



girl legacy



COMMUNITY BRIDGES'
6TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION

NOVEMBER 9, 2022



community®
bridges Empowering Girls,
Building Leaders for the Community

Dear Community Bridges Family and Friends,



Welcome to the Community Bridges 25th Anniversary Celebration, Girl Legacy! In the past 25 years we have truly made a significant impact here in Montgomery County. We have helped over 5,500 girls build bridges and make connections. Thanks to amazing supporters like you – we have been able to empower the CB girls and connect them to their futures. We have built a legacy for supporting a girl holistically and we know with your continued support, we can continue to grow and serve more girls in grades 4-12 and beyond. I have the great honor of serving as the current Executive Director for Community Bridges but the girl legacy we have built has come from all of the great leaders before me and will continue in the years to come because of each and every one of you through your support of our mission and our CB girls! Each of you as supporters are part of our legacy!

Tonight you are celebrating creating opportunities, cultivating potential and achieving dreams for over 5,500 diverse girls in Montgomery County through the Community Bridges Girls Program. Tonight is Girl Legacy because we are celebrating the past, the present and looking forward to the future of our CB Girls Program. We say once a CB girl always a CB girl! Our girl legacy is living through all of our past and current CB Girls. Each and everyday we have girls passing the legacy down to the next generation of CB girls.

We celebrate our CB Girls! You will hear from the CB girls who have made connections and built amazing bridges through Community Bridges. They will serve as ambassadors and will share how Community Bridges has shaped who they are today. The stories and the legacy will continue, by the end of the year we plan to serve an additional 500 girls, 45 mentors, and 2,500 family members in Montgomery County.

If you have the ability to give tonight, I ask you to please make a contribution. Every dollar raised tonight will allow us to expand to even more schools in Montgomery County and serve even more diverse girls in grades 4-12. Be part of the amazing group of supporters that helps bring Community Bridges Programming to new schools in Montgomery County! Thank you for your support and for helping to change the lives of girls. CB thanks each and every one of you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shannon Babe-Thomas', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Shannon Babe-Thomas

Executive Director, Community Bridges

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Fatou Touray

AmeriCorps Member

Salena Geahwie

AmeriCorps Member

Lalebela Moore

AmeriCorps Member

Jaidyn Gambrill

CB Intern

Program

Welcome

Jummy Olabanji, News4 Anchor, Host and Co-Emcee

D. Carter, DJ WPGC 95.5, Co-Emcee

Celebrating 25 years Video

“Timeless”

Dance by Community Bridges Girls; Sabrina Quinteros Morales,
Ruth Legesse, Paola Djoko, Naatani Isdore and Sophie Preira

Julie Statland, 2022 Girl Legacy Honorary Chair

Shannon Babe-Thomas, Executive Director, Community Bridges

“If I Walk on Your Block”

Original Spoken Word by CB Girl Hadassah Alabi

Community Bridges 2022 CB Alumna Award

Fatou Touray, 2021 Graduate of Salisbury University
and CB AmeriCorps Member

“Greatest Love of All” (Whitney Houston) and “Girl on Fire” (Alicia Keys)

Sung by Hannah Germain, Madison and Michkeltha

Dinner

2022 Girl Legacy Award

Jenny Abramson

“Man in the Mirror”

Sung by Christy and Jam Ramos

2022 Legacy Award

Edward “Ted” Geier

“Differences”

Original Spoken Word by CB Girl Just Love Alabi

Girl Legacy Video

Appeal for Support

Etsube Yitbarek and Shannon Babe-Thomas

Workplace Matching Gifts

Does your workplace offer charitable donation matching gifts?
If so, please take advantage of this easy way to multiply the impact
of your gift. Check with your employer for details.

Monologue from Midsummer Night’s Dream

Performed by CB Girl Chinaza Amagwula

2022 Building Bridges Award

Senator Chris Van Hollen

Midsummer Night’s Dream Fairy Dance

*“God Must Have Spent (A Little More Time On You)” by *Nsync*

Performed by CB Girls Tanisha Vainqueur and Cephora Vainqueur

Closing Remarks

Thank You

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Jane De Angeli &
Mark Kindig



Chris Owens



Margo Reid & Greg Simon

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Deirdre Robinson

Robin Salomon



Mier Wolf

Thank you to those who donated their time and services to Community Bridges and making Girl Legacy a Success!

ARTS ON THE BLOCK for designing Girl Legacy Awards.

CARA CAPIZZI for designing everything for Girl Legacy.

NOTHING BUNDT CAKES SILVER SPRING for donating the Bundtinis on the tables this evening.

PRINT EXHIBIT PARTNERS for printing all of the banners, signs and centerpieces for Girl Legacy.

THE FILLMORE SILVER SPRING

BUD MILLER ASSOCIATES, INC. for donating all of the crystal awards given this evening.

Jummy Olabanji, Host and Co-Emcee



Jummy Olabanji co-anchors News4 Today, the #1 morning news in Washington, D.C.

A native of Fairfax County, Olabanji has spent most of her life in Virginia, graduating from Westfield High School in Chantilly and Virginia Tech. She earned a Master's degree in Communication and Leadership Studies from Gonzaga University.

Olabanji started her journalism career as an intern for NBC4. She has also worked for stations in Charlottesville, Norfolk, and New York City.

She has been honored for her work with two national Edward R. Murrow Awards for breaking news anchor coverage, two Virginia Associated Press Awards and eight EMMY Awards.

Olabanji is an advocate for organ donation and sits on the Board of Directors of the National Kidney Foundation. She is also a member of the National Association of Black Journalists, The Links, Incorporated, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

Along with her husband, Olabanji lives in Washington, D.C

D. Carter, Co-Emcee



D. Carter is a Radio/Media Personality and industry professional with a background in A&R. She established her career in the music industry while living in Los Angeles for eight years. She started as an A&R Assistant at Atlantic Records in their Urban/Hip-Hop division, where she was responsible for connecting signed artists, producers, and songwriters for potential collaborative opportunities within the Warner Music Group, Atlantic, Artist Publishing

Group (APG) family. She transitioned into radio after relocating to Washington DC and has worked for respected stations such as DC 101, Hot 99.5 and WPGC 95.5. She worked alongside radio veteran DJ Flexx as a producer and voice on his afternoon show for two years as well as on weekends. Now you can hear D.Carter on The Good Morning Show Monday through Friday from 6-10AM, where she holds the title of Executive Producer and talent.

Julie Statland, Honorary Chair



Julie is the former Managing Partner of Statland & Katz, Ltd., now a Joseph W. McCartin Insurance Company. Julie has been providing clients with quality insurance products and exceptional service for over 25 years.

Julie serves on the board of directors of Easterseals and is an active member of Leadership Greater Washington

(Class of 2016 graduate). She also previously served as the Past Chair of the Silver Spring Urban District Advisory Board, Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce and Committee for Montgomery.

Julie has a real passion for community outreach. She enjoys supporting Community Bridges through her profession, especially helping those who wish to provide for their loved ones or protect their business. Julie is the Founder and regular contributor for Riveting Women, a blog devoted to shining a spotlight on women in business, politics, arts and education.

Jenny Abramson



Jenny Abramson is the Founder & Managing Partner of Rethink Impact, the largest VC Fund in the country backing female and non-binary CEOs using tech to build \$1B+ companies by tackling the world's greatest challenges in fintech, health care, education, and the environment. She sits on the boards of Ellevest, Wellthy, Winnie, EveryDay Labs, Candidly, Sempre Health and is a board observer for Eleanor Health and Neurotrack.

Previously, Jenny served as CEO of LiveSafe, a tech security company focused on preventing school shootings and sexual assaults. She also held leadership roles at The Washington Post, Personal (a data tech company), The Boston Consulting Group, D.C. Public Schools, and Teach for America.

Jenny is a board member of the NFL Players, Inc., the Jacobs Foundation, and DC Prep. She is also a member of All Raise, co-leading their data efforts. Finally, she is an Advisory Board member of the Catalio Nexus Fund (an early-stage health focused VC fund).

Jenny was named a Forbes' Impact 50 in 2020 (alongside Bill Gates and Melinda French Gates, Serena Williams and Steve & Jean Case), Entrepreneur Magazine's 100 Powerful Women and a DC Tech Titan. She has been covered in The New York Times, in The Washington Post, and on CNN, interviewed on Squawk Box, featured at the Code Conference, at the United Nations, at the G7, and on Capitol Hill. She received bachelor's and master's degrees with honors from Stanford University, an MBA with honors and the Dean's Award from Harvard Business School (where she also served on the Investment Committee for Shareholder Responsibility for Harvard University) and was a Fulbright Scholar at The London School of Economics.

Senator Chris Van Hollen



Elected to the United States Senate by the people of Maryland in November 2016, Chris Van Hollen is committed to fighting every day to ensure that our state and our country live up to their full promise of equal rights, equal justice, and equal opportunity.

Senator Van Hollen believes that every child deserves

the opportunity to pursue their dreams and benefit from a quality education, and that anyone willing to work hard should be able to find a good job. That's why his top priorities include creating more and better jobs, strengthening small businesses, and increasing educational and job training opportunities for individuals of all ages and in every community.

Senator Van Hollen started his time in public service as a member of the Maryland State Legislature, where he became known as a tenacious advocate for everyday Marylanders and someone who was unafraid to take on powerful special interests on behalf of working people. In 2002, he was elected to represent Maryland's 8th Congressional District. In the House of Representatives, he served as a member of the Democratic leadership and was elected by his colleagues to be the Ranking Member of the House Budget Committee and protect vital interests like Social Security and Medicare.

A tireless fighter for the people of Maryland, Senator Van Hollen has also become known for working hard to find common sense solutions to difficult national issues. In January 2015, he released a comprehensive plan to address the problem of growing inequality in America and provide a blueprint for building an economy that works for everyone, a goal that he will continue to fight for in the U.S. Senate.

Senator Van Hollen is proud to have worked successfully with members of both parties to pass bipartisan legislation whenever possible on issues of common concern, including expanding medical research, protecting the Chesapeake Bay, fighting childhood cancer, and passing the ABLE Act to assist families with children with disabilities.

Chris Van Hollen is a graduate of Swarthmore College, the John F. Kennedy School of Public Policy at Harvard University, and Georgetown University Law Center where he attended night school. He and his wife, Katherine Wilkens, are the proud parents of three children, Anna, Nicholas, and Alexander.

Fatou Touray, CB Alumna and AmeriCorps Member



Fatou was born and raised in The Gambia, West Africa. She moved to Montgomery County in 2013. Fatou is an alumna of Springbrook High School. Through one of her close friends, she was introduced to Community Bridges her freshman year of high school. Upon high school graduation, she attended Salisbury University and graduated in December 2021 with a Bachelor's Degree in Public Health. Fatou previously interned for the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. Through that experience, she was given the opportunity to learn more about what it takes to serve and build a community. For leisure, she likes to listen to any genre of music depending on her mood, watch movies and tv shows (mostly Korean, Chinese, Thai, Taiwanese, etc). She loves to cook and uses her free time to go grocery shopping with her mom.

Get Involved

Volunteer

Become a CB Mentor

Donate

Host a Friend-raiser

Sign up for the CB e-Newsletter

Join the Board of Directors

Contact [Shannon Babe-Thomas](#) for details

communitybridges-md.org



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