# Community VISION



## **Gaining Momentum**

## Drew Charter School expands offerings to accelerate achievement

Two new programs at Charles R. Drew Charter School will further its tradition of excellence and its ability to prepare kids of all ages and abilities for a bright future. Beginning this fall, Drew will offer its first Pre-K class and a new accelerated program for students excelling in its current curriculum. Both programs will allow Drew, which serves 800 children through 8th grade, to further its mission of high academic achievement for every child.

Drew's Pre-K curriculum is modeled after the Banks Street School for Children in New York City and the Anne & Jim Kenan Preschool at the Atlanta Speech School. Studies indicate children enrolled in Pre-K programs have a higher graduation rate than those who miss Pre-K.

The program will start with one classroom, enrolling about 20 students, and will add a class each year for the next three years. Three teachers, specializing in early childhood education, will keep the studentteacher ratio low and allow for an exceptional head start for children residing in The Villages of East Lake and the greater East Lake community. The new Pre-K program is spearheaded by Dr. Cynthia Kuhlman, Director of Educational Achievement



Duane Stork Photography

at the CF Foundation and former Principal of Centennial Elementary.

Also new this fall, Drew will offer, an accelerated program for gifted and high achieving students with a gifted-certified teacher at each grade level. The program's goal is to address the unique learning characteristics, interests, needs and capabilities of high-end learners in grades K-8. "The program emphasizes these students' need to interact with their intellectual peers, be taught at an appropriately challenging level, and receive the specialized educational experience they require," explains Dawn Stephens, Special Education Coordinator and gifted-certified teacher at Drew. Teachers and staff will utilize the most recent researchbased programs, customized curriculum and enrichment opportunities for addressing the unique needs of gifted learners.

### Another Distinguished Year

Drew Charter School has again met the requirements for making adequate yearly progress (AYP) under the Federal No Child Left Behind law and earned a "Distinguished" rating for making AYP for three years in a row.

For more information about these programs, please contact Drew Charter School at 404-687-0001.



## Summer Camp at East Lake

Over 120 East Lake children participated in the best summer camp ever held in East Lake! The camp, delivered in partnership with Mercy Housing, the East Lake Family YMCA, The First Tee of East Lake and the Villages of East Lake's Chaplain's office, was made possible through a grant from Georgia's Department of Human Resources and individual donations.

## The Friends' Cup 2007 Raises \$220,000

Thanks to all who participated in the second annual Friends' Cup! Guests gathered on April 29th at the Atlanta History Center to bid on 17 dream golf trips while 76 golfers teed off at the East Lake Golf Club on April 30th in our two day benefit for The First Tee of East Lake. Thank you again for your generosity and support.



Photos courtesy of Duane Stork Photography

We appreciate our 2007 Friends' Cup sponsors: Delta, our presenting Friends' Cup sponsor and official airline of The First Tee of East Lake; SunTrust Bank, sponsor of the Dinner and Live Auction; and Stanford Private Wealth Management, which sponsored the post-tournament reception.



Keynote Speaker Billy Andrade and son with Event Chairman Clay Jackson



Delta dinner guests



Laura Zidar of the PGA TOUR Championship with guests from the Coca-Cola Company



SunTrust dinner guests



The First Tee of East Lake staff: Nyre Williams,Rachel Melendez and Jeff Dunovant



Kendall Family foursome



SunTrust foursome



Clay Jackson presents honorary tee flag to sponsor Stanford Private Wealth Management



Friends of The First Tee of East Lake board member Tony Dozier with Chairman John Frazer



Stanford Private Wealth Management foursome

Save the Date! The Friends' Cup 2008 April 27 & 28, 2008









#### Congratulations to the 2007 Harrison Scholarship Winners!

The East Lake Foundation is pleased to announce the 2007 award recipients of the Charles W. Harrison Scholarship. East Lake Golf Club employees Robert Richardson, LaShanta Davis, David Putnam and Charles Banks pose with Charlie Harrison at the awards luncheon *(above)*. Along with Sam Wright, Jr., these dedicated members of the East Lake family exemplify the spirit and character of a Harrison Scholar. The Harrison Scholarship benefits employees of the East Lake Golf Club and the Charlie Yates Golf

Course who are working toward a college degree. Since 1998, 58 Harrison Scholarships have been awarded to deserving candidates. To help support the Harrison Scholarship Fund, please contact Rhonda Davidson at the East Lake Foundation, 404-373-4351.

Community Vision is a publication of the East Lake Foundation. Our mission is to serve as a change agent to help the families of the Villages of East Lake and the children of Charles R. Drew Charter School break the cycle of poverty through education, job readiness, housing, community development, and connections with the broader community.

East Lake

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Charles Harrison Instructor, The First Tee of East Lake

Above: Nyre Williams, Marcus Polk, Jr. and Miles Goldman with Jim Colbert. Left: Miles and PGA Senior Player Jim Colbert on the course.

#### East Lake honored at the National First Tee Academy

Marcus Polk, Jr. and Miles Goldman, both participants in The First Tee of East Lake, were among the 100 First Tee participants nationwide selected to attend the National First Tee Life Skills and Leadership Academy in Manhattan, Kansas. First Tee Director Nyre Williams was also honored by being selected as a coach for the Academy. Miles received the further distinction of being one

of the four campers selected to play a round with PGA Senior player Jim Colbert.

*Summer Tournament Update:* This summer, 20 First Tee of East Lake boys and girls played the AJGA tournament circuit, and three qualified for the season ending Tournament of Champions. Along the way, four East Lake junior golfers snagged first place victories. Congratulations!

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