



Tutoring at the Teen Center



College Success grads showing off their new school pride



Gloucester Zero Robotics summer program



Engineering Challenge, Future City



Andrison Pérez-Brea, LEAP college student, with Rob Lutts, CEO Cabot Wealth Management

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LINDA SARIS

As we end our 15th year of success, I want to thank all of our donors and volunteers for their generous support. We have seen remarkable growth in the number of students we serve. With a new program at the Collins Middle School in Salem, **LEAP programs now reach 800 students per year.**

This year, we are focusing on infusing college and career connections into every program we run beginning in 6th grade. Do we want our students to have their lives figured out at such an early age? Of course not. What we do want is for each student to know they have choices and to thoughtfully and intentionally begin to chart their own course based on their own strengths, values and interests. By doing this, we develop student agency – that is, empowering youth to be masters of their own destiny.

During the year we may reach out to you to help LEAP enhance our college and career initiative. This may take the form of job shadowing, informational interviews, field trips, classroom speakers or to participate in an evening of networking. You, our partners, volunteers and donors are the key to our success. Your contributions allow us to create more meaningful opportunities and more impact for our students.

The entire LEAP community wishes you all a wonderful holiday season.

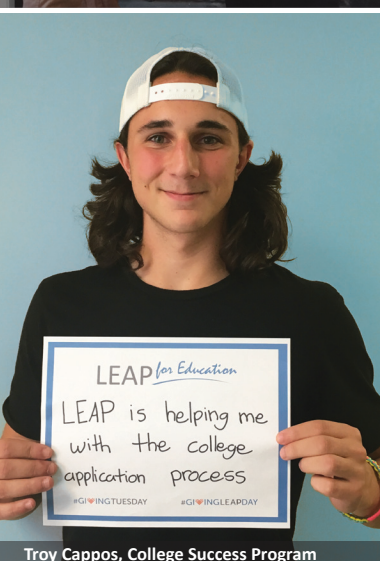
Linda Saris



Hands on learning in Gloucester



Art at the Teen Center



Troy Cappos, College Success Program



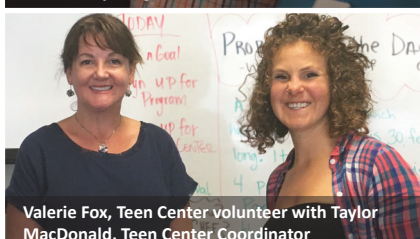
LEAP Board member, Jody Goldman with Jacob and Marilyn Segal



LEAP College Success Alumni



LEAP Volunteers: Cathy Pommer, Amy Drinker, Jean Cocuzzo, & Kristen Hernandez



Valerie Fox, Teen Center volunteer with Taylor MacDonald, Teen Center Coordinator



Ed Baillie, Chuck Goldman and Eileen Mathieu



Linda Saris, Rep. Paul Tucker, Kat Klass, Nancy Napolitano, and Susie Moulton

TEEN CENTER

LEAP's Teen Center has become *the* place for Salem High School students after school. The Teen Center has grown exponentially over the past year doubling our attendance to at least 25 students daily. Our volunteers are the cornerstone to the success of our programs and make it possible to offer extensive tutoring and experiential learning programs.

LEAP's Teen Center is open daily (Monday-Thursday) after school until 6:00 pm. Students have a safe place to go to practice their English skills, eat a healthy hot meal, play a STEM game, go on a field trip and learn new skills. Avonie Jones, a senior at Salem High School who comes to the Teen Center remarked,

"My parents love the fact that there's a program called LEAP where I can go to get tutoring and make new friends in a fun, safe environment."

Thank you to our supporters and volunteers. LEAP's Teen Center is a place where students can get the support they need in so many different areas of their lives.

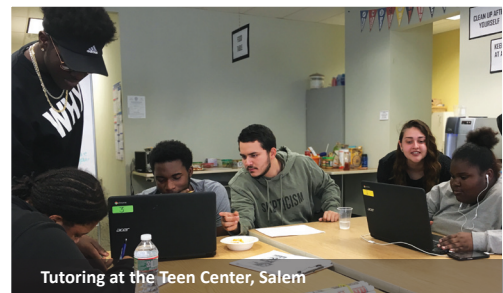
GLOUCESTER NEWS

Learning continued in the summer months at LEAP's O'Maley Academy with a class called "Zero Robotics", an MIT-robotics programming competition for middle school students. The program was a big hit. Students learned to write programming code for a satellite at the International Space Station (ISS) and competed against 14 other teams for the best code. Students traveled to MIT to watch a live stream of astronauts at the ISS using the winning code.

Additionally, this summer, the Drama and Musical Theater classes put on two large scale community performances featuring over 100 students.

Among the 18 classes offered this Fall in Gloucester are a STEM Discovery class that includes trips and speakers from Applied Materials, Google, and Gorton's of Gloucester. Students are also participating in a new Journalism class, and a Sherlock Holmes Crime Scene Investigation class.

LEAP is grateful to Applied Materials, Gloucester Public Schools, Gloucester Education Foundation, the 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant, the Community Development Block Grant and the volunteers and donors who make this after school program such a rich experience for our students.



Tutoring at the Teen Center, Salem



Students at the Teen Center, Salem



Drama and Musical Theater class, Gloucester



Zero Robotics summer program, Gloucester

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: FATOUMATA DIALLO

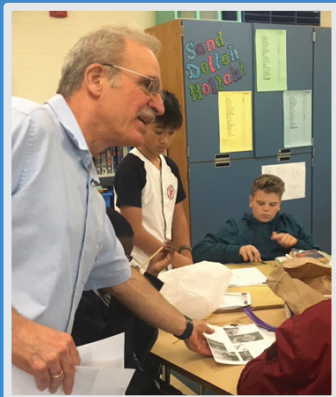
Fatoumata, a Junior at Salem High School, came to the United States two years ago from Guinea. That summer, she participated in LEAP's "Salem at SEA" (Summer English Language Learner Academy), where she worked hard on her English skills. During the school year, Fatoumata soaked up the resources and activities LEAP offers at the Teen Center. This past summer, she researched and provided an engaging presentation to a large audience at The House of the Seven Gables on the role of a female slave during LEAP's Salem at SEA's "Life of Labor" theme using her improved English skills.

Currently, Fatoumata is enrolled in LEAP's College Success Program where she explores her interests and future college and career opportunities. When Fatoumata is not at LEAP, she works in Salem's community Green Space, facilitating conversations as a Salem Community Dialogue Youth Leader, or participating in ROTC at Salem High School. In only two years as a LEAP participant, Fatoumata has made great strides in her academic and personal growth. When asked what she likes about LEAP Fatoumata says,

"I enjoy coming to LEAP because I can receive help on my homework. I also have the opportunity to participate in programs to help my future."



VOLUNTEER PROFILE: TERRY DANSDILL



When Terry Dansdill told Linda Saris of his retirement after 37 years as a design engineer for General Electric, Saris quickly scooped him up, knowing his skills and talents were just what LEAP's new program at the Collins Middle School in Salem needed. Dansdill now volunteers every Monday at LEAP's program at Collins that provides hands-on activities to 400 6th and 7th graders. Dansdill's class is called "Design Thinking."

"The LEAP staff and the students are outstanding. Each project features a hands-on 'design challenge' to solve a problem. The key goals are to be creative in thought where there are no bad ideas. Students work as a team and find a solution to the challenge in 90 minutes. The students are great. The biggest reward is to see the looks of pride as they tackle the projects and build a solution to a problem that works."

Thank you, Terry for your time, talent and enthusiasm. The students are so lucky to have you!

DONOR PROFILE: RIC LEWIS AND THE BLACK HEART FOUNDATION

LEAP is fortunate to receive funding from UK-based Black Heart Foundation, founded by Salem native Ric Lewis. Lewis, the middle son of a Salem firefighter, was always a good student. The head of guidance for the City of Salem saw potential in him and took him under his wing, literally walking him to various colleges at a college fair, transcript in hand. He encouraged Lewis to aim higher and explore Ivy League schools. This opened in Lewis a sense of aspiration and enthusiasm, and he ultimately went to and graduated from Dartmouth College.

As a young African American, first-generation-to-college student at Dartmouth in 1979, Lewis was a pioneer and had to navigate the new world of a prestigious college all on his own. Lewis understood the barriers to aspiration and ambition. Throughout his life—whether in his growing career, or sitting in a board room alongside the Kraft family—Lewis says he was often "the only *me* in the room"; there was no built-in group of people like him to help him when he needed it; rather, he had to draw on the resources around him to put the pieces together himself.

The successful CEO of a private equity real estate asset management firm, Lewis established the Black Heart Foundation to benefit under resourced children and increase their access to education worldwide. Black Heart supports LEAP's College Success Program (CSP) as well as a scholarship for a DACA student in LEAP's CSP who does not qualify for federal scholarships. Lewis volunteers a great deal of time to organizations dedicated to removing the barriers young people face to success. Throughout his life, Lewis has had a sense of giving back by working to help remove the impediments and distractions young people face to realize their potential.

When Lewis learned of LEAP for Education, it aligned with his goals of helping young people who need to be surrounded by people who go the extra mile to help students stay motivated.

"LEAP provides the essential unofficial co-parenting that all students need."

Lewis sees LEAP as an organization on the North Shore helping students in a way he wished more students had when he was in school.



SAVE THE DATE

GREAT EXPECTATIONS FUNDRAISER

Tuesday, April 10th, 2018, 6:00 PM
Danversport

www.leap4ed.org/great-expectations

JOIN US ON APRIL 10TH

- Purchase Tickets or a Table
- Become a Sponsor
- Place an Ad
- Donate a Raffle Item

Scan the QR Code or visit:

www.leap4ed.org/great-expectations

Contact Anya Goodridge, 978-740-6667 x119



SHOP FOR LEAP

(TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12)

Join LEAP for a Trunk Show
at the home of Anya Goodridge
(26 Arbor Street, Wenham, MA)

FEATURING

J. McLaughlin's Holiday Collection
(11 AM-4 PM)
Sugarcoated Jewelry
(until 7 PM)

Let us know if you are able to
come or if you have questions
contact agoodridge@leap4ed.org

*15% of sales will benefit
LEAP for Education*

J. McLaughlin



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MONTHLY GIVING DONOR PROFILE: DR. BRENDAN WALSH



LEAP for Education is very fortunate to have donors like Dr. Brendan Walsh. Walsh has made monthly donations to LEAP since 2012 and his donations have totaled well over \$1,500. For many people, writing a check of \$1,500 is not possible, but if it's done incrementally, the impact is just as meaningful.

Walsh's parents instilled in their seven children a sense of helping others from a very young age. Growing up, Walsh recalled that people he did not know would often be at their dinner table. His father was a truancy officer in Salem Public Schools, working up until he died

in his 80s. Walsh recalled a time when a family of children had been truant from school because they did not have shoes. Walsh's father took it upon himself to ask a local shoe store owner to donate the shoes so that the children could return to school. He grew up in a family that truly cared.

When asked why Walsh gives to LEAP, he says,

"It is a great organization doing what needs to be done. It gives kids who might not have a chance, a chance."

Walsh has spent a good deal of his life and career trying to connect youth "who didn't get the best deal" with opportunities to strive for a better life.

Please consider joining Dr. Walsh as a monthly donor to LEAP. Monthly donations are important to sustain LEAP's mission to empower low income and first-generation-to-college students to perform at higher levels in middle school and high school, and to graduate college prepared to pursue a successful career that matches their strengths and passions.

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