

The Ravenswood II "I Have a Dream"® Program motivates and empowers children from low-income communities to reach their education and career goals by providing a long-term program of mentoring, tutoring and enrichment, culminating with tuition assistance for higher education.

# The Dreamer's Corner

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



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VOLUME 1, COMPILATION ISSUE



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## Looking Forward...

After such a fun summer we are looking forward to beginning the Ravenswood II "I Have a Dream" After-School Program for the 2006-2007 school year. We will be beginning on **September 18<sup>th</sup>** and will run from 3:00pm until 6:00pm. We will be located at PS 112.

The program will be open to **3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>** graders who are living in the Ravenswood Houses. Please contact the "I Have a Dream" office if you or your friends are interested in participating.

## What a Great Summer!!

As the first summer of the Ravenswood II "I Have a Dream" Program comes to a close we can look back on five weeks of creativity, learning, and fun. We have been impressed by the various skills brought to the program by all of the Dreamers. Articles in the *Dreamer's Corner* cover much of what we did this summer but the energy and attitude of the kids is hard to convey. We hope that you enjoyed the summer and are ready to work hard to achieve your goals during the upcoming school year.

## The Newsletter

Throughout the summer we have produced four issues of the *Dreamer's Corner* covering topics such as current events, field trips, interviews, and much more. With only minimal editing by "I Have a Dream" staff, the creativity and writing ability of Dreamers themselves is highlighted throughout the newsletter. This compilation issue brings together many of the articles from Volume One. If you would like to view all of our newsletters please contact the Ravenswood II office.



## Huge Thanks Goes Out To...

**ALL THE DREAMERS!!**

**ALL THE FAMILIES!!**

**THE THOMAS AND JEANNE ELMZZI FOUNDATION**

**THE "I HAVE A DREAM"® FOUNDATION – NY METRO**

**EVERYONE AT PS 112 AND AT THE VARIETY BOYS AND GIRLS' CLUB**

**ALL OF OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

**KEISHA FOR PRODUCING OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

**PUJA, JUSTIN, TRAVIS, SARAH, AND ABIGAIL FOR ALL YOUR WORK  
AND OUR VOLUNTEERS, WITHOUT WHOM WE COULD NOT FUNCTION!**



The first week of summer started off with two great events. On Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup> our picnic in Rainey Park brought together Dreamers, their families, Program Sponsors, and staff for food and fun. The next day we traveled to Central Park to meet up with Dreamers from around the New York Metro Area. The visit was highlighted by two fun kickball games and a game of Tug of War. We look forward to many more activities with the "I Have a Dream" Family.

## The Children's Museum and Jones Beach - By Ms. Honore

On Friday, August 11 Dreamers had a blast visiting the Children's Museum of Manhattan where they took part in various science experiments and art activities. This trip was followed by our Family Fun Finale at Jones Beach, where our Dreamers and their families spent a beautiful Saturday swimming and soaking up the sun out in Long Island, NY. As an end to our fantastic, fabulous summer these two days were as close to perfect as can be!

### Central Park!

By Johanna

When we went to Central Park we played kickball. Then we ate our lunch and I played baseball with Wesley, Daniel, Willie and a teacher. Finally a game of tug of war and it was time to go home to our families. Where did the time go?

By Zaire

On Friday, we met Dreamers from other programs. When the fourth graders were playing the sixth graders in tug of war, the fourth graders won. The sixth graders said, "All hail Ravenswood, king of the tug of war!"

### Boys and Girls' Club

Khalil told us, "We went to the boys and girls' club to visit the pool. There were a lot of people and I care because it was hot and fun!"

### Socrates Sculpture Park

Harleigh remembers the new sign at Socrates Sculpture Park. "Down by Costco there's a sign that says 'PIONEERING.' You wonder what's there, don't you? Well it's Socrates Sculpture Park! You can look at sculptures, make paper, and much more. It's under construction but still free and fun!"

### New York Hall of Science

By Malachi

When we went to the Hall of Science we went in the maze. That was my favorite. We saw lizards, millipedes, hissing cockroaches, and fish. My favorite fish was the algae Eater. We even saw small shrimp. We saw Fruit Flies. Fruit Flies are a small species of flies that only eat fruit and some eat bread. The trip was very, very intriguing.

### Picnic Highlights

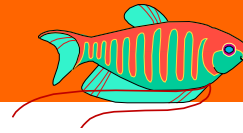
By Brandon

At Rainey Park we played kickball and a magician came and did magic. It was very hot, over 70 degrees.

By Maegan

The face painting was cool. I got a butterfly painting on my face. I looked in the mirror and it was really cool. There were more than 20 people there. It was so cool.





## Bronx Zoo

**By Karina**

When "I Have a Dream" and I went to the Bronx Zoo I saw a lion that was laying down, a wild cat with another one, and a gorilla. I learned that gorillas weigh 402 pounds. I saw snakes and a frog. I wanted to see elephants but I learned two facts about elephants and their feet. A baby foot is 12 inches and a grown foot is 16 inches. I wanted to see bears too because they are as strong as me. I had fun like I never had.

**By Jennifer**

We took a train to the Bronx Zoo and we ate lunch on the benches. We got tickets to the Gorilla Forest. The baby got on the mommy's back and it was cute. I saw the African Wild Dogs and they were fighting. I don't know why. I saw the lions and they were rolling on their back. The tigers almost got in the water. When we went back I got an ice cream sandwich.

## Beginner's Business: Our Lemonade Stand

**By Zairia, Kaylah, and Jennifer**

On Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup> the "I Have a Dream" Program had a lemonade stand. We split up into two groups. The first group was making the lemonade and the second group put the posters up.

We sold lemonade for 25 cents and we asked people if they wanted lemonade and some people said yes and no and some people asked

for it again. Some people said that it was very very good and some people walked away with it and said "thank you."

We earned: \$24.97

Our costs were: \$13.98

Our profit was: \$10.99

So we sold 44 cups at 25 cents each and we also had so much fun and had a party.

## Astoria Pool

**By Nyzhe**

Yesterday we went to the pool. Me and Skye were doing the Cannon Ball. Monay was scared to go in the water because she thought that she was going to drown. So then Monay faced her fears and did a Cannon Ball. It was great that she faced her fears.

**By Maegan**

My friend Travis splashed water in my face. I was scared but it was fun.

**By Zaire**

Yesterday Brandon went to the other side of the pool with me, Harley and Willie. We splashed around and had fun!

On Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup> we took one of our biggest trips of the summer up to the Bronx Zoo. The Ravenswood Dreamers have now been spotted in four boroughs! These kids are now certified professionals at riding the NYC subway. Highlights of the trip included the World of Darkness, Congo Gorilla Forest, and Tiger Mountain.



On Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup> we were scheduled to visit Variety Boys and Girls Club but since we were in the middle of the strongest heat wave of the summer we opted to scrap our plans and visit Astoria Pool! The pool and playground provided the perfect place to beat the heat.



## Wendy Wu & Inuyasha vs. Seshomoru

By Daniel and Willie



The final battle in the underworld is Seshomoru vs. Inuyasha! "You should care because it is cool and you can learn to protect yourself and others that you care about like Inuyasha protects Kagome!" says Daniel.

Willie adds that "Wendy Wu is a homecoming warrior. This monk named Shen is from China. A great evil awakes every 9 years named Yol Low Shen and trains Wendy to be a great warrior. Shen and Wendy defeat the great evil!" Stay tuned for more updates!

Between the "I Have a Dream" Program, TV shows, and the World Cup our Dreamers sure were busy over the summer. Add in an intense heat wave and the blackout and you get the summer of '06. In addition to providing information about what was happening at summer camp, the *Dreamer's Corner* kept us up to date on current events around NYC and the world.

## BREAKING NEWS!!!

### What happened to the lights?

By Jennifer and Maegan

Yesterday we had a blackout. Nobody can see in the dark. Some people are scared of the dark. Some people have pets and maybe in the blackout your pet might scratch you. During the Blackout Maegan reports that "the blackout was not cool. I was scared. I was in the train with my cousin. We were stuck on the train!"

### What's in the hole?

By Brandon

The manhole got on fire and then the library computers went down. A lot of cops and a fire truck was there. Con Edison went down into the manhole to see what happened. Who discovered what happened first? How did they know? Can you guess what happened?

## The World Cup: Italy vs France

By Wesley



France almost scored a goal but the player hit the Italian player and made a penalty. Zidane scored a goal. Then it was 1-0 France. Then France kicked the ball outside and head butt the ball for a goal.

Then Italy scored. Then Zidane got a red card and could not play anymore. Then France missed the goal. Then Italy made all of the penalties. And then Italy got the World Cup! That's the soccer play.

## Dreamers and Staff Picture Perfect...



## Who Are the Dreamers?

### Zaire

**Favorite movie:** Scary Movie 4  
**Favorite rapper:** Jay-Z  
**Favorite Song:** "What you know about that?" By T.I.  
**Favorite clothes:** Football jerseys  
**Where would you like to visit:**  
 Bahamas  
**Favorite food:** Spaghetti

### Johanna

**Middle Name:** Andrea  
**Favorite food:** Fried meat, rice and lettuce.  
**Siblings:** 2 brothers and a niece who is like a sister.  
**Favorite subject:** I like to write. I have a "Pirates of Caribbean" journal.

### Khalil

**Favorite basketball player:** Michael Jordan  
**Favorite animal:** Tarantula  
**Career goal:** NYPD

## Who Are the Staff?

### Ms. Honore

**Favorite food:**  
 Spinach  
**Favorite sport:**  
 Football  
**Favorite shows:** CSI,  
 SpongeBob  
 Squarepants  
**Siblings:** One older brother.

### Puja

**Favorite shows:** The Simpsons, Inuyasha, Dragon ball Z and Yugio  
**Favorite food:** Pizza  
**Activities:**  
 Gardening and shopping.

### Travis

**Favorite song:**  
 "Undying Love"  
 by Nas  
**Favorite sport:**  
 Basketball  
**Favorite show:**  
 The Fresh Prince of Bel Aire.

## THE POET'S CORNER

### Lazy Cats

By Zairia

Lazy cats  
 Walk around with bats  
 They're not regular cats  
 They don't even eat rats  
 They live under mats  
 They only eat cats.



### Roses...

By Harleigh

Roses are red, violets are blue  
 dreams are sweet and so are you!  
 Roses are red, violets are blue  
 skunks stink but surely not you!

## WHY DO YOU HIT ME?

by Maegan

Why do you hit me? I'm going to tell mom! So what??? Okay, I'll tell mom that too. So me and my Mom went into the room to watch a movie and then we heard a "bang" on the floor. So me and my mom paused the movie.

All of our children have big aspirations for the future. At the Ravenswood II "I Have a Dream" Program, we look forward to working with the kids throughout their elementary, middle, and high school years as they move toward achieving their dreams.



### Farewell Dreamers!

You are a supportive, creative, intelligent group of students. Thank you for allowing me to share the summer with you. You were all helpful to each other and always ready to lend a hand. You brainstormed article ideas, helped with spelling and stood ready to applaud the work of others. I know you will succeed in college and in life!

Love, Keisha

### By Daniel

My name is Daniel. When I grow up, I want to be in the army. I would like to live in Japan. I would like to have a family, but I will never give in and never give up. The most important thing to me is saving lives.

### Got Dreams?

### By Jennifer

My name is Jennifer Velotta and when I grow up, I want to be a doctor. I would like to live in New York City or maybe Puerto Rico. I am going to be a heart doctor. I will have a family.

### By Harleigh

My name is Harleigh and I want to be a candy taste tester, when I grow up. I will live in Puerto Rico. I'd make sure everything tastes good. I will taste over 500 things.

### By Wesley

My name is Wesley and when I grow up I want to be a soccer player. I want to live in Barcelona, Spain. In the future I will meet Pele and Ronaldinho.

### By Monay

My name is Monay. When I grow up, I want to be a teacher. I want to live in Africa on an Island called Madagascar. I will make my family proud by graduating from college!

### By Karina

My name is Karina Carino and I want to be a science teacher and live in Jersey City, NJ. I want to live in a house and have a family with four children. Robert, Michael, Jasmine, and Kelly are their names. I will be most proud of sending them to college and seeing them graduate.

### By Willie

My name is Willie and when I grow up I want to be a NBA basketball player. I want to live in Miami, Florida. I will beat Shaq in Basketball by making a lot of 3-point shots!

### Ode to the Newsletter

Goodbye newsletter, I had so much fun writing you. You make me proud.  
- Monay

Newsletter, I will miss you. You were kind of interesting. You made me mad sometimes. - by Skye

Roses are red, violets are blue, I will miss the newsletter, will you?  
- By Daniel

Dear Newsletter,  
Thank you for helping me learn how to write you. I never knew how great you were until I got to know you! Goodbye newsletter, it was so much fun writing you. Someday I will write you again.  
Your pal, Nyzhe

I like newsletters and I like to read the newsletter. I want the soccer players to read the newsletter too!  
-By Wesley

Goodbye, goodbye,  
Farewell fly away  
All the way to the farm hay  
So goodbye, goodbye  
Farewell fly away  
-Zairia

**Have a Great End to  
Your Summer and See You  
September 18!!**

Newsletter,  
I love you. Bye, bye!  
- By Jennifer

# 2006 Ways to Have Fun In the Summer!!



# Family Fun at Jones Beach

