

ATTENTION ALL PA BUSINESS OWNERS:

The Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit program, also known as PA-EITC, is offering all eligible businesses in Pennsylvania the opportunity to make a donation and receive tax credits for it.

How does it work? Easy. A business may receive a tax credit equal to 100% of the first \$10,000.00 contributed to Lancaster Day Care Center (a Pre-Kindergarten Scholarship Organization) during the taxable year. Please contact Nina at the Center for additional information at 717-392-7413 or by email at nina@LDCC.org. You can also visit the PA-EITC website: www.newpa.com

Thank you to the businesses that have all ready made a 2008-2009 donation:

- Armstrong World Industries
- Lancaster Leaf Tobacco Company
- PNC Bank

And thank you to those companies that gave last year:

- Capital Blue Cross
- Fulton Bank
- HomeTowne Heritage Bank
- Lancaster Leaf Tobacco Company
- Lawn Equipment Parts Company
- Lift, Inc.
- PNC Bank
- Susquehanna Bank



Xavier Flores gains a better understanding of the world around him in the classroom library.




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The Working Parents' Partner

150 South Queen Street
Lancaster, PA 17603

LANCASTER DAY CARE CENTER
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Partners

FALL 2008

(717) 392-7413

WWW.LDCC.ORG



Building Bridges with the Fulton Opera House

This October, an unusual partnership between two of Lancaster's oldest institutions, the

Fulton Opera House and Lancaster Day Care Center was formed with the goal of teaching early literacy to urban preschoolers using storytelling and dramatics. The program "Building Bridges," is a pilot program funded by a grant from PNC Bank's Growing up Great. Building Bridges is based on the Neighborhood Bridges program founded in 1997 by Peter Brosius, artistic director of the Children's Theatre Company of Minneapolis, and Jack Zipes, Professor of German and Comparative Literature at the University of Minnesota. Neighborhood Bridges is a comprehensive program of storytelling and creative drama designed to help school-age children develop their critical literacy skills and to transform them into storytellers of their own lives. Building bridges does the same for preschool children from 3 to 5 years old.

Based on Zipes' books, *Creative Storytelling: Building Community*, *Changing Lives* (1999) and *Speaking Out* (2004), this 12-week program brings teaching artists into affiliated preschool classrooms on a weekly basis to work collaboratively with classroom teachers. Through theater games, storytelling, and

improvisation, children develop their abilities to speak and think critically.

Building Bridges concentrates on preschools in urban settings. The flexible storytelling and theater techniques that are employed to animate the students are intended to enable them to become autonomous thinkers. The emphasis is on social and individual transformation and building bridges between people and communities through creative storytelling and improvisational theatre.

Building Bridges not only improves the children's pre-literacy and critical thinking skills, but also develops their collaborative and public speaking skills. Bridges helps young children to grapple with the complicated issues, conflicts and questions found in today's diverse, changing society. It challenges young children to identify the roots of problems, examine their own feelings, and propose creative, non-violent solutions.



Lars Holland (upper left), Avonte Webb, & Chantel Cannon enjoy creative storytelling while mastering necessary pre-reading skills.

Thank you to Scott Richardson of Richardson Images for taking the photographs.



Andrea Miller, 2008-2009 Lancaster Day Care Center Board President

A Message from the Board President, Andrea Miller

If the news is a source of worry for you – as it often is for me - then the clatter within the walls of 150 South Queen Street is a welcome contrast to the negative headlines we read every day. Here, we rejoice in the sounds of 103 young voices as they move gladly through our hallways. We take pride in the learning that happens here and the sense of security that we provide for the children who are in our care. These are the things that matter most in life and for this reason The Lancaster Day Care Center is a truly great place. It is a privilege to work with and support them.

Hand in hand with the joy we receive from these children and their families is the tremendous sense of responsibility we bear to them. We are keenly aware of what is needed to perpetuate the center and to maintain our commitment to quality childcare. In recent weeks we stand as a living example of how “Wall Street meets Main Street”. With the turn in our economy, we know that our fiscal plan will be very tight. Parents Fees (currently comprising 50% of our operating budget) will be increasingly difficult for many to meet, United Way allocations and contributions (currently comprising 16% of our budget) may diminish, and private donations may become more restricted. In spite of that we must continue to provide our valued services and encourage our donor base to stay the course with us. Indeed, the need is even more critical now, as the day-to-day burden of the down turned economy will most profoundly impact those we serve.

I’m excited, if not somewhat daunted by the year ahead at LDCC. While there are many goals to achieve, the turn in our economy necessitates that perhaps the two most significant are to increase our fundraising initiatives, and to elevate the public’s knowledge about our work so that we remain a preferred place for supporters to place their hard earned donations.

A powerful vehicle for revenue generation lies in a generous Pennsylvania Tax Credit Program called the PAEITC. This program, which allows companies to contribute an amount up to their state tax liability and receive a credit on their tax return, has generated over \$70,000 for the center thus far. The program’s one page application makes it easy to access and LDCC is already a “certified recipient” of funds. The program enables companies to support charitable organizations like LDCC – while reducing their PA state tax liability. For more information, please contact Nina at the center or visit their website paeitc.com. If you are closely tied to a company, we ask that you consider this option as a vehicle of giving for your organization.

LDCC consistently strives to be a leader in the childcare sector. We aim to improve the lives of the children we serve by advancing their educational opportunities and offering a safe, stable environment. In business since 1915, the center has a compelling history that we would like to share with you. More importantly, we would like to show you the work we do on a daily basis and the smiling faces of the children whose lives we impact daily. If you have not been to the center lately, please call us for a tour. You could also visit our website www.ldcc.org which has a “highlight of the month” page that will keep you up to date on some of the fun that takes place each month.

LDCC’s mission is to provide quality, subsidized childcare for low to middle income families. Help us continue to execute this mission. Lets work together in spite of the challenges we face to make this the best year ever. I hope to see you at our upcoming fundraiser, Night on the Town. The event promises to be a wonderful evening, and I welcome the opportunity to meet you and to discuss the center with you!

Most Sincerely,
Andrea

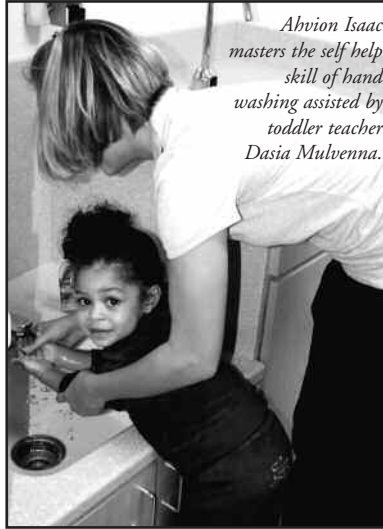
Thank You Clark Family Foundation

It goes without saying that a lot of what is done in a child care center is caring – not just about the child’s emotional and educational growth, but about feeding, diapering, hygiene and safety. It also goes without saying that the care of a hundred plus children requires lots and lots of “stuff” and also places to store the “stuff.”

Thanks to a recent grant from the Clark Family Foundation, Lancaster Day Care Center is better equipped to care for the children in several classrooms. Renovations included installing toddler-sized hand washing sinks adjacent to adult-sized hand washing sinks, complete with sensory water faucets to cut down on cross contamination during the hand washing process. The toddler sized sinks promote independence as well as save caregivers’ backs.

Aesthetics are also important in an environment where young children and adults spend hours together. Natural wood cabinets were installed in the classrooms adding not only essential storage space but a relaxing, calming and soothing environment for the children and families.

The final aspect of renovations included renovating the Parent Coordinator’s office. In traditional child care thought the focus is, of course, on the children – the children’s security, health, daily well being, and their total development. At Lancaster Day Care Center we also recognize that no children enroll themselves in child care and that all children come equipped with families. The parent coordinator’s office is often the first space encountered in the center by the parent. The newly renovated space reflects a welcoming, trusting atmosphere that reinforces our philosophy that parents are our partners.



*Abvion Isaac
masters the self-help
skill of hand
washing assisted by
toddler teacher
Dasia Mulvenna.*

Fun Days at Funk’s Farm

In keeping with the fall curriculum theme of Farms and Harvest, Preschool 1 and 2 and PreK Counts made an autumn sojourn to Funk’s Farm. Assisted by a several capable parent volunteers, 50 children from the Center were treated to a hay ride in the pumpkin patch and a visit to the Hay Maze.

Children also had the opportunity to see and touch the farm animals, as well as play with friends in the playground. A snack of pretzels and apple cider was enjoyed by the children, their teachers and their parents.



*Bria
Booth,
age 3*



*Bottom: Lisa Charles and her preschool
class at Funk’s pumpkin patch.*

Night on the Town



Celeste Ortiz, Gavin Brown and Kiara Fannin are all dressed up for the Night on The Town. Unfortunately they will not be able to go because it is past their bedtime, but they hope all of you come out to support their Center.

Lancaster Day Care Center's largest fundraiser, Night on the Town, is being held Saturday, November 15th at the Lancaster Country Club. The NOTT committee has been working hard to make this evening a huge success! A special addition to our auction this year is Fine Living. Look for high end wines, Kiawah Island and Grand Teton vacation homes, luxury outerwear and special edition artwork.

Let NOTT be your one-stop holiday shopping! Some of those hard to get gift items including Nintendo Wii, Elmo Live and the 2008 Girl of the Year American Girl Doll will be featured at the auction. Looking for a one of a kind gift? Don't miss the chance to win dinner by former White House Chef John Moeller, an aerial tour of Lancaster, a chance to shadow an ER doctor or a private tour of WGAL! This special evening will take place from 5:30 to 8:00pm, followed by dinner in the homes of generous friends of the Center.

LIVE UNITED™



Lancaster Day Care Center is eligible to receive contributions through the United Way Donor Choice program.

See your United Way pledge form for more details.

Save the Date



TEE FOR TOTS

Friday
May 1, 2009

Lancaster Day Care Center Holiday Wish List:

ELECTRONICS:

- disposable camera
- Kodak Easy Share color cartridge & photo paper kits
- radio/CD/tape players
- rechargeable battery kits
- batteries – all sizes



PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT:

- balls
- buckets
- shovels
- sand box toys
- hula hoops
- water toys
- bug boxes
- tonka trucks



... Vanessa Grant, Hanna Killian...

YARD ITEMS:

- shovels
- trowels
- snow shovels
- watering cans
- brooms
- rakes
- pruners
- hoses
- seeds
- potting soil

ART SUPPLIES:

- construction paper
- adult scissors
- markers
- pipe cleaners
- clear contact paper
- 3 hole paper punch
- staplers
- electronic pencil sharpeners
- wicker storage baskets – all sizes
- laminating paper (9 x 11.5)
- child scissors
- glitter
- glue sticks
- rulers
- yardsticks
- pens & pencils

KITCHEN & HH ITEMS:

- small microwave
- cookie sheets
- large spatulas
- measuring cups
- Holiday paper products
- dish clothes/kitchen towels
- plastic storage containers for food
- ice cube trays
- paper towels
- Tide laundry detergent
- dreft laundry detergent
- wash baskets
- dust pans w/ long handles
- flash lights
- measuring tape



McKenzie Weeks...



CLASSROOM NEEDS:

- multi-cultural dolls
- multi-cultural books – 8 weeks to kindergarten
- multi-cultural child CD's
- small starter fish aquarium
- puzzles
- infant bibs
- sippy cups
- child winter hats & gloves
- learning games
- glass baby bottles
- back packs

GIFT CARDS TO:

- Costco
- AC Moore
- Border's Bookstore
- Michael's
- Barnes & Noble Bookstore



and Alexander Mowery, all wish you a peaceful holiday season!