

### "Faces of After School"

NHA students participated in a statewide contest to create self-portraits for the 2011 Connecticut After School Network's "Faces of After School" art contest. This contest required all ages and grade levels to submit a self-portrait and the winner's artwork would be displayed in the New Britain Museum of American Art. The winners were Anthony Feliciano of Meadow Gardens- Winner & Finalist, Zey'Nabou N'Diaye of 20 West- Finalist and Aldo Campos of 20 West- Finalist. Congratulations on a job well done!

### Eliza Brown NHF Scholarship Student Honored by NCC

Eliza Brown, a Norwalk Housing Foundation scholarship recipient was honored at a dinner on April 13, by Norwalk Community College as one of 27 Women of Promise. Ms. Brown, a resident of Washington Village, will graduate in June from NCC and plans to attend Temple University in the Fall. As a young girl, Eliza was an enrolled at the NHA Learning Centers at Washington Village and 20 West Avenue. Ms. Brown was also a member of the I Have A Dream Program that operated at Washington Village. Ms. Brown works part-time for Stepping Stones Museum for Children, where she started out as a volunteer. Eliza wants to have a career helping others when she finishes college, but with two years more of studying and many classes to take, she is leaving the door open on her career path. Congratulations to Eliza Brown, a Norwalk Housing Scholar.

### Roodner Court Community Service Event!

Save the date, **Sunday May 15!** Northeast Community Church celebrates Spring at Roodner Court. A free Kids Extravaganza and Community Lunch will be among several of the days events aimed toward partnering with Norwalk residents to build a stronger community. To find out more information and to learn how you can get involved, contact Lisa Roger at 203-838-8471 x188.

### Yes, We Can Get Along!

Youth ages 12 - 17 and their parents will learn how to recognize and resolve challenges including bullying, peer pressure and more starting **Tuesday, May 24**, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM, at the South Norwalk Library Community Room, 10 Washington Street. Refreshments will be served. For more information on this upcoming fun and theatrical life skills workshop or to register, please contact Mark Covello at 203-838-8471 X186.

### Housing Choice Voucher Self Sufficiency Grant

NHA was awarded the Housing Choice Voucher Self Sufficiency grant in the amount of \$69,000. The grant will continue to support the coordination of public and private resources to enable participating families to increase earned income and financial literacy, and make progress toward economic self sufficiency.

### Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant

119 applicants across the nation sought Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants in the amount of \$250,000. NHA received 1 of 17 awards. The grant will support the development of a comprehensive neighborhood transformation plan for Washington Village.

### Finding Your Talents! Get the job you want!

This workshop is for you! *Ace your next interview* and land your next job! Sign up TODAY for a series of FREE motivational seminars. Seminars will be held weekly from 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM at Leroy Downs on Tuesdays: April 26, May 3, May 10 and May 17. Learn how to identify your skills that you can offer to your next employer, *write a winning resume*, identify your interests and improve your *interviewing skills* - AND how to keep your job once you get it! Pre-registration is required, space is limited. For additional information or to register, call 203-838-8471 X181 or X188.



### NHA is Going Green!

NHA has recently received grant monies from HUD for the purpose of making our units more energy efficient and to ensure the imprint on our environment is minimized through the decrease of use of fossil fuels. Installation of solar

panels has begun at Senior Court Apts. and will be progressing to Leroy Downs and 20 West Ave. Apts. shortly. The work is being performed by Siemens Technology, who is performing additional energy saving work at other sites.



### Great Learning Centers, Great Staff!

Eva M. Clements is the Asst. Director of Learning Centers. Eva has over 30 years of teaching, tutoring and educational consulting experience in both public and private schools. She has an extensive English and American Literature and writing teaching background as well as an M.A. in English from Penn State. Eva's educational background and experience will be an asset to the Learning Center students.

### Take Control of your Finances!

Manage your money with confidence. Sheryle McMillan of Money Management International, will lead this FREE workshop on **June 15**. Sign up TODAY to be eligible for a \$25 raffle drawing. Establish and prioritize your financial goals and create a spending plan to help you stay on track. Commit to a savings plan for the future and emergencies. Pre-registration is required, space is limited. For information or to register, call 203-838-8471 X187 or X135.



### Health Care Career News

Residents pursuing a career in the health care field have successfully completed courses at Norwalk Community College Extended Studies. Three residents received a certificate as Homemaker Companions. This program has prepared them for their current entry level positions to assist elders in maintaining their independence through in-home services. One resident received the Physical Therapy Certificate and she is working in a therapy clinic in Norwalk. Three other residents are enrolled at NCC in certificate programs which include Veterinary and Dental Assisting as well as Medical Billing and Reimbursement Specialist. **The Healthcare field is one of the fastest growing job opportunities in our current economy. Are you ready to try a new career where you can make a difference and secure your future?** Scholarships may be available! Additional entrance requirements may apply. Contact Sandra-Ann Nolfo **today** for more information at: 203-838-8471 ext 181 or by email at: [snolfo@norwalkha.org](mailto:snolfo@norwalkha.org).

### HOLLYWOOD COMES TO 20 WEST AVENUE RESIDENTS

Join us for lunch and the showing of the movie "True Grit" featuring Jeff Bridges and Matt Damon. "True Grit" is the story of a tough U.S. Marshall that helps a stubborn young woman track down her father's murderer. Lunch will be provided by the Norwalk Housing Authority. **This event will take place on April 29, 2011 at 12:00 P.M. in the 20 West Learning Center. Reservations are required. RSVP by April 27<sup>th</sup> to Sandra-Ann Nolfo at 203-838-8471 ext. 181.**

### Attention Kids Going into Kindergarten in September, 2011!!

Parents register now for a FREE 2 week long Stepping Stones Early Reading Program. This is **ONLY** for children going to kindergarten in September. Transportation will be provided. Call 203-803-6437 for more info. or to register.



### FREE BOOKS! For Norwalk Children

Norwalk Reads! Book Distribution on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> 10:00am-1:00pm (A Parent/Guardian must accompany children) Distribution Sites: Colonial Village Learning Center, Washington Village Learning Center, East Norwalk Library, South Norwalk Library, Main Library and Rowayton Library. For more info. visit [www.norwalkreads.org](http://www.norwalkreads.org)

### Attention 2011-2012 Pre-School Parents

Kindergarten Registration CALL NOW- 203-854-4147!

### Want to OWN your own HOME? You can do it!

Come to this FREE program presented by Money Management International (a member of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling) to learn what's involved in becoming a homeowner on **May 7, 9:00AM – 5:00 PM**, at LeRoy Downs, 26 Monroe Street. This workshop will take the confusion and uncertainty out of home-buying and guide you through the process, step by step. Topics include reviewing your finances, determining how much you can afford, reviewing your credit, shopping for a home, obtaining a mortgage, preparing for the closing, and more. Pre-registration is required, space is limited. For information or to register, call 203-838-8471 X187 or X135.



### April 29- Literacy Career Night

NHA has been hosting Career Nights at the end of each month and the theme for March was Art and Entertainment. There were more than 50 students including students from the Carver Center! Everyone enjoyed themselves and enjoyed a spur-of-the moment sing off by some of the artists! April's Literacy Career Night will be held on April 29<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm to 7:00pm at Leroy Downs.