

## Civic Leadership Awards Luncheon Raises \$475,000

*NYJTL Announces \$18 Million Campaign To Build Cary Leeds Tennis Center in Bronx*

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg emphasized to 400 guests at NYJTL's annual Civic Leadership Awards Luncheon at the Grand Hyatt Hotel the important role that NYJTL plays in providing free tennis and education for New York City Youth.

More than \$475,000 was raised at the event, which was a celebration of NYJTL's 40th anniversary. Former Civic Leadership Award recipients, William Ackman and Craig Efron, generated a record-setting bid of \$100,000 for a one-hour doubles match against John and Patrick McEnroe. Other popular auction items included four tickets to the 2011 US Open President's suite donated by USTA President Jon Vegosen. All proceeds go directly to NYJTL programs due to the generosity of the Benenson Family, which has underwritten luncheon expenses for 25 years.



*Former Mayor David Dinkins and Mayor Bloomberg*



*Jim Courier and Mary Carillo*

Newly appointed USA Davis Cup captain Jim Courier and NYJTL founder Lewis "Skip" Hartman received NYJTL's 2010 Civic Leadership Awards, which were presented by broadcaster Mary Carillo and former New York City Mayor David N. Dinkins. CBS-2 News Co-Anchor Maurice DuBois was master of ceremonies.

NYJTL Board member Tory Kiam announced that the New York City Department of Parks has approved the initial design plans for the construction of the Cary Leeds Tennis Center in Crotona Park in the Bronx. Estimated costs for the project are \$18.0 million, which will be financed through a public-private partnership between NYJTL and New York City. The project is expected to break ground in mid-2011. Kiam, who is the chair of the capital campaign for the center, said that \$4.8 million remains to be raised.

"This is a tennis and educational center in the heart of the South Bronx in one of New York's neediest areas," said NYJTL Board Chairman Martin Goldberg.

*cont. page 2*

## Lights! Camera! Action For Early Morning Winter Tennis Players

More than 100 dedicated Early Morning Winter Program (EMWP) players were surprised by a USTA video crew sent to the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Queens at 6 am on a recent Saturday.

Recognizing the NYJTL program participants for their commitment to playing tennis every weekend despite freezing winter, rain, sleet and snow, USTA video crew interviewed players who continue their tennis development throughout the year thanks to the generosity of USTA-donated time on nine courts from 6 am – 8 am on Saturdays and Sundays. The culminating event for the EMWP, which



operates at eight sites throughout the five NYC boroughs, is the annual Hartman Cup Championship to be held in March. All EMWP participants are eligible to compete in this tournament. The finals will be played at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center.

Special thanks to the National Tennis Center, Heights Casino, Manhattan Plaza, and Cunningham Park which donated this winter more than 1400 hours of court time to EMWP.

***The Early Morning Winter Program Registration continues throughout the season, which runs through March.***

## NYJTL Announces \$18M Cary Leeds Tennis Center

*cont. from page 1*

“We are overwhelmed by the generosity of our supporters as we kick off our capital campaign,” said NYJTL CEO Deborah MacFarlane Antoine.

NYJTL will provide free tennis and education programs for New York City youth in the facility, which will be a state-of-the-art tennis and education building, offering classrooms, 20 regulation tennis courts, two five-court air structures for the winter season, and two world-class stadium courts with combined viewing for 1,500 to 2,000 spectators. There are 20 middle schools and high schools in the neighborhood that surround Crotona Park, whose students will have the opportunity to participate in these NYJTL programs.

The lead gift of \$2 million for the naming of the new facility in memory of former pro tennis player Cary Leeds was made by his parents, Laurence and Dalia Leeds. The stadium court has been named in memory of Victor Kiam II. Additional naming opportunities are available.

In presenting the Civic Leadership Award to Hartman, Mayor Dinkins recognized that for the past 40 years, Hartman has dedicated his energies to building the nation’s largest and most extensive network of junior tennis and education programs in underserved neighborhoods throughout New York City’s five boroughs. Beginning in 1971 with an operating budget of \$11,000 at five New York City sites for eight weeks in the summer serving 500 children, Hartman said NYJTL has grown to an annual \$10 million budget reaching more than 100,000 youth year-round.

Carillo introduced Courier by noting that his legacy in the sport of tennis has been defined not only by the numerous titles he has won, but also for his sportsmanship and contribution to tennis and youth organizations such as NYJTL. Upon accepting his award, former world No. 1 Courier, who co-founded Courier’s Kids, a non-profit organization that supports tennis programs in the inner city of St. Petersburg, FL, reaffirmed the importance of NYJTL’s commitment to build the Cary Leeds Tennis Center.

NYJTL and Aces Clubs participants then took the stage at the luncheon to interview each other about their memorable moments with NYJTL, their favorite aspect of NYJTL, and their hopes for the future.



*Founder and Honoree Skip Hartman presents Cary Leeds Tennis Center*

## NYJTL Students Learn College Process And Showcase Tennis Skills



NYJTL Community Tennis and Advanced Training Program juniors and seniors met with various college coaches to learn more about playing college tennis, the recruitment process, as well as the rules and regulations of competing in Division I, II, III tennis at a recent college showcase held in conjunction with the USTA/ITA National Indoor Intercollegiate Championships at the USTA Billie Jean Tennis Center.

Thirty NYJTL players also served as ball runners for the finals of the USTA/ITA National Indoor Intercollegiate Championships, which featured the nation’s top men’s and women’s players vying for the prestigious indoor championships.

ITA Executive Director David Benjamin and former New York City Mayor David N. Dinkins joined the crowd of spectators,

while NYJTL participants were inspired to continue to work on their skills as well as their academics, with the hope one day that in the future they will be competing at the USTA/ITA National Indoor Intercollegiate Championships.

## Spotlight on NYJTL CEO Dr. Deborah MacFarlane Antoine



Joining the NYJTL in mid-August, President and CEO Deborah MacFarlane Antoine hit the ground running during NYJTL's 18th annual EmblemHealth Bronx Open and has been on a fast track ever since succeeding Jim O'Neill, who had been serving as interim acting NYJTL President/CEO.

In addition to overseeing NYJTL's expanding activities throughout New York's five boroughs, Dr. MacFarlane Antoine is working closely with NYJTL's Board of Directors to ensure successful fundraising for the recently announced campaign to build the Cary Leeds Tennis Center.

"I am strongly committed to changing the lives of children through tennis and education," said Dr. MacFarlane Antoine, who is an active tennis player and currently competes in USTA League Tennis.

Dr. MacFarlane Antoine has been a leader and builder of NYC nonprofit community organizations in the areas of education and community development. She founded and served as president of The HOPE Program, designing, developing, and implementing an employment-education program for homeless families. She also served as Senior Vice President of the South Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation where she established the SOBRO Center for Career Development for disadvantaged youth and adults. She was President and CEO of Per Scholas in the Bronx, where she established a nationally recognized computer technician training program serving hundreds of disadvantaged young adults each year. Most recently, she was Vice President for Institutional Development for Channel Thirteen, the nation's flagship public television station.

A graduate of the University of Massachusetts with a B.S. in Education, she earned two post-graduate degrees: a Masters Degree in Psychology from Salve Regina University, Newport, RI., and an Ed.D in Education from Teachers College, Columbia University, both Summa Cum Laude. She has also won several awards that recognize her contributions to the community: The Eleanor Roosevelt Community Service Award, the Community Service Award by Bronx Borough President, and the President's Volunteer Action Award.

"It is with great excitement that I have joined the team at the New York Junior Tennis League," said CEO Deborah MacFarlane Antoine. "I have spent the past 30 years in New York City dedicated to helping people in underserved communities. And now it is such an honor to work with the dedicated and talented staff of the NYJTL to grow the best of tennis and educational experiences for the young people of New York."

## NYJTL Aces Clubs Join 'Lights On' After-School

Participants from 12 NYJTL Aces Clubs demonstrated their tennis skills to show how being active can help achieve a healthier lifestyle as part of "Lights on After-school," an annual one-day advocacy event supported by the Washington D.C.-based After School Alliance. More than one million participants from 7,500 communities nationwide joined together to promote the importance of after-school programs.

Children ranging from 5 -14 years of age participated in activities including tennis, arts and crafts, character development, nutrition education, dancing, and awards ceremonies recognizing school staff.

Visit [www.nyjtl.org](http://www.nyjtl.org) to join Aces Clubs now.





Javits Scholars Lia Carlson, Brittany Goldberger, Bessie Rentzler, Mrs. Marian B. Javits, and Laurent Octobre

## NYJTL Students Receive University Scholarships

Seven outstanding NYJTL students were awarded life-changing scholarships last year including four recipients of the Marian B. and Jacob K. Javits Foundation Public Affairs Scholarships and three students who earned Kiam “Go For It” Scholarships.

Mrs. Marian B. Javits, who hosted the winners of the Javits scholarships in her Manhattan home, awarded each a \$5,000 grant to be used for college expenses as they pursue careers in public service to become future community leaders.

The NYJTL Scholarship Committee selected three NYJTL participants as Kiam Scholarship winners based on their answers to the question, “How has your experience as a student athlete contributed toward your academic success, and how will you apply this to your college career?” Each received \$1,000 to be used for college education expenses.

### Javits Scholars

**Lia Carlson**, Curtis High School, attending Swarthmore College  
**Brittany Goldberger**, New York City Lab School, attending Univ. of Michigan  
**Bessie Rentzler**, Stuyvesant High School, attending Columbia College  
**Laurent Octobre**, Saint Francis Preparatory School, attending Hofstra University

### Kiam Scholars

**Danielle Minch**, Forest Hills High School, attending Baruch College  
**Sophie Zaken**, Beacon High School, attending Albany College  
**Roland John**, Cardozo High School, attending Tulane University

## Arthur Ashe Contest Winners

Twenty-three citywide Arthur Ashe Essay & Art Contest winners received plaques, two US Open tickets, and access to NYJTL’s US Open suite during Arthur Ashe Kids’ Day after being judged New York City local borough winners in the national contest for their interpretive essays and artwork answering, “How do you exemplify the ideals of Arthur Ashe?”

### Essay and Art Winners

#### Bronx

Brian Dylan Flores (Boys’ 10)  
 Melvin Reese (Boys’ 10)  
 Joshua Hidalgo (Boys’ 11/12)  
 Benjamin Berah (Boys’ 13/14)  
 Jayla Speller (Girls’ 10)  
 Mia Hylton (Girls’ 11 & 12)  
 Uzoamaka Eziri (Girls’ 13/14)

#### Queens

Nicholas Pesantez (Boys’ 10)  
 Jonathan Pesantez (Boys’ 11/12)  
 Aleksandra Spajic (Girls’ 10)

Michaela Broadhead (Girls’ 11s/12s)  
 Megan Parayno (Girls’ 11/12)  
 Nakia Miller (Girls’ 15/16)

#### Brooklyn

Chandler Hayer (Boys’ 10)  
 Sasha Singh (Boys’ 15s/16)  
 Charaaya Elliot (Girls’ 10s)  
 Rachel Lynch (Girls’ 10)  
 Isis Gill Reid (Girls’ 11/12)  
 Ashley Masanto (Girls’ 15/16)

#### Manhattan

Eugene Rozygrayev (Boys’ 15/16)

## Orlando “Aces” Audition



Next American Idol?

Travis Orlando, former NYJTL participant at the MS 337 Aces Clubs site, sang his way to Hollywood on the 2011 season premier of the “American Idol” competition in New Jersey.

Facing a three-judge panel that included music celebrities Jennifer Lopez, Steven Tyler, and Randy Jackson, 16-year-old Orlando was the very last audition, successfully performing the Beatles’ “Eleanor Rigby” and Jason Mraz’s “I’m Yours.”

From 2005-07, MS 337 Site director Isalia Lebron oversaw Orlando during his middle school years when he participated in weekly tennis, music, dance, homework help, and character development classes.

Orlando told “American Idol” about his life experiences growing up in a dangerous Bronx neighborhood near Grand Concourse where, due to family hardships, his family lived in homeless shelters for a few years.

Next stop for Travis Orlando: Hollywood!

## NYJTL Student Wins Ashe Essay Contest



Isis Gill-Reid, a 12-year-old from MS 443 in Brooklyn, was one of 10 National Arthur Ashe Essay contest winners among thousands of entries.

Reid’s essay recounted the true legacy of Arthur Ashe as not only a great tennis player and US Open Champion, but also a great leader and ambassador for youth development.



## STP TRAINING IN FULL SWING

More than 300 schools participate annually in the Schoolyard Tennis Program (STP), which provides introductory tennis lessons to New York City's children. Schools receive free starter tennis equipment, tennis drills training and ongoing support by NYJTL STP Developers.

Thirty-five representatives from New York City public schools attended the a STP Training workshop held November 30 at Brownsville Recreation Center in Brooklyn.

Sign up for **STP Trainings February 7, March 7, and April 11** by contacting York Chu at [ychu@nyjtl.org](mailto:ychu@nyjtl.org) or (347) 417-8156.

## New NYJTL Grants Total \$376,000

NYJTL's comprehensive after-school curriculum, which includes both remedial and advanced academic programs as well as fitness and anti-obesity initiatives, received new grants totaling \$376,000 for 2011.

NYJTL ACES Club I.S. 61 in Queens was awarded a New York State Education Department (NYSED) Extended School Day/School Violence Prevention (ESD/SVP) contract in the amount of \$97,615 to provide academic enrichment, art, tutoring, mentoring, leadership development, and recreation activities.

Through the efforts of US Rep. Yvette Clarke (NY 11th), NYJTL received a \$100,000 grant from the US Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency for NYJTL's "Tennis, Sports, Literacy, and Education Programs for High Risk New York City Young People from Low-Income Families" project.

US Rep. Joe Crowley (NY 7th), assisted NYJTL's efforts to secure a \$250,000 grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services and Centers for Disease Control for NYJTL's "Childhood Anti-Obesity, Tennis, Fitness and Wellness Program for High Risk Youth" project.

The Women's Sports Foundation awarded NYJTL a \$10,000 grant for the Advanced Training Program to administer the Women's Sports Foundation's "GoGirlGo" Curriculum.

USTA Serves, the charitable foundation of the USTA, awarded two grants to NYJTL, including a \$15,000 grant for NYJTL's Academics, Character, Excellence Project: "Aces for Kids in the South Bronx" project and a \$1,000 grant to be utilized in connection with NYJTL's local Student Athlete Competition.

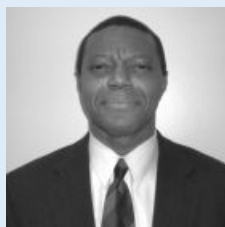
## NYJTL WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBERS



With extensive experience working with various New York City youth organizations, managing after-school programs and monitoring contracts and budgets, **Jennifer Warren, Director of Education**, is well-qualified to lead the NYJTL educational programs.

At the Children's Aid Society, Warren managed compliance for the department's government contracts for 12 sites in New York City, trained staff, developed and implemented new systems to improve contract compliance and program evaluation. She also served as Program Manager for New York City Department of Youth and Community Development where she oversaw 35 after-school programs servicing approximately 7,750 youth ages 5-18 in the Bronx and Manhattan. As a consultant for the National Center for Community Schools, Warren analyzed program data to develop new ways of improving community after-school programs in New York City.

A graduate of Connecticut College with a B.A. in Government, she earned Cum Laude recognition.



NYJTL's new **Human Resources Director Ben Brown** brings 20 years experience in the field of human resources management. He was a senior manager for SIPM Consulting Services, a consulting firm in the New York City area servicing commercial banks, non-profits and independent

companies. Brown has also worked for agencies in the areas of health, education and child welfare. He holds a MS in Human Resources Development from Rochester Institute of Technology and is a Certified Senior Professional in Human Resources with the Society of Human Resources Management.



NEW YORK JUNIOR TENNIS LEAGUE  
*Achieving net gains for kids*

58-12 Queens Blvd  
Woodside, NY 11377  
Tel (718) 786-7110  
Fax (718) 786-7635  
[www.nyjtl.org](http://www.nyjtl.org)

## About NYJTL

New York Junior Tennis League (NYJTL) is the largest tennis and education-themed community organization in the United States and offers comprehensive school and community based programs throughout New York City's five boroughs reaching more than 100,000 youth from ages 6-18.

NYJTL's free programs include: Aces Clubs After-School Program, Advanced Training Program, Arthur Ashe Educational Guidance Program, Community Tennis Program and the Schoolyard Tennis Program.

To achieve its goals, NYJTL mobilizes the support of the community, elected officials, corporate citizens, foundations, organizations, and individuals who are committed to achieving net gains for kids on courts and in the classroom.

