

CLUB NEWS

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WEST END HOUSE



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Mayor Walsh Celebrates West End House Expansion

On August 24th West End House celebrated a milestone moment in our Expect More Campaign, welcoming Mayor Martin J. Walsh and over 150 community members to the grand opening of our newly renovated and expanded Clubhouse. Guests gathered in the newly constructed New Balance Foundation Pavilion, a 2,800 ft² performing arts space with telescopic seating and doors that open onto Ringer Park.

“The West End House has supported new generations of young leaders in Boston for more than 100 years,” said Mayor Walsh. “This expansion is a tremendous gift to Boston’s youth and families, and will help empower our young people and provide greater community connection for years to come.”

Our expansion and renovation is a result of the growing demand for programs and services, (over the past five years, our total membership has grown by 50%, leading us

to now provide services to more than 1,700 youth across the city of Boston) and the strategic enhancement of West End House programs to emphasize greater expectations and outcomes.

State Rep. Kevin Honan who grew up in Allston-Brighton and at the West End House said, “This is a proud day for the city and for the people and organizations who came together to ensure that the West End House will be a fixture in this community for decades to come.”

Immediately following the ribbon cutting, we celebrated our 4th Annual Biggest Fun Ever, a community-wide block party event that celebrates the inspiring life and memory of West End House alumna and staff member Dawnn Jaffier.

Thank you to Mayor Walsh and our amazing West End House community for joining us!

You Can Help Us Complete the Expect More Campaign

West End House is on the precipice of completing the biggest and most impactful Campaign in its history and you can help us get to the finish line.

You can join a growing list of West End House supporters who are making a lasting impact on hundreds of youth in the city of Boston.

To date, we have raised \$22.6 million toward our \$23.5 million goal, which includes funds to support expanded operations, a major renovation and expansion of our facility, and funds to support the long-term sustainability of the organization.

This exciting opportunity will ensure that more youth succeed academically, more of our alumni will earn college degrees and meaningful internships, making them more competitive in the global workforce; more artists and art-lovers will be developed at the West End

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Letter from the CEO



Dear Friends,

As I reflect upon the past 12 months – a year of change, possibility, celebration – I am overwhelmed with joy and excitement to be a part of this incredible community. Our facility

underwent a transformational renovation and expansion. Our supporters helped us raise an unprecedented \$1 million at our Annual Celebration. We were featured on CNN's *Champions For Change*.

Above all, I am most proud of the accomplishments of our young people. From our college students completing meaningful, career-aligned internships, to our young people elevating their dedication to arts mastery through public exhibits and performances in our newly constructed New Balance Foundation Pavilion. From youth building teamwork and fitness skills in our newly renovated gymnasium, to expanding their interest in STEM in our updated Education Center. Our young people are positioning themselves to be the next generation of leaders in the city of Boston.

As we reach the final home stretch of our *Expect More Campaign*, I invite you to join me in appreciation of our supporters, our staff, and our youth.

Thank you for being part of the West End House family.

With Best Wishes,

Andrea Howard
Chief Executive Officer

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: Stephanie Castillo

A lot has changed since Stephanie first came to the West End House over two decades ago. Now a Nurse Manager at the Uphams' Corner Health Center in Dorchester, Stephanie initially enrolled in West End House programs at age seven to participate in activities like basketball and cheerleading. She ended up finding a second home that helped support her as she achieved post-secondary education goals.



"Having spent most, if not all, of my days at the West End House, I took advantage of everything they had to offer," says Stephanie, reflecting on her experience as a club member. "I would always start my days with academic support—from simple fractions in grade school through SAT prep as a teen, the staff was there to support me."

In her teen years, Stephanie worked as a Peer Leader each summer through West End House's on-site employment program, and engaged in youth leadership programs such as Torch Club and Keystone Club. Stephanie found a support system from West End House as she was getting ready for college, and enrolled into Boston College as a first generation college student, where she gave back to the West End House community through the PULSE volunteer program.

Stephanie graduated with a B.A. in Sociology in 2009—right at the peak of the financial crisis when jobs for recent graduates were scarce—and got a job at Bank of America as a teller. Within just a few years, Stephanie was promoted three times. While she was excelling at work, Stephanie had her sights set on being a nurse, a dream of hers since childhood.

Stephanie enrolled at Roxbury Community College to prepare for an accelerated nursing program. There are only a few accelerated nursing degree programs in Boston, and she was determined to get into her top choice program at Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions. While preparing to apply, Stephanie became a mom to her now five-year-old son, and continued with both school and work.

Stephanie's hard work and determination paid off—she has since graduated from Massachusetts General Hospital with her degree in nursing, and secured a position at Upham's. After less than a year, she was promoted to a managerial position, teaching nursing students and caring for patients.

West End House looks forward to cheering Stephanie on as she continues her incredible journey!

Are you a West End House alum looking to re-engage with the community?

Contact Sarah MacPherson at smacpherson@westendhouse.org to learn about the West End House Alumni Association.

Join the Storrow Society

The Helen O. and James J. Storrow Society was created by the Board of Directors in 2002 to recognize supporters that have made a planned gift or bequest to West End House. Making a planned gift today enables you to meet your financial goals while ensuring the sustainability of West End House for generations to come. You are invited to join a community of supporters that is creating a lasting legacy for West End House young people.

If we have inadvertently left off a name from this list, or if you have included us in your planning and have not yet notified us, please contact Director of Leadership Gifts Thao Nguyen-Le at 617-870-7523.

STORROW SOCIETY MEMBERS:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Maria Badaracco | • Lisa and Andrew Musto |
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| • Sy Gottlieb | • Carl Ship |
| • Andrea Howard | • Molly Ship |
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2018 Annual Celebration

A record breaking event

On Saturday, June 2, over 300 enthusiastic supporters joined us as we launched the next chapter of our impact in Boston. Our 2018 Annual Celebration entitled *Expect More: The Grand Reveal* unveiled the completion of a major facility renovation and expansion project, resulting from our Expect More Campaign.

This year's event highlighted how our new spaces are transforming our community. Our teens and young alumni led interactive tours including the new College and Career Center and our newly renovated and expanded Arts Wing. Our artists showcased their work throughout the building – from our visual artists' commissioned work on sale to musical performances in the New Balance Foundation Pavilion, and on our mainstage with an ensemble performance featuring dance, step, and both our junior and senior bands.

Special thanks to our emcee CNN Anchor John Berman and our keynote speaker West End House Alumna Myesha Neely. At the end of the evening, we raised a record-breaking \$1 million for the 1,700 young people we serve who are on a path to become engaged citizens and leaders in Boston and beyond!

We are profoundly grateful for our West End House community including our event's Lead Sponsors; **New Balance Foundation** and **Foundation To Be Named Later** and Presenting Sponsors; **Lewis Family Foundation, Sanofi Genzyme, Shawmut Design and Construction, Turner Construction, and US Pavement Services**, in addition to our top Campaign supporters: **New Balance Foundation, Vantage Deluxe World Travel, Barr Foundation, Hamilton Company Charitable Foundation, and Charles and Fran Rodgers**. We could not have done this without all of you!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Carl Ship

Six years ago, Carl Ship was volunteering at the West End House when fifth grader Carolina overheard him mention he was a Brookline High School graduate. Carolina was curious about the Brookline schools so close to Allston, so she approached Carl about his experience.

Carl remembered her curiosity, and four years later when Carolina began high school, they were paired up for tutoring. Since then, they have worked together annually, tutoring in math, English, and SAT prep.

Now a senior at Boston Arts Academy, Carolina's relationship with Carl has been a

constant throughout high school. Besides support with academics, they have built a friendship. Carl points to her inquisitive nature as one reason they work well together.

"One of the things I really enjoy about my time with Carolina is that she asks questions about me, my background and family history. We talk about her, and about me, and compare our experiences," he said. "She listens to other people and wants to learn about them."

Carolina says that Carl's eagerness to listen and get to know her is what she is most thankful for. "It is easy to talk to Carl about what's going on in my life at the moment, and I really appreciate that."

Carl's involvement began with his father, Eddie Ship, who came to West End House as a child and also met his future wife Molly at a dance at the West End House. Molly later became one of the inaugural members of the Storrow Society (see article page 2).

In 2010, Carl decided to further engage with the Club that meant so much to his dad. He has supported many members in academic settings, including sponsoring a pizza and

ice cream party for kids who overcame academic challenges. Since then, Carl has made volunteering a family affair as his wife, Christine, and son, Alex, also volunteer.

Visit westendhouse.org to learn more about Carl and Carolina, who were featured in CNN's Champions for Change segment.



Carolina and volunteer tutor Carl Ship.

YOU CAN HELP US COMPLETE THE EXPECT MORE CAMPAIGN

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House in a wide variety of disciplines; more young people will choose active, healthy lifestyles; and that more of our young people will give back to their community – volunteering, contributing, and serving the next generation of West End House members.

To learn more about supporting the Expect More Campaign, contact Rudy Ash at rudy.ash@westendhouse.org or at (617) 682-1009.

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SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 6, 2019

5:30pm Reception and Dinner

WEST END HOUSE ANNUAL CELEBRATION

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West End House
105 Allston Street
Allston, MA 02134

Cocktail Attire | Complimentary Valet

For information about sponsorship opportunities,
please contact Rudy Ash at 617-682-1009
or at rudy.ash@westendhouse.org

westendhouse.org/annualcelebration



EXPECT MORE

