# Community VISION



Winter 2009

Build futures as bright as the season.

Dear Friends,

At this time of year, we often reflect on the past year's milestones while looking ahead, with hope, to an even brighter new year.

In East Lake, 2009 has truly been a remarkable year, full of progress and opportunity. From the amazing things happening at Drew Charter School and at the Villages of East Lake, to the celebration of our second group of CREW Teens to graduate high school, and the confidence and character of The First Tee of East Lake's junior golfers — East Lake families and children have achieved great things this year.

As we look forward to the Foundation's 15th anniversary in 2010, we know that collaboration, hard work and dedication have created the thriving community we see today. I extend my sincere appreciation to those of you who have supported our work this year. And for anyone inspired by this season of giving, I encourage you to make an investment in the lives of East Lake children and families.

Individually, you can make a difference – and together in partnership, we are building a community.

Season's Greetings from East Lake,

Madelyn R. Adams
Executive Director

P.S. Please use the enclosed envelope to make your gift and help East Lake families build bright futures. You can also donate online at www.eastlakefoundation.org.



#### build potential

Drew Charter School's After School Program offers academic support and dozens of enrichment opportunities – building potential for students to achieve and excel.

\$50 covers the cost of five weeks of After School for a student.



#### hoild hope

CREW (Creating Responsible, Educated, Working) Teens helps to lay the foundation for success in high school and beyond – building hope for bright futures.

\$100 sends eight CREW Teens on a college tour.



#### build values

The First Tee® of East Lake teaches both golf and life skills to hundreds of East Lake children – building values to help them succeed in golf and in life.

\$500 sends a junior golfer to a week-long, overnight golf camp.



The Harrison Scholarship recognizes and supports students who work in the East Lake community and are pursuing an undergraduate degree.

\$1,000 provides a scholarship for a student of character, integrity and leadership.





### **2009 Friends' Cup a Success,** *Thanks to Generous Donors and Volunteers*

Hundreds gathered recently at the East Lake Golf Club for The Friends' Cup, a vital source of funds for The First Tee of East Lake.

As guests arrived on Sunday evening, Nov. 1, they were greeted by dedicated volunteers, including (1) Brenda Mohammed and

Marguerita Lance. After a gourmet buffet supper, guests enjoyed remarks from guest speaker Jimmy Roberts, NBC sportscaster, followed by a live auction of dream golf trips to exclusive venues around the globe. Pictured at right are (2) Billy Andrade, PGA TOUR professional and Golf Channel personality; Jimmy Roberts; John Frazer, Chairman of The Friends of The First Tee of East Lake; and Chris Millard, Event Committee Chair.

The next day's golf tournament attracted local and national celebrities, including (3) Tom Glavine, pictured with Lillian Giornelli, Melissa Lowe, Carol Gellerstedt and Cary Weems. PGA TOUR veterans Billy Andrade and Peter Jacobsen (4) opened the day with a terrific golf clinic. Following a great day on the links, golfers enjoyed a

reception at the Clubhouse, where tournament winners – **Adi Bhoopathy, Ham Naran, Charley Procter** and **Ben Brunt** of Noble Investment Corp. – were presented with the 2009 Friends' Cup, generously donated by **Charlie Harrison**.









## Groundbreaking Literacy Center Helps Kids Advance Further, **FASTER**

Thanks to the Rotary Club of Atlanta and the Belk Foundation, Drew Charter School recently opened an innovative Literacy Center, the first of its kind in metro Atlanta. The Center uses cutting-edge techniques to close the achievement gap for struggling students, while helping their fellow students exceed grade standards.

At right, students thank **William G. Nordmark, III**, president of the Rotary Club of Atlanta, and meet **Kat Belk-Cook** from the Belk Foundation.

**Nicole Lanasa**, Drew's Director of Literacy, shared an early success story from the Literacy Center: "Zion started last school year reading only 36 words per minute, well below the target for 3rd grade. By year-end, he increased his reading speed to 120 words per minute, hitting the target for his grade. Once shy and withdrawn, he now carries himself with confidence and is poised for continuing academic success."



#### Giving back this holiday season: Drew kids lead the way



rew Charter students expressed their appreciation to soldiers overseas through Drew's "Say Thanks to the Troops" project. All 255 kids in the After School Program wrote personal letters and created works of art, which were carefully packed along with snacks, books and other goodies collected by the kids. A giant package was sent to Army Staff Sergeant Yolanda Robinson, mother of Drew first-grader Syanne Hurst-Spruill, who is stationed in Afghanistan for the next year.

Giving back to others is a hallmark of Drew Charter School, where students often participate in service learning projects. **Laura McCrodden**, Programs Coordinator in Drew's Office of Extended Services,

Thank you for fighting for our country. I am really proud of you soldiers. Every day, you risk your lives to keep us safe.

~ Nzinga



said students learn, "You don't need a lot of money to make a difference in someone else's life. Helping others makes life better for them, and ultimately better for you, too."

Build futures as bright as the season - see enclosed envelope.



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