



Jack and Jill Center's mission is to strengthen children and families through innovative education, supportive programming, and community engagement.

Jack & Jill Center hosts our 1st Annual Winter Carnival, Greg The Barber makes a return, Our schools celebrate Black History Month, VPK students get a *taste* of elementary school, Valentine's Day spreads love across both campuses, and more!

**February eNewsletter**

**February 23rd, 2023**



## **The Friends of Jack & Jill Center Host 1st Annual Winter Carnival**

The Friends of Jack & Jill Center hosted their first annual Winter Carnival bringing smiles and fun to over 500+ attendees!

The carnival featured tons of carnival rides, games, arts & crafts, signature carnival food, face painting, a photo wall, live DJ, and so much more! The Dual Lane Inflatable Slide, Ballistic Swings, Rock Climbing, Bounce Houses, Sports Center, and Phantoms Revenge were top attractions!

Families of Jack & Jill Center and the community were left raving about the fun-filled day, and are already inquiring about the next year!

A huge thank you to everyone who came out to have fun, volunteered and of course all of our generous sponsors!

Click [here](#) to see more photos from the event!

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## Greg The Barber Is a Cut Above

Greg Young, the owner of Noblemen's Cut and Shave and CEO of the Backpack Barber Foundation, is an enthusiastic partner of Jack & Jill Center. Over the summer Greg has been providing free haircuts for boys ages 3 and up! On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month, Greg sets up shop in the Jack & Jill Boutique, now outfitted with his own barber's chair, and gives children a fresh cut and inspiring conversation!

Greg's mission is to educate and empower our youth to believe in themselves and their future through education, dedication and follow through. Greg, no stranger to the hardships that life can bring, is so excited that he can use his passion to help those in need and inspire and motivate the youth while doing what he loves to do!



For more information about Greg and his foundation, click [here](#).

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## Jack & Jill Center Celebrates Black History Month

This entire month of February is filled with exciting, educational, inspiring activities focused on Black History!

All month-long, team members and students are decorating the campus to showcase, celebrate and honor all African Americans from all periods of history. Staff and students also wear shirts each week that honor Black historical figures.

Both campuses are also hosting a Black History Spirit week in which students and team members will get to dress according to BHM themed days. We will also have a showcase to close out the month where students

from Early Ed and MHA will be performing songs, dances, poems, etc. in honor of Black History Month!

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## **VPK Students Get a Taste of Elementary School**

Our VPK students got their first taste of elementary school by visiting the Madelaine Halmos Academy school cafeteria and enjoying lunch with their future peers!

The transition from Early Education into Elementary school can be somewhat challenging for young students. They enter into the world of lesson plans, a new schedule without naps and an entirely new open campus. However, the students get to transition from eating family-style in their Early Education classroom, to eating with their schoolmates in the cafeteria at the elementary school. This is an exciting change many students look forward to!



It is important for Early Education & MHA school leaders to collaborate and create these special visits to the elementary school to ensure a smooth transition for our young learners as they approach the end of their time in Early Education and begin their grade school journey.

One of the benefits of this transition taking place on the Jack & Jill Center campus is that the next stop for many VPK students is just down the hall!

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## **A Campus Full of Love & Smiles**

Valentine's Day brought Jack & Jill Center students, educators and staff a campus full of love, smiles and so much joy! Profound Sound Productions gifted and installed beautiful Valentine's Day photo backdrops at each school for students and team members to take photos in front of on this "day of love"!

Students at both Early Ed and MHA marched into school with their festive attire and ready to strike a pose! Teachers added even more joy to the day, planning Valentine themed activities and crafts.

Team Members also took part in the excitement, with the finale of their "Secret Sweetheart" activity and handing out sweet treats

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## Upcoming Events

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### Annual Sistrunk Parade & Festival

**Saturday, February 25th, 9:00am**

Join us as Jack & Jill Center represents our school at the Annual Sistrunk Parade and Festival. The parade features several local businesses, schools, ROTC, steppers stepping, drill teams twirling, decorated floats and more! The Parade represents the richness of Broward's multi-cultural flavor, strong traditions, and features fun and excitement for the entire family! Throughout the Sistrunk Parade, you will also have an opportunity to support local vendors. Don't miss this amazing community-unifying event.



If you are interested in volunteering and/or participating with Jack & Jill Center in the Sistrunk Festival, please contact Amber Binford ([abinford@jackandjillcenter.org](mailto:abinford@jackandjillcenter.org))

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## Jack & Jill Center's Winter Open House

Wednesday, March 8th, 6:30pm

Prospective families are invited to join us on Wednesday, March 8th, at 6:30pm for our Winter Open House. This is an amazing opportunity for new families to explore Jack & Jill Center's Early Education Program and our state-of-the-art elementary school, Madelaine Halmos Academy – come see why Jack & Jill Center may be the perfect fit for you and your family!

We are currently enrolling 6 weeks-VPK4 & Grades K-5! If you or anyone you know are interested in attending, Click [here](#) to RSVP.

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## 2023 Flip Flops on the Dock

Saturday, March 18th, 6:30pm-10:30pm

Voted the Best Nonprofit Fundraiser of 2021 by Fort Lauderdale Magazine – the 18th Annual PEDIATRIX Flip Flops on the Docks will be held on Saturday, March 18, 2023!

Tickets are now on sale! Click [here](#) to purchase your tickets!

For more information, please contact Special Events Manager, Emma Hadley, at [ehadley@jackandjillcenter.org](mailto:ehadley@jackandjillcenter.org) or (954) 463 - 8772, ext. 206.



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