Dear Friends,

Did you know that 2010 marks the 15th anniversary of the East Lake Foundation? East Lake is certainly a different – and much better – place than it was 15 years ago. Thanks to supporters like you, children now thrive academically from cradle to college, while families live in a community they’re proud to call “home.” Over the past decade and a half, workforce participation, school test scores and graduation rates have soared. East Lake has become a place where every child – and every family – has a chance to succeed.

While the physical building of the community is largely complete, the real building – the building of human potential – continues. East Lake remains a beacon to working families eager to create a better future for themselves and their children. Your support allows us to deliver the tools these families need – paving the way for a stronger community for all of us. While much has been achieved over the last 15 years, we believe the best is yet to come.

With appreciation,

Madelyn R. Adams
Executive Director

P.S. Please join in a special celebration of our 15th anniversary – see page 4 for details.

Cultivating a stronger community

The East Lake Foundation is pleased to announce a new partnership with the Southeastern Horticultural Society to create the East Lake Community Learning Garden! The garden will serve as an outdoor classroom for East Lake children, especially students from Drew Charter School. The garden will also become a gathering place and community-building platform both for residents of The Villages of East Lake and the broader East Lake neighborhood. Madelyn R. Adams, East Lake Foundation Executive Director, commented, “The Learning Garden will foster healthier eating and living within our community, as well as build bridges among our neighbors.” Following community planning workshops this summer, look for information on a groundbreaking ceremony this fall.

Celebrating a major milestone on the path to a brighter future

Education opens doors and is absolutely key to self-sufficiency – that’s why the CREW Teens program is driven to help students succeed in high school, college and beyond.

CREW Teens helps kids bridge the challenging gap from middle school to college by providing academic support, counseling and more. On June 5, CREW Teens saluted its latest high school graduating class. The “Moving Beyond the Bridge” ceremony honored this year’s seven new Ann & Thomas Cousins Scholars, our first Macadam Scholar and three Gates Millennium Scholars. (CREW Teens participants represented more than 10% of the Gates Millennium scholarships won in Atlanta!)

Summer learning opportunities abound for CREW Teens. Rising 9th graders are discovering how to succeed in high school via CREW Teens’ innovative High Prep program – and 100 students have enrolled in the new CREW Teens Summer Institute (CREWSIN, for short), challenging themselves in rigorous, interactive seminars on Global Engagement, Healthcare, Theatre Arts and Integrated Media & Marketing.

While this year’s graduates have crossed the bridge, another group of bright young students prepares to begin the journey. Please consider making a gift to the East Lake Foundation today – your generosity will pave the way for a brighter future for these eager learners.
State Renews Drew’s Charter; Praises Drew as a Model for Other Schools

East Lake’s Drew Charter School has won unanimous approval for its charter renewal from the local and state boards of education.

Drew’s charter explains how the school serves its students and the community. It includes chapters devoted to the Drew educational plan, academic design and governance structure.

Drew was the first charter school in the city of Atlanta – and is the first to have won two consecutive unanimous approvals of its charter!

State officials were exceedingly complimentary when they announced the approval of Drew’s charter. They praised Drew’s academic program and students’ performance – in fact, they noted that Drew’s charter could be considered as a model for schools across the state.

Thanks to generous support from East Lake Foundation donors, Drew continues to help students thrive academically and realize their full potential.

Art with Heart

Drew Charter School’s 2nd Annual Art Auction was a huge success, thanks to creative students and generous bidders. Drew’s courtyard was the perfect backdrop for a stunning showcase of student artwork, performances by Drew drummers and salsa dancers, and friendly competition among bidders. The event benefited Drew’s innovative After School Program, now serving more than 250 students. We hope to see you at next year’s auction!

Honoring hard-working students

True to the East Lake Foundation’s mission of providing tools to help people build brighter futures, the Charles W. Harrison Scholarship benefits students (like Roi Johnson, pictured right) who work in East Lake and are pursuing an undergraduate degree.

The scholarship honors Charles W. Harrison, Georgia golf legend, East Lake neighbor and dedicated First Tee of East Lake instructor. Employees of the East Lake Golf Club and the Charlie Yates Golf Course who exemplify character, integrity and leadership may apply. Sixty-eight Harrison Scholarships have been awarded since the program began in 1998.

The Foundation has received an overwhelming number of applications this year, and we look forward to announcing the winning recipients at the upcoming Harrison Scholars luncheon. Look for a list of winners’ names in a future edition of our monthly e-mail update, Snapshot.

You can support these hard-working students by making a donation to the Harrison Scholarship fund. For more information, contact Brittany Glenn Molinaro at 404-373-4351.

Get the picture with Snapshot

Snapshot, the East Lake Foundation’s new e-mail newsletter, delivers a good news round-up at the start of each month. To receive your free copy of Snapshot, just e-mail Erik Day – eday@eastlakefoundation.org.
Mark your calendar:
East Lake Invitational
•
Sept. 12 & 13

Enjoy a round of golf with friends at the legendary East Lake Golf Club – sign up today for the inaugural East Lake Invitational, which will be held Sept. 12 and 13, the last days the club will be open prior to THE TOUR Championship presented by Coca-Cola. Along with a select group of pro golfers, you’ll play the course while it’s in the best shape of the year. Foursomes for this exclusive event, which benefits the East Lake Foundation, are going quickly, so please contact Brittany Glenn Molinaro (bglenn@eastlakefoundation.org) to learn more.

The First Tee of East Lake: Where excellence is a habit

Our First Tee golfers excelled this spring. Our boys placed 3rd in the Sutton Invitational, the largest Georgia middle-school tournament, and Benjamin Thomas and Kyler Hart both shot their personal best. Eight top high school teams competed in The First Tee of East Lake Invitational, and Martavious Adams tied for second. Tyler Lawrence and Kelly Willis (pictured above with coaches Nyre Williams and Rachel Melendez) placed second and third individually, earning our girls’ team the first-place trophy.

Tyler also completed our Caddy Training Program, along with Kyle Barry. Look for Kyle and Tyler next time you visit the East Lake Golf Club. (By the way, Tyler is now ELGC’s only female caddy!)

Jeff Dunovant has achieved the prestigious status of Recognized First Tee Coach. This honor reflects Jeff’s exemplary skills and tremendous dedication.

Ahmad Williams is one of just 100 students from across the country selected to participate in The First Tee Life Skills and Leadership Academy – and Coach Jeff and Coach Rachel will be among the elite group leading this prestigious program.

We appreciate the continued commitment of the Friends of The First Tee of East Lake, chaired by John Frazer. This year’s committee chairs include Cary Weems (Volunteering), Valerie Hartman Levy (Mentoring), Doug Leeson (Governance & Nominating) and Lee Birdsong (Fundraising).

With summer tournaments now underway, we look forward to sharing more good news this fall.

Yates Course named among America’s best

Once again, East Lake’s public Charlie Yates Golf Course has been named one of America’s top short courses by Golf Range magazine. Designed by Rees Jones, the Yates Course offers a mix of challenging Par 3 and 4 holes with remarkable views of the Atlanta skyline. Proceeds from the Yates Course benefit the East Lake Foundation. See for yourself why the Yates Course keeps racking up accolades – book your tee time today by calling 404-373-4655.

Chris Womack joins Board of East Lake Foundation

The East Lake Foundation is pleased to announce that Chris Womack has joined its Board of Directors.

Mr. Womack currently serves as executive vice president and president, external affairs, for the Southern Company, one of America’s largest producers of electricity. In this role, he oversees the company’s federal and state governmental and regulatory affairs and corporate communication initiatives.

A dedicated and generous leader, he currently serves as chairman of the board of Communities in Schools and as a board member of Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, the Bill Dickey Scholarship Association, Western Michigan University Foundation, U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Georgia Conservancy. He is a national trustee for the Boys & Girls Clubs of America.

“We are honored to have Chris join our Board of Directors. With his extensive corporate expertise and proven leadership abilities, he is well-positioned to help the Foundation deliver even greater value to our community,” said Charles B. Knapp, chairman of the East Lake Foundation Board of Directors.
15 FOR 15: AN EASY WAY TO MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

In celebration of the East Lake Foundation’s 15th anniversary, we invite you to join the 15 for 15 campaign.

Just pledge to make 15 gifts over the next 15 months, and you’ll provide critical support for programs like CREW Teens, Drew’s After School Program and The First Tee of East Lake. With a suggested commitment of only $15 (or more) each month, you’ll make a tremendous impact on the lives of East Lake children and families.

It’s easy to start making your monthly donation. Just visit eastlakefoundation.org and click on the “15 for 15” icon to visit our secure donation web page. For more information, please contact Alicia Brady at 404-373-4351 or abrady@eastlakefoundation.org.

See the world’s top 30 golfers in East Lake

After 33 weeks and three Playoff events, it all comes down to one final tournament – THE TOUR Championship presented by Coca-Cola, held Sept. 22-26 at historic East Lake Golf Club.

Through THE TOUR Championship’s Kroger TICKETS Fore CHARITY program, you can enjoy great ticket prices while helping the East Lake Foundation. In fact, 100% of your purchase price benefits the East Lake Foundation. More good news – each child 18 and under is admitted free with a ticketed adult.

For a limited time, daily tickets purchased through TICKETS Fore CHARITY are just $50 each – that’s a savings of $20 per ticket off the gate price! To take advantage of this special offer, visit eastlakefoundation.org and click the “TOUR Championship tickets” tab at the top of the page.

GOLF-A-THON:
Have a great time while supporting a great cause

Save the date and build your stamina for The First Tee® of East Lake’s inaugural Golf-A-Thon!

From sunrise to sunset on Monday, July 12, 2010, the Charlie Yates Golf Course will host an all-day marathon to raise money for The First Tee of East Lake. Similar to a walk-a-thon, participants in our Golf-A-Thon will solicit pledges per hole played and straight donations from friends, golfing buddies, family members and co-workers, then play as many holes of golf as humanly possible in a day.

Want to get in on the fun? Join First Tee participants, instructors, East Lake Foundation employees, friends and supporters as we have fun while raising funds. For more information, to register or to sponsor a First Tee participant, contact Erik Day at eday@eastlakefoundation.org or 404-373-4351.

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