth graders, respectively, are below basic writing achievement levels. In terms of physical fitness, Washington, DC has the highest obesity rate (22.8%) for children ages 10-17 in the country. DC SCORES aims to fill these gaps in a supportive after-school environment every day in the District.

Our Success

Each year, DC SCORES' unique approach consistently has a powerful impact; our after-school and summer programs pick-up where schools leave off – providing physical and academic programs that make a difference in the lives of students.

TEACHERS SURVEYED who have DC SCORES students in their classroom:

- 88% say DC SCORES **improves classroom writing skills**
- 97% say DC SCORES students' **attitude toward school** improved
- 94% say DC SCORES improves **classroom speaking skills**
- 82% say DC SCORES improves **classroom reading skills**

PARENTS SURVEYED:

- 100% indicate that DC SCORES has **increased their child's self-esteem**
- 100% say DC SCORES has made their child **feel better about themselves**
- 97% say that DC SCORES helps his/her child **learn more about poetry and creative writing**

DC SCORES STUDENTS:

- show statistically significant **report card improvements** in reading, writing, and physical education
- after a year of participation, the percentage of girls classified as overweight or at risk of being overweight **decreased**
- show statistically significant improvement in **self-efficacy, peer relations, and social support outcome areas**
- show statistically significant **increases in cardiovascular** running tests



get involved

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DONATE

- **Register** through United Way #8820 or CFC #82924.
- Donate **online** at www.DCSCORES.org.
- **Donate** directly to DC SCORES: 1224 M Street, NW Suite 200 Washington, DC 20005.
- **Sponsor** a DC SCORES special event or program event.
- **Enter a team** into the DC SCORES Cup: Sharks vs. Suits Shootout.
- Make an **in-kind donation** of soccer equipment, school supplies, or services such as printing, graphic design, or marketing skills. In-kind donations are tax-deductible.
- Give an **honorary gift** to DC SCORES to celebrate special occasions or accomplishments.
- **Recognize a coach's work** during the season by giving a gift to DC SCORES as part of the "Thank You, Coach" campaign.

VOLUNTEER

DC SCORES annually hosts three program events for students and three fundraising events where the help of volunteers is essential. Volunteer referees and assistant coaches are also needed weekdays from 3:30-6:00pm at DC SCORES schools across the city. Contact VolunteerDC@americascres.org for more information.

Fall Frenzy is a celebration of the fall season filled with soccer games, relays, arts and crafts, and other activities. *(October 24)*

Poetry Slam! is a city-wide spoken-word competitions featuring performances of DC SCORES students and their original works of poetry. *(December 2 & 3)*

DC SCORES Soccer Ball, DC SCORES' annual fundraiser, features a silent auction, student performances and special guests in support of DC SCORES' mission. *(late March)*

Inspired Art is a fundraising gala and auction featuring artwork inspired by the poetry of DC SCORES poet-athletes. *(late May)*

Jamboree! is the culminating event for all DC SCORES students filled with soccer games, music, face painting, and other activities. *(June 5)*

DC SCORES Cup: Sharks vs. Suits Shootout is an annual fundraising co-ed soccer tournament which brings together some of the nation's largest businesses and law firms for a day of competitive soccer for a great cause. *(late June)*



schools: fall 2009

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Ward 1 (year programming began)

Bancroft Elementary School (1999)
Columbia Heights Education Campus (2007)
H.D. Cooke Elementary School (2005)
Marie Reed Learning Center (1994)
Oyster-Adams Bilingual School (2009)
Tubman Elementary School (2001)

Ward 2

Thomson Elementary School (2007)

Ward 4

Brightwood Education Center (2002)
MacFarland Middle School (2007)
Raymond Education Center (2007)
Truesdell Education Center (2000)

Ward 5

Brookland Elementary School (2008)
Hyde Leadership Public Charter School (2006)
Wheatley Education Center (2009)

Ward 6

Jefferson Middle School (2007)

Ward 7

Aiton Elementary School (1999)
Anne Beers Elementary School (1994)
Arts and Technology Academy (2001)
Burrville Elementary School (2000)
C.W. Harris Elementary School (2005)
César Chávez Public Charter Middle School
for Public Policy - Parkside Campus (2008)
Kelly Miller Middle School (2004)

Ward 8

Howard Road Academy (2002)

A Memoir of Me

I am a feather,
I am a poet.
I am a preacher,
I have been a teacher,
I have been to school.
If you show me how to get off the ground
I will teach you to fly and never, ever come back down.

Solange L.

Arts & Technology Academy

I Am

I am a marimba that is so loud
like a drum that you bang with a hammer
I am the air of Nike shoes
that look so gold and shine like the sun
I'm a lion as I eat a big pizza
I'm a college student
that works a lot on a pentagon with shapes

I'm a negative thing like an electron cloud
that has a charge of electrons: shocking, lightning
I'm proud of being a soccer player
that is so smart
I'm also proud of my grades
and food that I eat everyday

Saul S.

Columbia Heights Education Campus



board of directors



**DC
SCORES**

- 100% of board members contribute financially
- 100% of board members volunteer at one special event per year
- Board members are elected to three-year terms with elections held in September

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