



VEL'S VOICE

The Student Newspaper of Vel Phillips School--MCAP

JUNE 2021 * EDITION 5

David Crowley On Community & Personal Growth

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JSW, LB, SD

*Vel's Voice is a
publication where
students report
information,
demonstrate their
skills, and voice
their views.*

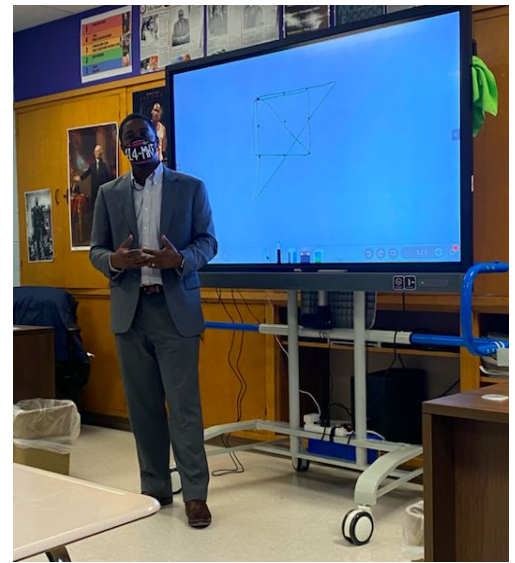
**BY: PJ, NW, SG, MJ, ET, HA,
IW, TS, TC**

Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley visited Vel Phillips classes on March 16. As he talked with different groups, we all were impressed with his message about community and change.

David Crowley is the first African American to serve as the county's top official, and, at age 33, also the youngest. Before being county executive, he was member of the Wisconsin State Assembly. He grew up in Milwaukee's hood and was even evicted as a child. He went to Bay View H.S. (HA, IW).

The main message is to think outside the box. You can do what you want. You can make it no matter where you come from (NW).

We can change in many different ways. He came from the same neighborhood as me. This motivates me (SG).



I learned that I can make it. I am like David Crowley, and I can make good out in the community I live in (IT).

We are not the future. We are the NOW (present). The youth. (MJ).

You can make mistakes; you can learn from your mistakes to be successful (Tommy).

Continued Page 5

Marquise Mays Promotes Milwaukee's Passion

BY: JWo & SB

Local filmmaker Marquise Mays visited Vel Phillips on March 23 to meet with MCAP students. The visit was arranged by Ms. Kirchman, the school's Instructional Coach of Literacy, Equity, and Engagement.

Marquise Mays has made films about his Milwaukee hometown. He grew up in Milwaukee, moved to L.A., and then returned to his home city. When he returned, he sought to make films about Milwaukee. His goal is to make people proud of Milwaukee. The next film he is working on tells about gun violence from the perspective of children.

Most recent film *Heartland* is about pride. *Heartland* tells about challenges of black Milwaukeeans told from the perspective of children after they've grown into young adults. The film puts a mirror on the community so others can relate to it, see the realness/greatness in it but also the problems it suffers because of racism and unfair policies.

What did you think about Marquise Mays and his movie *Heartland*?

He is a really cool dude. He answered all his questions. He's intelligent. He also has a passion for his work and loves it. I also really appreciated his movie because it is about our city, where I am born and raised. Also, it is well made, and the people in it are well spoken with their words (JW).

If you made your own movie about Milwaukee, what would be in it?

If I made a movie about Milwaukee, I would expose those who are oppressing and racist. I would show people that play a part in a bigger game that's designed to keep us under. I would show how we are not just as people but as a community. But my community needs to come together and stand up not to be factory workers but the kings and queens were made to be. We need to be heard (SB).



What did you learn from Marquise Mays?

I learned even people with slightly different stories show how little has changed. Where you live is where you die just as the generation before you. Some folks don't understand and don't want to understand. They just give a fake side (SB).

The movie inspired that we need to push harder for history that's not always made clear and yet is hidden to us. Our protests are not riots; our conversations are not arguments (SB).

Thanks to Marquise Mays and Ms. Kirchman for the great visit!

Young Talent Materializing in Milwaukee

On his visit, Marquise Mays pointed out that Milwaukee has many young creative talents who are fueling projects and stories to showcase our city. In addition to Marquise Mays, Nyeshia Stone edits the Carved in Stone Blog to bring good news to the city. Rappers from Milwaukee Ish-DARR, Coo Coo Cal, Rico Love, Gerald Walker, and Lakeyah Danaee.

Vel Phillips boasts lots of young talent as well.

ET: I'm a great influencer, rapper, dancer, writer, and teacher of young men. A lot of young men would follow my footsteps. I can encourage young men to do the right thing. I can take what I learned in DBT and help others apply the same lessons to their lives. And I can do this through my creativity and talent, through my words that I know can reach the the same way that they reached me.

HA: I'm good at drawing and painting. I want to help people be something in life.

DA: I like to rap, play basketball, play football. I like to show people how to do these things.

PJ: One of my talents is football. I also like to draw and be part of the newspaper. I also like to talk with others. DBT has taught me a lot while in DT, so hopefully I can try some of these skills on the outs.

KJ: I am a young and creative talent because I can read, write, and speak really well. I'm also a good listener and learner. I have perfect spelling. I am a fast runner with stamina. I'm a good basketball and football player.

DJ: I want to be a preacher--to talk to young kids, that high speeds are not a god option. People can end up dead. I will try to convince people there is a God--and God is good. I want to find other opportunities to speak to others. I'm a good speaker.

EP: I want to be a personal trainer. I am talented in helping people with this. I want people to work out and get strong. I also want to show people it is fun and rewarding to work out. I want to lead people to a healthier, fit life as a personal trainer.

JWo: I am a young talent in Milwaukee because I can draw pretty much anything you name.

VEL'S VALUES

School at Vel R. Phillips Juvenile Justice Center

We learn and work to make Vel's Values OUR Values.

Grace = kind and pleasant.

Persistence = continuing to goals without stopping.

Integrity = honest, genuine, trustworthy.

Vel Phillips was a Milwaukee lawyer, politician, civil rights activist, and judge who worked for people's rights, including the rights of youth in Milwaukee. She was the first woman and African American woman in many of the positions she held.

BY: IW



David Crowley Visit, Continued

David Crowley grew up like we did, has been through the same situations. We can make it through, like him, when we think outside the box, do what we want, have fear, and also take accountability (ET)

We can bring positivity to our black community if we put our minds to it.. No matter how the world may see our city, change starts from within. (TC).

Young Talent in MCAP, Continued

I can really make it as an artist. Also, I want to go to school so I can master my skills and get better and better--so I can succeed as a creative young man from Milwaukee.

TC: I'm creative. I can hoop to the highest level. I can become a business owner and sell houses because I'm good at negotiating the right deal for someone's interest.

JW: I'm interested in real estate because I always wanted to own houses and other things since I was young . It's good money and a good business to be in. I will be helping people by renting houses at prices we both can agree on.

SL: I can use my insightful writing. I am capable of explaining and detailing a story better than the average individual. I can share my writing skills with others to provide them with the same skills as me. I also drive in song writing because of my exquisite vocabulary. If I continue,, I may be able to take a career as a journalist, song writer, or author. To have these talents is to have a second voice; and I will use it.



BY: VJ

Life Through Our Brown Eyes

I am an African American

I am proud of being an African American

I love my Brown Eyes & Caramel Skin Tone

But sometimes when I wake up, I ask myself... What trouble will the color of my skin bring me today?

I honestly feel that it is totally absurd that I get judged by the color of my skin and not the content of my character.

I feel it's totally absurd that us' as colored boys growing up to be colored men or colored girls growing up to be colored women. Have to sometimes use these personalities that our totally different from who we actually are to feel welcomed or needed or accepted by the outsider' because we are afraid that the outsider' will label us "Savage or "Inhumane" because the way we walk or the way we talk or the way we dress or how we look.

It's just crazy how the outsider' never takes into consideration that we are all equal in the eyes of our maker. Because one day when we leave this earth, standing quietly in front of our maker 'the Most Highest' waiting on him to judge us, he will judge us by the content of one's character, not the color of one's skin. So how can we as "basic" human beings take it upon ourselves to judge one another by the color of one's skin or the texture of one's hair or the money in one's pocket. As these are all things that we cannot control, but we try to control so that we may feel equal or accepted to or by the outsider'

So we bleach our colorful skin or we damage our thick, curly brown or black hair or we go robbing and stealing for money only to boost our self-esteem.

Whole time we lack the fact that our self-esteem should already be high. As we are the ONLY ones with the rich, long curly brown and black hair or the Bronze, Caramel or Tan skin tone.

That's not the outsider!

So why do we as African Americans try so hard to be accepted by someone who looks totally different from us when we are already great in our own ways?

Because our maker whether that's 'God, 'Allah or the 'Higher Power or whomever you may believe in. Made us in the example of his image. He didn't make us so that we would bleach our colorful skin or change the texture of our hair. For the liking of someone who really doesn't matter at all.

Because when our 'Maker' the 'Most Highest' judges us on Judgement Day. It will be by the content of our character and what we did doing our time here on earth.

So it just doesn't make sense to me how here on Earth, known as the waiting room for Heaven. Ones skin make's he or she more Superior or more Intelligent or more Attractive than the other.

And for the record I am not judging anybody for I am not 'Allah the Most Highest'. I'm just simply speaking on a topic that my Brothers and Sisters have been afraid to speak on for Centuries

As this is
LIFE THROUGH OUR BROWN EYES.

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Dedicated to "The Heartland"

MCAP Voices

Woman Who Raised Me

BY: DG

Growing up we ain't have everything,
But life was real hard without a father.
Figure, she did her best playing that father roll,
And a great mom is all that I can wish for.

Seeing a smile on her face meant everything.
Working 3 jobs wasn't easy--she did what she did to make us
happy.
We always had a roof over our heads and a home-cooked meal.

I know I broke her heart by coming to this place.
You raised me better than that and taught me stuff at the end of the
day.

Seeing you cry wasn't the best way.
You scream and you yell to show you care.
When I ain't listen and left the house.
You called to make sure I'm safe.

When a 16 or 17 year-old boy was on the news, you made sure it
wasn't yo baby boy's face.
Seein' a momma who cares, I'm blessed.
It's not a lot out there like you.

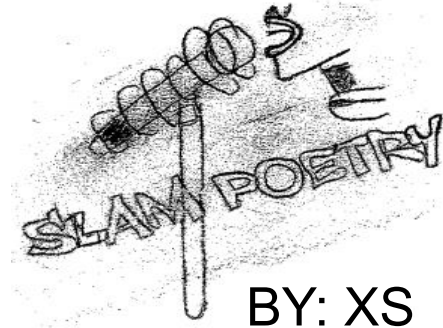
I think about you every day and how we gonna make away,
To make it out of the hood one day.

But more of the story, I got a momma who cares.

And that's the momma who raised me.

No detention stays
This is not the place to
be
Never coming back

--JWo



The universe abyss
Black--power in the stars
Black holds up the heaven

--SB

Brothers stick
together
Fly together
And ball forever

--JWo

Blackout poem

The small of earth
Life in the woods
Old trees and
hundreds of plants
Flowers blooming
beneath the stars

--SL

My pain Life

**Five in one day
Being shot in broad day
Ta kicked out, not having a place to stay.
You wouldn't believe me if I said half my pain.**

**The system a dirty game
Being locked away.
Treated like a slave.
All come from trying to make my way.
You wouldn't believe me if I said half my pain.**

**It all started at 12
First time going to jail
I was scared as h*ll.**

**All came from tryna make a way.
You wouldn't believe mew if I said half my pain.**

--MJ

Past Protest Eras Help Us Understand Today

BY: DG

BY: KJ

Looking at protest eras of the past gives a better understanding and appreciation of the world in which we live and of the protests happening today.

Today's protests connect with many others that have happened in America. For information in this article, I used National Geographic article *To understand today's protests, you must look further back* (Thomas Sugrue, June 11, 2020).

The first wave of protests came in the 1900s when the country recovered from WWI. The country was divided by different beliefs on race & gender. Many were against immigration.

In the second wave (1943-1959), many black workers left the south to seek jobs in the north. Many feared the rising black competition for jobs and housing. Many race riots broke out throughout the country. In L.A. mobs attacked Mexican-Americans.

After continuing to experience years of injustice and unfairness, minority groups (led by African Americans) began grassroots organizing against racist segregation and discrimination. The biggest problems were in employment, housing, and transportation. Leaders like Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr. emerged to give a voice to the movement and draw greater attention. They marched in Birgimham, Alabama demanding an end to discrimination and equal access to stores, restaurants, and public services.



In Milwaukee, leaders Fr. Groppi, Vel Phillips, and the Youth Council of the NAACP worked to better the housing situation for African Americans. For years, banks practiced redlining, where minorities were denied home loans and services and therefore prevented from living in properties that allowed them to build family wealth. Working as an alderperson, Vel Phillips proposed several open housing laws. Fr. Goppi and the Youth council organized 200 days of marches in 1968.

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Milwaukee Civil Rights, Continued

Since the Civil Rights era of the 1960s, anger shows there are still tensions. Protests today are similar to before in that they stem from unfairness. They are different in that they tend to occur more in downtown areas, you see a lot of different types of people behind the protests, and social media fuels action. And there's a continuing effort to bend the arc of history toward justice.

Milwaukee's Role in Civil Rights (BY: MJ and NW)

Milwaukee was important in the country's civil rights history because of our role in the fair housing movement and fighting segregation. Peaceful protests helped make changes and end the blatant redlining that existed then. The marches lasted 200 days in a row, and the whole nation started paying attention.

A Vision For Our Future (BY: MJ, SG, KJ, IW, KE)

If we set our minds, we can accomplish anything (SG).

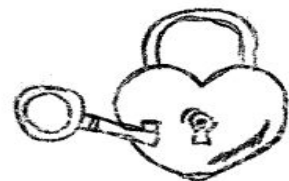
Everyone needs to work as one (MJ).

All types of injustices need to end--physical and mental (IW).

Teach others we are not a threat. Some people look at us in a certain way and treat us a certain way just because of who we are. We are not a threat (KE).

Everyone needs to be united as one (KJ).

UNITY



BY: KJ

Why Vel Phillips Is A Big Deal

BY: EP, SL, JWo, VJ, TC, ET, DJ

Our school is named for Vel Phillips. So just who is Vel Phillips?

People make a big deal about her because she fought for our city and state. Her life was never easy, but she always showed happiness and success (SL).

Vel Phillips was born in Milwaukee and went to Milwaukee elementary and high schools. She attended Howard University and the University of Wisconsin Law School. She was the first African American woman to graduate from the University of Wisconsin–Madison Law School. Later, she would become the first to win a seat on Milwaukee's City Council and the first to become Secretary of State in Wisconsin (EP).

She decided to try to make the lives of others better by running for elected office. She was excited to get to work on Milwaukee's Common Council. She worked for many years to get a fair housing bill passed. It finally passed in 1968 (ET and JWo).

If Vel Phillips was still alive today, I would ask her recipe for greatness and how she stayed on angle through all the challenges and darkness. She would probably tell me that it's just what she does. (SL).

Something I can learn from Vel Phillips is to never give up, keep going when times are hard (JWo).

What We Would Change About Milwaukee

Vel Phillips did a lot to improve Milwaukee. These are some things we would change about Milwaukee if we could.

I would change our youth's hobbies and character traits. Instead of stealing cars, play basketball. Instead of angry faces, humorous attitudes (SL).

I would change the crime rate in my city because I hate the way everybody looks at us (VJ).

I would change the segregation of the city and mix everybody up because the city is too segregated (TC).

I would encourage everyone to stop the high speeds and to go to college (DJ).

HIGH
Speeds
Kill
Go
to
College

BY: DJ

Bucks Feature Family Values With Unique Bands of Brothers

BY: KJ & ET

The Bucks have had unique bands of brothers playing together for the team or on other teams in the NBA. Last year, center Brook Lopez played with his brother, Robin, on the team. This year, Robin Lopez plays for the Washington Wizards.

Perhaps the most famous brothers associated with the Bucks are the Antetokounmpos. Giannis Antetokounmpo (26) has two older brothers and two younger brothers. The oldest (Francis) does not play basketball anymore but the rest do. Thanasis (who many believe is the brother Giannis is closest to) also plays for the Bucks. Kostas is on the Lakers. Alex plays in Greece.

Francis Antetokounmpo is 32 years old. He was born in Africa and moved with the family to Greece, where all the other brothers were born. Francis did play basketball when he was young but never progressed to any professional levels. He does have the same athleticism as his brothers, though: he has played professional soccer for teams in Greece and Nigeria.

Thanasis (28) had a bumpy road in his NBA career. He was drafted in the 2nd round of the 2014 draft. He played in the U.S., Spain, Greece, and for Liga ACB before finally getting signed by the Bucks. He has a nice role with the Bucks, filling in especially when Giannis is out of the lineup.

Kostas (23) was the final pick of the 2018 NBA Draft. Initially selected by the Philadelphia 76ers, he was traded to the Dallas Mavericks. He played with the Maverick's developmental team. He is now on the Lakers, bumping back and forth from the developmental team to the pro team.

Alex is only 19 and is a small forward on Liga ACB in Greece. He has a lot of time to prove himself and maybe make it to the NBA.

When Giannis came to America to play basketball, he probably couldn't imagine he would have so many brothers and other family members so close by. This certainly makes him happy.



Continued Page 15

BY: KJ

Holiday Brothers

This offseason, the Bucks traded for one notable star, Jrue Holiday. Recently, they signed Jrue to a big contract to keep him in the Buck's family.

Interestingly, Jrue is not the only Holiday to play in the NBA. Two of his brothers, Justin and Aaron, play for the Indiana Pacers. The three brothers have always done everything together. Jrue likes to watch his brothers play. They are sure to support one another when important events occur in their lives.

Family is particularly important to Jrue Holiday. Nothing comes before his wife or daughter. He tries to help with his family as much as he can and show unconditional family love. When his wife Lauren suffered from a brain tumor, Jrue left the NBA to help with his family.

Bucks Focus on Family Pays Off

BY: SB, JWa, JSW, DJ, LB, TH, JWo

Giannis grew up in humble, poor surroundings in Greece. He didn't have enough to eat, so he was scary skinny. He had to walk a long ways to get to his basketball gym, and many times he would sleep in the gym (SB).

He was successful because he kept going through any hardship, kept going, kept going (JWa).

Family has always been extremely important to Giannis. He wanted to play in the NBA because of his big brother. He didn't want to leave his family to come to America to play, but he did so he could support them. He would not, though, go to the NBA Draft unless someone from his family accompanied him. Thanasis came with (JB). In his rookie season, he felt so homesick that he would sleep in the Buck's practice gym, and he almost left the team to go home. Eventually, the rest of his family joined him in America and most of his brothers started playing professionally in America too (LSW and DJ).

Giannis signed a big contract to stay in Milwaukee. Basketball is his way out and it helps him take care of his family. (TH). He decided to stay in Milwaukee because our people love him, we had enough money to pay him, and the Bucks are family oriented. Giannis has most of his family here. He is happy. (JWo).



BY: PJ

Big East Leads the Way in Hiring Coaches of Color

BY: DG & KJ

Most major men's college basketball conferences have only a few black head coaches, far less than what they should have. There are only 17 coaches on the high major level overall. But, the Big East (the conference that Marquette plays in) has more black coaches than any other.

60% of the Big East's teams, including Marquette, have black head coaches. Besides Marquette, this list of those with black coaches includes Butler (LaVall Jordan), DePaul (Tony Stubblefield), Georgetown (Patrick Ewing), Providence (Ed Cooley), and St. John's (Mike Anderson).

Recently, Marquette has been good at hiring people of color in different areas of the school. The basketball hire just reinforces this and shows it can happen in a high-profile position.

Shaka Smart was hired by Marquette just earlier this year. He comes from Texas and is the most experienced new coach in Marquette's history. He is a good hire because he will improve the program and increase diverse recruitment on campus.

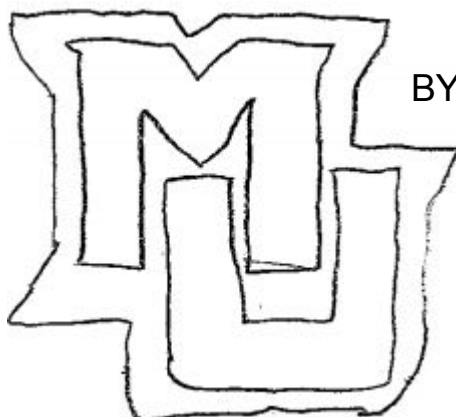
Shaka is doing a good job. He's improving the program so the players will stay. He's making the campus better, bringing players to the school specifically because of him And you'll see in the long run people will want to play for Shaka, will want to play for Marquette, He brought players already that were going to go to Texas but changed to Marquette because of their relationship with him.

Welcome, Shaka Smart! And shout out to Marquette for the Smart hire!

BY: SL



BY: DJ



BY: SD

CREATING HEALTH & HABITS WITH SMOOTHIES IN THE CLASSROOM



In Ms. Crowley's WIN class, students make and drink healthy smoothies made from berries, yogurt, mangos, bananas, spinach, and cucumbers.

THANK YOU

Butch Callen and Colder's
Furniture for the gracious
donation of cardboard

Used in MCAP
Intro to Cardboard Cutting

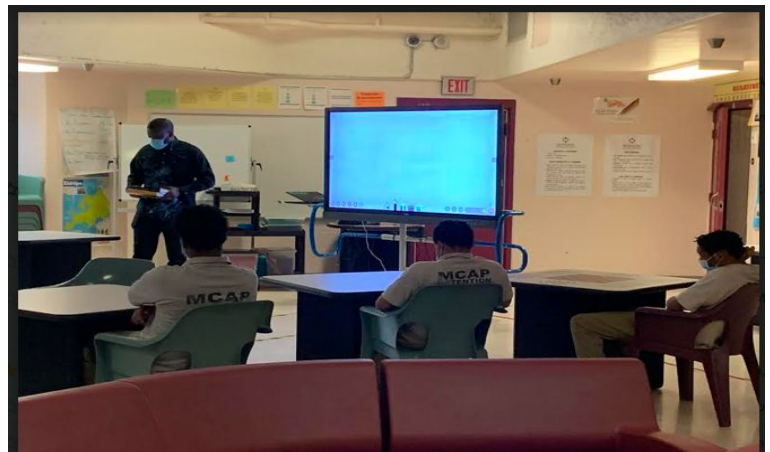
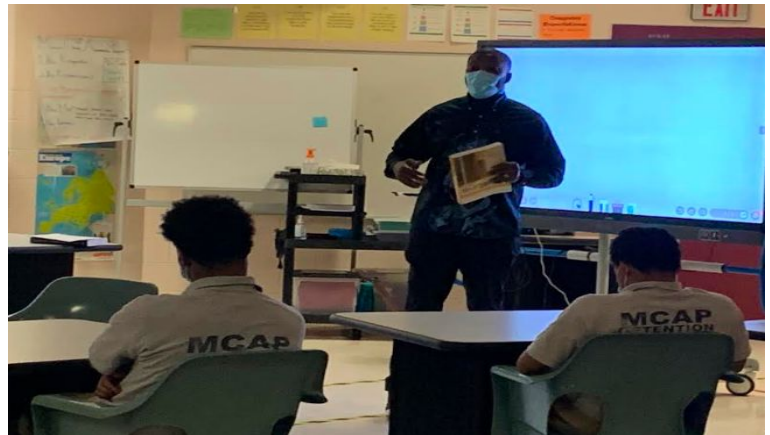
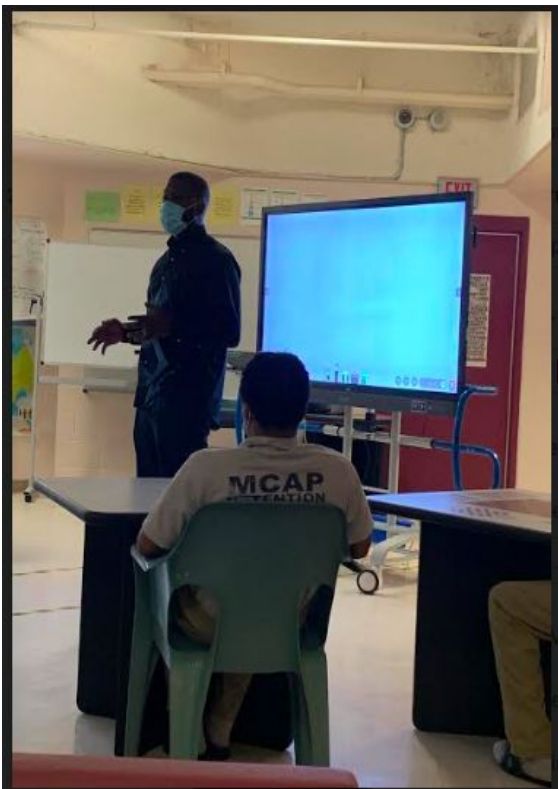
MCAP Makerspace

Goslings born at Vel May 2, 2021

Geese near our school often lay eggs. This year, a few nests ended up in the garden boxes near South 1. At the time of this publication, one set of eggs hatched. After giving the new goslings some water, Ms. Crowley and Mr. V brought them to their new home and fo



REAL ESTATE LESSONS OFFER OPPORTUNITIES FOR CAREERS AND COMMUNITY HOUSING



BRANDON CULPEPPER VISITS MCAP ON APRIL 14 TO TALK ABOUT REAL ESTATE INVESTING

In MCAP, we worked on understanding housing and real estate. In Civics class, we learned about Milwaukee's history of Civil Rights, especially on housing issues. In Careers/Math, we learned many aspects of the real estate industry.

Renting Vs. Owning

By: MJ

Is it better to rent or own a home?

Renting

You pay less up front. You may not be able to update or personalize your living space. However, repairs--if needed--are usually less. Your rent may increase in the future. The typical increase can be 3% each year. Finally, it is easier to leave a rental property than one you own.

Owning

Most home mortgage loans require a downpayment and may require closing costs. The more you put down towards the price of the house, the better because you'll need to borrow less (and pay less interest).

An advantage to owning a house is you can decorate it any way you like and make bigger changes to the home when you decorate. A disadvantage is that it's more expensive. But over time, your money will come back to you. Once you've paid everything off, you can rent it out or sell it.

Depending on the type of mortgage rate you choose, your monthly costs might not increase. However, home values can rise or fall over time.

It is important to understand the cost of a home is more than just a purchase price. For many who want to own a home, saving enough money to cover the initial expenses can be difficult. A buyer will need lots of money for upfront costs.

10 Steps To Buying A House

BY: VJ & TH

1. Do your research. Look at websites, newspapers to get a sense of housing trends, costs, etc.
2. Figure out how much you can afford. It is good to try to pay for 20% of the house up front. This will put you in a better financial situation.
3. Get prequalified and preapproved credit for your mortgage. You need to provide some information to your mortgage banker, such as your income, savings, and investments.

4. Find the right real estate agent. Real estate agents can provide helpful information that isn't easy to find. They understand the buying process, negotiating, and neighborhoods.
5. See different houses and buy the house you want.
6. Get a home inspection. Make sure all is right with it!
7. Work with a bank to select a loan that works for you and won't make it too hard in the long run.
8. Have the home appraised.
9. Put together all the paperwork. You might get help from your agent or a lawyer.
10. Close the sale.

Real Estate Careers To Consider

BY: WEST 3

Real Estate is a good way to make money and find a career. These are some of the different careers in real estate. These are careers that never go away.

Investor * buys properties or land, improves or prepares them, sells for a profit.

Agent * helps people buy or sell houses or business buildings.

Developer * buys land and builds properties to later sell and make a profit.

Broker * same as an agent except this person may have their own firm.

Home Inspector * checks out properties for any defects or issues that will cause problems for the buyer, seller, or agent.

Appraiser * determines the value of commercial or residential real estate.

Property Manager * makes sure properties are in good shape, fixes or updates things as needed.

Real Estate Attorney * deal with legal issues involving property disputes or other legal matters.

Besides being stable careers in real estate, these jobs give us a chance to go into our communities and be a part of the solution-- offering services for quality, fair, affordable housing.

LATEST FROM THE LIBRARY

Featured Book:

He Said, She Said

BY Kwame Alexander

Omar, the best football player in his high school, and Claudia, the smartest girl in the school, meet through Facebook and Twitter while working on the biggest social protest at their school. These two come together by accident but stay together for a purpose.

Past and Present Poetry Sparks Student Spirit

GEN POP ENGLISH

In Gen Pop English, we celebrated April's National Poetry Month. Focusing on the story of poet Donte Clark, they watched the documentary *Romeo is Bleeding* and studied his poetry. We compared Donte's life to the story that inspired him--*Romeo & Juliet*.

Our scholars loved performing Shakespeare in class while learning that many "old stories" have similar themes and lessons as today's stories. Throughout the month, we wrote and performed acrostic poems, haikus, and slam poems.

Overall it was a busy and inspirational month!

Review: Romeo is Bleeding

BY: DG

Romeo is Bleeding is a film about healing, being whole, and love. It was made in 2015 by Donte Clark, a poet from California. The documentary tells of the struggles of Donte's hometown, (Richmond, California) and Donte's quest to heal the town and showcase local talent by rewriting Shakespeare's play *Romeo & Juliet*.

Donte Clark said his hometown needed more poetry readings because there was too much talent in town and too much focus on violence. When he had them step up to recite poetry, he asked them if they lost someone to shootings. He's healing them by talking to them about it. And healing himself by writing poems so he can express himself.

Donte talks about people being free from selling drugs and doing other things on the street through the project to rewrite *Romeo and Juliet*. Reaching out to people to make it out of the hood.

If you hate everyone and everybody, you will never be happy or have a smile on your face. Deep, deep down inside is love. You have to love somebody. You have to love yourself. Love, love is the key.

Drama

BY: KW

Bullets flying
People dying
Mam'sa crying

Thank God I am still
Alive
Want to have a rich life
Move right
To see my wife and kids
Got God on my side
When I ride through the city
I know it ain't right
Father God
But I will keep you with me
Now locked in this penitentiary
Asking God forgive me
Please forgive me

Untitled

BY: AT

Part I
Depresion uncaged
Suicidal emotions
Yet the light keeps me safe now

Part II
The soil beneath
But only for so long, why?
Vividly in rain

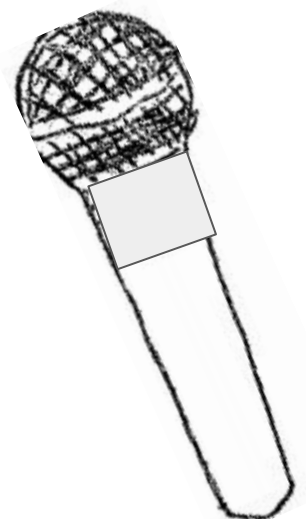
Part III
Shh! Hear the trees talk
The wind blows and whispers soft
More than ever, life!

Right Way

BY: RJ

I am not trying to be a fool
So I'm gonna graduate from school

Even when locked up
Mr. G giving me the tools
Trying to make my momma proud
Not trying to please a crowd
Those out here stealing cars
Them little boys are clowns
Looking forward to a new life
Probably gonna move to Vegas
Ain't talking about nothing
I need to earn that paper



BY: JWa

Mama's First Born

BY: JL

I;m sorry for the things I did in the past
Remembering all those days we used to sit and laugh
Remembering all those days you had to call a cab
I was just happy to see you laugh

First one out and I'm still up
Had to come a long way
Now you see me moving up

Remembering those days you had to put on makeup
Had to tell dad to wake all the little kids up

I love you, mom, I really do.
But there's gonna be a lot a crazy things that a young
boy is gonna do

FIRST DAY OUT

BY: JF

First day outta that place
Hug my mama
Gave Lil Bro some chicken
Bracelet on my leg
Went to school and got suspended
Too young for the County
So
They send me to detention
Hope they pull up at 2:30
I can give them all a mention
Life is too short--best send mr on a mission

Documentary

BY: ML

I am trying to go as far as the life'll take me
They don't like to see me strong
Some people trying to break me
Feels like black against white
Wanna see us separated?

You don't think it's crazy?
Be a father and a mother
If you got a baby
Problems coming at you fast

We all have to face it
Every one of us should love
Never show hatred

Bam! Bam!

BY: AF

(Inspired by Daniel Beaty's *Knock Knock*)

Bam Bam
There goes another beat
Another life taken by violence in the street

Bam Bam
There goes another beat
Another life taken by violence in the street

Bam Bam
Can't go to the park no more
Everybody hating
You gotta take care of your own

Bam Bam
When is this going to stop?
We gotta join hands
Stop arguing about different blocks

Bam Bam
Another mother crying
What will it take to keep the young from dying?

Bam Bam

Carvd n Stone Magazine Celebrates Milwaukee's Positive News

BY: ET, DG, HA, PJ, SL, VJ

Earlier this year, MCAP students met several times with Nyesha Stone, a local journalist and editor of the Carvd n Stone Blog. This spring, Carvd n Stone put together a magazine, *Best of CNS 2020*.

The magazine points out much talent in Milwaukee. It contains fantastic biographies, fashion trends, award winners, store spotlights, descriptions of events, businesses, projects, and community events. Also highlighted are poets, photographers, graphic artists, and scholarship winners. A big thank you to the CNS staff for spotlighting such positive news of so many in Milwaukee who we would otherwise not know about.

Here are just a few highlights of the magazine:

Project Founded

Shelby Macena wrote portraits of people of Oakland, CA, documenting the stories and experiences of underrepresented communities in the Bay Area.

Malik Johnson Receives Grammy

Malik Johnson has been playing cello since 3rd grade. Recently, Malik received a Grammy award for his cello work in Gospel singer Kirk Franklin's *Long Live Love*.

Say Werd Clothing

Benny Tralongo, owner of SayWerd Clothing, found a home for his store on Oakland Ave. They sell Streetwear, Vintage, and Collectibles. Tralongo took a chance opening this up during a pandemic, even with two young children. If we can make it through these times, he believes, his business can make it through anything.

CNS Milwaukee Creative Scholarship Winner Tyree Pope III

Tyree will use the scholarship to fund his first comic book. Has been working on a book for the last five years and has already paid the costs of half of the illustrations. He would like to blend the book into other scripts he has written. One day, he'd like to convert all these to films.

CNS Milwaukee Creative Scholarship Winner Michael Snowden

Funds from the scholarship will be used to buy a new camera and editing computer to create content at the highest level with the hopes of submitting to film festivals and having community conversations.

CNS Milwaukee Creative Scholarship Winner Fardowso Shidad

Fardowso wants to educate herself so that she can enlighten her community and give back to those she knows are suffering. She works hard in school because education is the only way she can change lives. Fardowso is a hard-working teen who strongly believes in working on self and searching for opportunities for growth, like the CNS 2020 scholarship.