

MARYLAND



2024 DISTRICT AWARDS BANQUET

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2024 * MARTIN'S WEST CATERERS - BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



God's Blessings and Congratulations to the Maryland AAU!

Benjamin Dubose, Governor

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Congregation of the
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Church Services:

Sunday Church School - 8:30 a.m.

***Morning Worship* - 10:00 a.m.**

***Bible Study* Wednesday - 7:00 p.m.**

***Prayer and Praise Service* Friday - 12:00 p.m.**

Women's Ministry - Last Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

Men's Fellowship - Fourth Saturday of every month at 10:00 a.m.

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Welcome to the 2024 Maryland District AAU Awards Banquet Ceremony!

Hello and Welcome!

Thank you for being here to celebrate the incredible achievements of our organization and its phenomenal members!

As we wrap up an exhilarating year with the Maryland District Amateur Athletic Union (AAU), I want to express my deepest gratitude for all your hard work, dedication, and support. Your commitment truly inspires us all!

Our AAU programs do much more than build sports skills—they foster personal growth, build essential life skills, and help athletes reach their fullest potential. These programs are crafted to motivate, inspire, guide and enhance character and confidence.

The AAU experience empowers athletes with the resilience, teamwork, leadership, and sportsmanship they need to thrive in all areas of life. Each skill they build here adds to their journey, helping them grow both on and off the field.

Today, we're thrilled to recognize our AAU Athlete Awardees. These athletes are not just talented competitors; they're dedicated, determined, and ready to push their limits. Their resilience and commitment make them truly deserving of this honor!

Of course, none of this would be possible without the unwavering support of coaches, volunteers, family, and friends. Your encouragement and guidance are invaluable to the success of these athletes.

On behalf of the Maryland District AAU Executive Committee, I extend heartfelt congratulations to all Coaches, Volunteers, and Athletes in the Maryland District who distinguished themselves in AAU competitions throughout 2024.

May this year be remembered for the wonderful friendships formed, the cherished memories, and the shared experiences in AAU Sports.

Let's make today's celebration one to remember!

Ben DuBose, Maryland District Governor

www.marylandaaau.org

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2024 MD AAU AWARDS PROGRAM



Welcome	Gary Brooks - Chairperson, Maryland AAU District Review Committee
Presentation of Colors	
Honoring Veterans for Service	Ben DuBose, Governor - Maryland AAU District
Introductions: MD District Officers, Sports Directors & Mistress of Ceremonies	Karen Brooks - Banquet Committee
Mistress of Ceremonies	Tanya V. Rush , Mistress of Ceremonies
Introduction of Head Table, Banquet Committee & Helpers.....	Tanya V. Rush
Invocation.....	Deacon Dean Eversley - Men's Basketball Sport Director, Maryland AAU
Banquet Housekeeping.....	Tanya V. Rush
Dinner & MD AAU "Year In Review"	
Awards - Jump Rope	Megan Reith - Sport Director
Awards - Swimming	Pastor Antoinette DuBose - Sport Director, & Bryan Saxton, CMSL Liaison
Awards - Volleyball	Rich Comly - Sport Director
John Considine Award	Maurice Ward - 2nd Lieutenant Governor, Maryland AAU
Taekwondo	Natalie Michael
Presentation - Jump Rope	Megan Reith - Sport Director
Awards - Boys Basketball	Ben DuBose & LaKeesha Beverly, 3rd Lieutenant Governor, MD AAU
Awards - Girls Basketball	Thomas "TC" Caviness - Sport Director
Benjamin DuBose - Overcoming Adversity Award	McCarroll Nole, Past Maryland AAU Lieutenant Governor
Volunteer of the Year Award/Maryland and National.....	Tracey Estep - Secretary, Maryland AAU
Awards - Governor's Awards	Ben DuBose, Governor, Maryland AAU District
Awards - Track & Field	Mary Haynes - Sport Director
Presentation to Mistress of Ceremonies	Eric Brown, Treasurer
Melvin Parker Award	Dean Eversley - Sport Director, Men's Basketball & Camille Eversley - Banquet Committee
Drawings	LaKeesha Beverly & Eric Brown
Closing Remarks / End	Head Table & Ben DuBose, Governor, Maryland AAU District

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CONGRATULATIONS

2024 AAU ATHLETES, COACHES & FAMILIES!

*****WAY TO GO!!!*****

TANYA V. RUSH

President of the Morgan State University On-Campus Alumni Chapter
Mistress of Ceremonies



Tanya V. Rush retired in July 2021 as the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs at Morgan State University. She served at Morgan for over thirty-seven (37) years in various leadership capacities, such as the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, the Acting Vice President for Student Affairs, and on three separate occasions, she served as the Interim Director of Intercollegiate Athletics.

In addition, she served from 1996 to 2014 as the Senior Woman Administrator (SWA) for the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. In her capacity as SWA, she was a founding member of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) Senior Woman Administrator's Association. She also served on various MEAC conference championships and administrative committees, including chair of the MEAC's Senior Women Administrators.

Her service and commitment to intercollegiate athletics included her service to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), where she served on various committees. Some of her long-standing committee assignments consisted of serving on the Minority Opportunity and Interest Committee and the Committee on Woman's Athletics, including her service as the chair of the NCAA Woman of the Year – Selection Committee.

Her leadership extended beyond Morgan State University; she served five (5) years as the Director of the Student Activity Facilities at Georgetown University.

A proud graduate of Morgan State University, she earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications and a Master's Degree in Business Administration. She is currently serving as the President of the Morgan State University On-Campus Alumni Chapter.





Sports For All, Forever!



**2024 Maryland
District AAU**

**EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE**



Ben DuBose, Jr.,
Governor



Antoinette DuBose,
1st Lieutenant
Governor



Maurice Ward,
2nd Lieutenant
Governor



LaKeesha Beverly,
3rd Lieutenant
Governor



Eric Brown,
Treasurer



Tracey Estep,
Secretary



Terri Fulp,
Registrar



2024 MD AAU Sports Directors

MARY HAYNES



ATHLETICS

HANSBERRY MOORE



BASEBALL

BEN DUBOSE



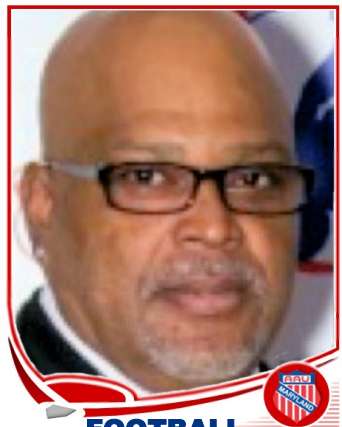
BOYS BASKETBALL

TC CAVINESS



GIRLS BASKETBALL

KEVIN ESTEP



FOOTBALL

MAURICE WARD



GOLF

MEGAN KELLY



JUMP ROPE

THURMAN BELL



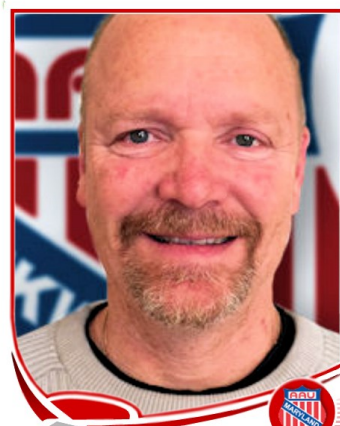
SOCCER

ANTOINETTE DUBOSE



SWIMMING

MASTER GLEN AMES



TAEKWONDO

RICHARD COMLY



VOLLEYBALL

JASON GABRIELSON



WRESTLING



2024 Maryland AAU Awards

MD/AAU OUTSTANDING ATHLETE AWARD

The MD/AAU Outstanding Athlete Award is presented to the athlete who excelled in performance in their respective sport, used their talents to best of their abilities and was motivated to excellence in athletic endeavors.

MD/AAU COACHES AWARD

The MD/AAU Coach Award is presented to coaches that through their major commitment of time, patience, and instruction make it possible for the many MD/AAU athletes to train and successfully compete. And through their understanding ways and their knowledge of the game embrace inspiration, motivation, and dedication as the building blocks that athletes need for success in sports and life. Each Sports Director recommends their choice (from their sport) to the Banquet Chairperson.

MD/AAU "VOLUNTEER SPIRIT" AWARDS

The MD/AAU "Volunteer Spirit" Awards are presented to individuals who embrace the true meaning of "giving their time and energy to benefit others," and do so in the "spirit" of what all of AAU really stands for: a commitment and dedication to America's children to grow as individuals and become tomorrow's leaders. These volunteers, who give of themselves, can always be counted on to be there, and always bring the team spirit with them. Each Sports Director makes these recommendations (from the sport) to the Banquet Chairperson.

JOHN G. CONSIDINE – "SPORTS DIRECTOR MEMBERSHIP AWARD"

This award honors the late John Considine and is awarded to the Maryland AAU Sports Director that shows the largest percentage increase in new registrations (athletes and clubs) over the year and the most registered participants. This award promotes both his legacy and passion for involving more and more athletes and volunteers in the fun and spirit of the AAU. The Governor and Registrar finalize selection.

WILLIAM "BILL" STEVENS – "CLUB EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR AWARD"

This award pays tribute to the sports/club Volunteer, who takes pride in the finer details of AAU paperwork and documentation in ensuring that their club is administratively signed, sealed and delivered for competition (local, state or national). Each Sports Director makes these recommendations (from their sport) to the Banquet Chairperson.

RALPH L. DURANT MEMORIAL AWARD

This award was established to give tribute to the outstanding architecting that Ralph Durant did with the Track and Field program of Baltimore City and the mentoring of youth and young adults in the program. Ralph Durant's name is synonymous with youth track and field excellence. Athletes are selected for their successes during the year's competitions in addition to their prowess at the National Junior Olympics and submitted to the Banquet Chairperson.

GOVERNOR'S AWARD

This award pays tribute to individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary leadership along with demonstrating professionalism and promoting the AAU. Each Sports Director makes recommendation (from their sport) to the Governor.

*** MELVIN "MEL" PARKER MEMORIAL AWARD ***

This award pays tribute to Melvin Parker, who served as the President of the Maryland District for 10 years and Boys Basketball Chairman for 10 years. The Award is given annually to the top male and female athletes who achieve a high standard of performance in AAU sanctioned district, regional, or national competition. The award will be presented to two individuals under the age of 18, in recognition of their commitment and achievement in their chosen sport. Each Sports Director submits an application for the recommendation.

OVERCOMING ADVERSITY AWARD

This award is presented to a member of the community who has demonstrated integrity, courage, and determination in overcoming adversity after which he/she has made a unique contribution to their community. The award is focuses on victims who overcome of severe life circumstances, life threatening organic diseases or impairing physical injuries. During the battle to overcome, award recipient's contribution to society must be exemplified by hard work and unselfish service. The award bears the name of Benjamin F. DuBose, who courageously battled cancer. Application Package must include a completed Application and Essay.

TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK!



AAU FOOTBALL provides student athletes the opportunity to showcase their talents, on and off the field! We are excited to be part of the growth of AAU Football and our National Football Committee is committed to providing leadership to all leagues and athletes.

BEST WISHES and CONGRATULATIONS to all of the Student Athletes, Coaches and Volunteers celebrating at the 2024 Maryland District Awards Banquet!

HERB & TRACEY ESTEP

CONGRATULATIONS 2024 MD AAU AWARD WINNERS!



Need MD AAU Sports Information?

VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

Your Source For News & Updates

www.marylandaau.org



2024 OUTSTANDING ATHLETES, COACHES & VOLUNTEERS

Track/Field

Athlete Awards - Female

Deborah Asante
Sophia Bailey
Cyrah Barrows-Dear
Madison Brown
Payton Buchanan
Hunter Cochran
Mckenna Coffman
Jasmine Cook
Dylan Davis
Taylor Dent
Winter Evans
Makayla Ferrell
Lailah Fersner
Emma Flanigan
Kenaë Fullwood
Lucy Grace
Sydney Harris
Katherine Hulsey
Eh'rhyen Jackson
Ophelia Lindstrom
Grace Love
Eden Madison
Nora Mciver
Avery Miller
Chayse Mitchell
Layla Mitchell
Nikita Mohan
Samaya Morgan-Smith

Kieran Murray
Zyra Nelson
Alyssa Plowden
Julie Roberts
Za'nyi Robinson
Kennedy Ross
Nyla Sikyala
Claire Sivitz
Allie Spaeder
Aniyah Toppin
Favor Udeochu
Lauren Virmani
Marella Virmani
Zara Williams
Leila Wiseman

Coaches Awards - Female

Maria Campbell
Tamara Curtis
Lauren Heilman
Olivia Hunter
Pamela Muhammad
Sharron Smith

Athlete Awards - Male

Chris Abubakar
Cardell Beck
Zody Benoit
Kai Briggs
Geremiah Brown
Malcolm Brown

Morgan Byford
Jayshawn Cannon
Reign Centano
Joel Coates, 3rd
Samuel Cooper
Zachary Cratin
Terrance Dorsey
Darius Dunlap-Elkins
Louiken Freishtat
Kameren Gibson
Maurice Harmon
Vance Harris, III
Bryce Hawkins
Avery Jeannot
Lamont Johnson
Joshua Johnson, Jr.
Cavan Kootman
Dominic Lightfoot
Derek Locktish
Steffon Lyon
Yeshua Mckinley
Maxwell Ormerod
Basileus Oshegbo
Carson Padmore
Frank Paige, IV
Zayden Saxton
Juelz Sewell
Ethan Smith
Caleb Smith
Anay Sood
Bryson Stewart

Saaka Sumbeida
Maximus Turner
Micah Abdul Wahhab
Joshua White
Graham Wilson
Alexander You

Coaches Awards - Male

Steven Barnes
Mike Coach Zig" Benoit
Rafael Cooper
Charles Edington
Bruce Hunter
Dameon Johnson
Phil Lang
Nathaniel Muhammad

Volunteer Awards

Tamara Dunlap-Elkins
William "Bill" Gerhold
Francesca Henderson
Mercedes Rogers
Kelvin Taylor
Ramon Valentine

Boys Basketball

Athlete Awards

Team CC Jackson

Eli D. C. Briscoe
Tiano T. M. Brown
Corey C. Bryant
Ronald J. Fenwick
Trentin L. Felix
Antonio A. Giles
Daylen A. Marshall
Quincey G. Spencer
Jaymar Sturdavant

Coach Awards

Kendra Baldwin
Terel Felix
Terry Felix, Sr.

Volunteer Award

Quanta Lucas

Team Grindhouse 2033

Christian A. Ballard
Christian J. Dickerson
Camden C. Emralino
Jarrell P. Grant

Gavin A.M. Heath
Xavier D. Hite-Washington
Lamar A. King Jr
August A. Mitchell
Marco E. Mitchell
Kyran V. Powell
Caiden T. Tomlinson

Coaches Awards

DeWayne A. Ballard
Laranda R. Hite
William L. Powell Jr.

Volunteer Awards

2004 Legendary Camp

LaKeesha Beverly
Samuel Beverly, III
Danielle Biles
Eric Brown
Terri Fulp
Sonya Henson
Hansy Moore
Raymond Pack
Joyce Venable
Maurice Ward
Caprice Warren

Girl's Basketball

Athlete Awards

Skylah Anderson
Mya Blackshear
Leah Brown
Taylor Conway
Dahmira Delone
Kiara Hardy
Saniya Howard
Riley Kelly
Megha Makkenchery
Joelle Mathew
Joanna Mathews
Skyler Mitchner
Madelynn Myers
Kelsey Troxell
Linnea White

Coaches Awards

Michele Creek
Christopher Hardy
LaTonya Hardy
Samantha Hardy
Kenneth Lane, Jr.
Kenneth Lane, Sr.

Lydia Meyers
Scott Miller

Volunteer Award

Anne Conway
Yolanda Miller
Jennifer Myers
Andrew Smith
Stephanie Smith

Jump Rope

Athlete Awards

Alexa Scarff
Reagan Smith

Volleyball

Athlete Awards

Brookelyn Adams
Gisele Alston
Charlotte Berry
Reese Bonney
Arynn Brooks
Ameya Budaraju
Audrey Bullerman
Leslie Cea Garcia
Bella Chen
Kayla Dero
Mallory Eldredge

Jazari Jackson
Nasira Jah
Macey James
Khalia Johnson-Gantt
Maddy Johnston
Kierstin Krupp
Jocelyn Leary
Kennedy Leslie
Olivia Mason
Addison Matsui
Scarlett Netherton
Kennedy Pavelkovich
Emma Shaner
Brianna Townsend
Juliet Winnington
Emerson Wolfe

Coach Awards

Rui Liu
Ali Pinchak
Tuan Nguyen
Kim "Coach K" Moore
Dave Prichard
John Hicks
Abimael Pagan Rivera
Ramon Valentine

Volunteer Awards

John Hicks

Continued on next page...



Swimming - CMSL

Athlete Awards

Aria Agarwal - Crofton Country Club Crocodiles
Sal Anello - Dulaney Dolphins
Charlotte Atkins - Woodbridge Valley Bluefins
Dakota Clemens - South Carroll Serpents
Ryder Damon - Crofton Country Club Crocodiles
Graziella Dolberg - Swan Lake Stingrays
Simone Dystant - Piney Orchard Piranhas
Owen Figuli - South Carroll Serpents
Zachary Forman - Taylor Village Tigerfish
Jane Glorioso - South Carroll Serpents
Owen Jensenius - Waverly Woods Watercats
Collin Lamm-Knipscher - Navy Juniors Seals
Cole Lewis - Two Rivers Tornados
Natalie Lomonosov - Piney Orchard Piranhas
Julia McGuinn - Five Oaks Barracudas
Julia Mihok - Dulaney Dolphins
Abby Morse - Freedom Dolphins
Gabrielle Ohlinger - West Howard Wahoos
Bobbie Parker - Two Rivers Tornados
Jack Parsons - Freedom Dolphins
Tyler Pena - Glen Burnie Park Dolphins
Cecilia Pinson - Rollingwood Seals
Lily Purdon - Glen Burnie Park Dolphins
Ryan Rodriguez - Rollingwood Seals
Micah Seligman - South Carroll Serpents
Mikayla Sisk - Wynnewood Warriors
Alexander Sorrentino - West Howard Wahoos
Autumn Sundberg - Navy Juniors Seals
Kevin Taylor - Wynnewood Warriors
Jackson Vijayan - Swan Lake Stingrays
Liam Weikel - Five Oaks Barracudas
Jack Wiggins - Woodbridge Valley Bluefins
Ella Wingate - Waverly Woods Watercats
Alana Wong - Taylor Village Tigerfish

Wrestling

Athlete Awards

Dominique Herbert
Alyas Randall
Rhonin Swenson
Billy Tracey
Dylan Verceles





2024 Special AAU Awards

JOHN G. CONSIDINE – “SPORT DIRECTOR MEMBERSHIP AWARD”

- Most Registered Participants” – **Swimming**
- Largest % Increase in New Registrations” – **Volleyball**

WILLIAM “BILL” STEVENS – “CLUB EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR AWARD”

Pamela Muhammad – Track & Field

Gara A. Ausler – Boys’ Basketball

RALPH L. DURANT MEMORIAL AWARD

Grace Love

Chayse Mitchell

Zody Benoit

Basileus Oshegbo

Louiken Freishtat

GOVERNOR’S AWARD

Erin Lavelle – Track & Field

John Steiner – Track & Field

Brian Dempsey – Track & Field

Eric Allen – Track & Field

Antoinette Allen – Track & Field

Christopher Brown – Boys’ Basketball

Greate White – Boys’ Basketball

Tim Causion - American Legion

Linwood Blackston - American Legion

Ronald Lewis Holcombe - American Legion

Megan Reith – Jump Rope

Camille Eversley – Banquet Committee

Dean Eversley – Boys’ Basketball

Stanley Mitchell – American Legion

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

To be presented...

SPECIAL AWARD

Mistress of Ceremonies - Tanya V. Rush

BENJAMIN F. DUBOSE, JR – OVERCOMING ADVERSITY AWARD

To be presented...

MEL PARKER AWARD

To be presented...

AAU NATIONAL AWARDS

Presented at the AAU Leadership Convention - October, 2024

President's National Leadership Award - Antoinette DuBose

Outstanding District Volunteer - Honorable Bernard "Jack" Young



MS. TERRI FULP

2023 MARYLAND LOCAL AND AAU NATIONAL VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

With great pride we present the recipient of the 2023 Volunteer of the Year Award and the National Volunteer of the Year Award for the Maryland District AAU, Ms. Terri Fulp.

The importance of volunteers cannot be overestimated. Whether the individual acts as a volunteer administrator of an event or contributes his or her time and resources in support of a larger task or tasks.

It is for this reason that the Volunteer of the Year Award was created to recognize those outstanding volunteers whose unselfish and dedicated service to their sport, the Maryland AAU District, and the overall organization of the AAU, has made a significant difference and impact.

Terri is a long-time volunteer that has a passion for wanting to help and share her talents and creativity in any way that she can. Her willingness to share both her time and her talent by volunteering says a lot about who she is. Her willingness to give selflessly to help others speaks to both her strength and the quality of her character.

The fruits of her labor make a tangible impact, of course, but perhaps it is the fact that she is always willing to share her time and talent to lend a helping hand and to show kindness and caring that makes the greatest difference in the lives of the individuals who are touched by her generosity, not only within the AAU family, but her labor and generosity stretches to many families and surrounding communities.

She is that person who loves to work behind the scenes, but her contributions are seen by many. Even when times seem tough, she always finds a way to push through, with a smile, to make someone else smile.

While we know that she chooses to volunteer selflessly and without expectation of being recognized or rewarded, today we wish to do just that. Terri, we want to let you know just how much your dedication is appreciated and to make sure that you know that we are forever grateful for you!



2023 Overcoming Adversity Award Winners



2023 Benjamin F. DuBose OVERCOMING ADVERSITY Award **KAREN BLACKWELL BROOKS**

From the dictionary desk, adversity is defined as a state of hardship, difficulty, or misfortune and resilience in the face of it. adversity can break or make a person. many of you in this room can identify with their own bout with adversity in the form of personal injury, illness, or disease - or that of someone you know or love. Sometimes the severity of adversity rocks the very foundation of our lives. It can test our courage, our character, our mental and physical toughness, our determination, and our faith.

The Overcoming Adversity Award, established in two thousand fifteen, is presented to a member of the community who has demonstrated integrity, courage, and determination while undergoing a severe life circumstance, a life-threatening organic disease, or an impairing physical injury.

This award bears the name of Benjamin F. Dubose, Governor of AAU's Maryland District. Ben courageously battled cancer while continuing to provide sports programs to thousands of youths in the Maryland District.

He "rang the bell" on cancer and today Benjamin is cancer free. Adversity, however, is not limited to once in a person's or family's life. It has again entered Benjamin's life. Narrowly avoiding a massive heart attack, he underwent open heart surgery on November 15. Doctors say he is making remarkable progress. But make no mistake, he has a long road to full recovery. The fighter I know him to be, he will make every effort possible to continue serving the Maryland District as its Governor.

This year's recipient of the overcoming adversity award has volunteered with Maryland district AAU, the Madison Square Buccaneers, and the Baltimore stars AAU coalition for more than 25 years. She holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland, College Park and a Master's Degree from Morgan State University. She is a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority incorporated, and she is currently a development consultant with the state of Maryland Community Development Administration.

After being diagnosed with breasted cancer, she endured three related surgeries. Soon after her first surgery, she volunteered at the 2022 AAU World Basketball Championships at McDaniel college.

With the help of medical professionals, family, friends, and lots of prayer, she is a survivor. Throughout her journey, with faith and perseverance, she continued to fulfill her role as a St. James Episcopal Church Reader, Treasurer of St. James Development Corporation, and Co-Coordinator of the St. James Angel Tree Project.





2023 Mel Parker Award Winners

Ruth Cole – Elementary-Middle School – Jump Rope

Ruth “Ruthie” Cole is an athlete, community volunteer, and scholar. As both a jump roper and gymnast Ruthie spreads her love of sports with others. Her smile during her performances is contagious. Ruthie learned early on to demonstrate sportsmanship at all times especially while on the podium. At competitions Ruthie shares her smile and well wishes with those around her while receiving awards. Through AAU Jump Rope Ruthie has earned many regional and national/international medals. At the AAU Junior Olympics this past summer in Iowa Ruthie earned the Overall Gold Medal in the 9-Year-Old Female Single Rope Events and the Overall Gold Medal in the 15-17 Double Dutch Pairs Events. A highlight for Ruthie was winning the Gold Medal in 12 and Under Single Double Dutch Freestyle with two jumpers from another jump rope team. Ruthie and her new friends met and created their routine the day before they competed in that event. In addition to the Overall Medals Ruthie brought home 10 other medals at this year’s AAU Junior Olympic Games. When Ruthie is not jumping rope, she can be found tumbling and learning new skills in her recreation gymnastics class. Ruthie will begin competing in gymnastics this November.



As a community volunteer Ruthie can be found performing in community events from parades to health fairs to children’s events with her jump rope. She enjoys sharing her sport with others and showing how exercise can be fun and exciting. Ruthie is also very active in her church. She serves as a greeter and welcomes visitors to her church and her favorite event is the Living Christmas Tree. At this event Ruthie welcomes others and passes out programs explaining the history of the Living Christmas Tree which began in 1985. Ruthie is also passionate about helping others feel food secure. To assist with this, she volunteers at her church’s food pantry monthly and packages holiday baskets each Thanksgiving. Ruthie’s talents outside of the gym also include a passion for singing and sharing her faith with others through the children’s choir ministry at Oak Grove Baptist Church.

Ruthie is currently in the 5th grade and continues to excel in her classes. She is learning at a young age to balance her academics, sports, and volunteer endeavors while maintaining a 4.0 GPA.



Sarah Cole – High School – Jump Rope

Sarah is a dedicated student, athlete, and is involved in her community. She recently graduated (class of 2023), was homeschooled all thirteen years, and was dual enrolled at Harford Community College, where she is a member of their Honors College pursuing a degree in Actuarial Science.

Sarah is on the Hoppin’ Hawks Jump Rope Team. This past competition season was her 6th year of competing in AAU Jump Rope. She participated in the 2023 AAU Junior Olympic Games where she won five individual gold medals in the Female 17-18 division. Sarah also earned four overall gold medals in her triple crown events, bringing home a total of 17 medals. She has also been awarded the AAU Outstanding Athlete award for Jump Rope in 2019, 2022, and 2023. Besides competing, Sarah performs with her team at local community and school events where she helps spread her love for the sport of jump rope. She teaches classes weekly for Hoppin’ Hawks and instructs at their summer camps.

Sarah is also a dedicated student. She is a part of Harford Community College’s Honors College where she participates in the Math Club and Mu Alpha Theta National Honor Society and is an officer for both. Sarah is also a member of the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth as well as the National Science Foundation STEM Program and recipient of the S-STEM Scholarship. She was recognized on Harford Community College’s 2023 Deans list for achieving high academic honor and maintaining her high GPA.

2023 Mel Parker Award Winners



Outside of her sport and school she is involved in her community and strives to serve her community. She is a member of the choir for Living Christmas Tree. She is a volunteer for the food pantry at her local church where she helps organize and distribute food as well as participates in their food drives for Thanksgiving food baskets and raises money for world hunger. She helps collect items and pack shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child, which is a project that collects and delivers shoe boxes filled with toys, hygiene items, and schools supplies to children in need around the world. She serves in her church's Preschool and Childrens Ministry.

Sarah works hard to be successful at sports, school, and in her community as well as working at Chick-Fil-A where she has been promoted three times to shift supervisor and leads the shifts. These activities and opportunities have helped her become the leader and person she is today.



Darius Dunlap-Elkins – Elementary-Middle School Track & Field

Darius Dunlap-Elkins distinguished himself in the 2023 AAU Junior Olympics by reaching the podium in each of four events that he competed. He placed 6th in the 400-meter dash, 4th in the 800-meter run, 3rd in the pentathlon, and 1st in the 1500-meter race walk.

This achievement represented Darius' second straight Junior Olympics in which he reached the podium, placing 2nd in the 1500-meter race walk and 5th in the triathlon in 2022. Although his previous two visits to the Junior Olympics in 2021 and 2019 did not result in him reaching the podium they provided a motivating experience for him to work harder to qualify in subsequent years.

Darius has tremendous athletic ability, as indicated by the variety of his events, and highlights every major facet of athleticism that he possesses: speed, endurance, coordination, strength, and power. These physical attributes were enhanced by his superior motivation, strong work ethic, and remarkable coachability. Darius' growth and development in Track and Field was helped by his early participation in Soccer at age three, followed by Flag Football at age 5, and more recently Basketball. At age 6 while participating in Flag Football he displayed an unusual affinity for running, begging the coaches to run "one more lap" while the other kids were begging to stop.

Darius' athletic accomplishments are remarkable when one considers that beginning as a two-year-old he needed occupational therapy to assist with his balance and walking. He sets high standards for himself not only in sports, but also in school where he energetically seeks nothing less than high academic honors along with participation in such school activities as membership in the chess club. He even brought his newfound love for chess home where he attempted to teach his brothers and sister how to play.

He possesses all the traits of good character, including dependability, kindness, consideration, and compassion, all of which are on prominent display when consoling his competitors who may not have performed well or volunteering with Happy Helpers for the Homeless. Darius is simply a super individual!





2024 Mel Parker Award Nominees

Taylor Dent – Elementary-Middle School - Track & Field

In just her second year of participating in AAU track and field, Taylor has made remarkable strides. What began as a fun activity in 2023 has blossomed into a passion, leading her to compete in two Junior Olympics. She regularly maintains a national ranking in her events during both the indoor and outdoor seasons, showcasing her consistent dedication and success in the sport. At the 2024 Region 3 AAU Regionals, Taylor earned 1st place in the 100m, 200m, and 400m events for 10-year-old girls, a testament to her hard work and commitment.

Beyond her impressive athletic achievements, Taylor demonstrates remarkable sportsmanship by routinely congratulating her competitors after every race, whether with a handshake or a hug. Her respect for others and her positive attitude on and off the track make her a role model for her peers. Taylor is sociable, forming friendships with athletes from multiple teams, and she consistently pushes herself by training with older girls, often running with those aged 13 and above.

Taylor leads by example, not just in her athletic pursuits but in her daily habits. She frequently leads stretches during practice and encourages other athletes to adopt healthy habits. At track meets, you can often find her reading a book to limit screen time, and she encourages others to do the same. Her commitment to community service is equally commendable. Taylor volunteers regularly at St. Mary's Bryantown Catholic Church, where she serves as an altar server during Sunday and School Masses. During Thanksgiving, she prepared and distributed meals to the less fortunate at the church rectory, showing her compassion and desire to help those in need. She also participates in local trash clean-up efforts through Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., contributing to the betterment of her community. Taylor Dent's combination of athletic success, leadership, sportsmanship, and community involvement makes her a highly deserving candidate for the Melvin "Mel" Parker Award.



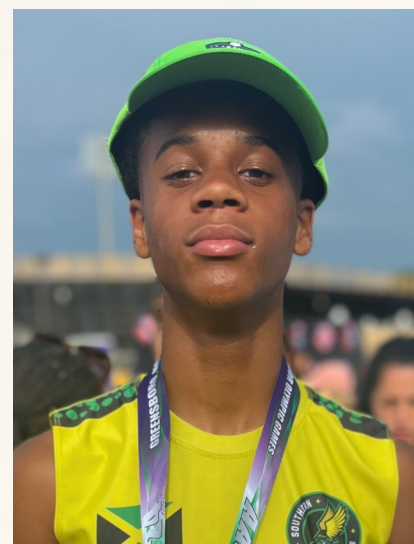
Terrence Dorsey – Elementary-Middle School - Track & Field

Terrence Dorsey is an amazing veteran track and field athlete at just 14 years old. He began his journey at the early age of 6 years old and demonstrated early on, he had an aptitude for the sport. Since that time, he has distinguished himself as an exceptional athlete, dedicated student, and committed community member. His achievements in track and field, academic excellence, and extensive community involvement make him an outstanding candidate for the Melvin "Mel" Parker Award.

Track and Field Achievements: Terrence has made remarkable strides in track and field, demonstrating his exceptional athletic abilities on multiple levels. He is a district and regional champion in the 200mH, 400m, 4x100m, and 4x400m relays. His national accomplishments include being a National Champion in the 4x400m relay, a National Runner-Up in the 4x100m relay, and an All-American in the 400m. These accolades underscore his dedication, skill, and leadership in the sport, highlighting his ability to perform at the highest levels of competition.

Academic and School Activities: In addition to his athletic accomplishments, Terrence has excelled academically and demonstrated a strong commitment to his education through the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program. Over the course of three years, he actively participated in AVID, which prepared him for higher education and provided him with valuable life skills. During his time in the program, Terrence visited approximately nine different colleges, broadening his understanding of potential academic and career paths.

Community Involvement: Terrence's dedication to community service is evident through his volunteer work. He has contributed to his community by tutoring students in math and engaging in reading sessions at the library for children. These activities reflect his commitment to helping others and his willingness to give back to his community.





2024 Mel Parker Award Nominees

Bryce Hawkins – High School - Track & Field

Bryce Hawkins is an exemplary athlete, scholar, and community leader, whose achievements on and off the track are remarkable.

Competing in the 15-16 age group, Bryce has excelled in AAU District and Regional competitions. He secured 1st place in the 4x400m relay at the Potomac Valley District Qualifier with a time of 3:31.88, 2nd in the 400m with a time of 49.95, and 3rd in the 200m with a time of 22.71. At the Region 3 Qualifier, Bryce placed 3rd in the 4x400m relay (3:28.70) and 4th in the 400m (51.13), earning him a spot at the AAU Junior Olympics in just his second year of track and field competition.

In addition to his athletic accomplishments, Bryce has twice been awarded the Varsity Athlete of the Year and has earned the Scholar Athlete Award for his dedication to both sports and academics. He was also recognized by the Charles County Commissioner for his participation in the 2024 Junior Olympics.

Bryce's commitment to his community is equally impressive. He has volunteered with the American Legion and Sons of the American Legion Post BE02 NATO Community, assisting with various events such as "Trunk or Treats" for four consecutive years, the Independence Day Festival for three years, and the sale of Christmas trees for two years. Additionally, he helped new students at SHAPE American Elementary School acclimate by showing them around the campus. Bryce continues to give back by assisting the Chestnut Grove Community with its annual National Night Out event. Altogether, Bryce has accumulated over 300 hours of volunteer service through these multi-day events, showcasing his strong sense of responsibility and compassion for others.

Balancing his academic achievements, dual-sport athletic commitments, and volunteerism, Bryce also serves as a role model for his younger sister, who often proudly shares her admiration for him. His humility, leadership, and dedication make him a truly deserving candidate for the Melvin "Mel" Parker Memorial Award.



August Mitchell – Elementary-Middle School - Boys Basketball

The Grindhouse 2033 coaching staff would like to nominate August Mitchell for the Melvin during the 2023/2024 season in comparison to his first season with the organization (2022/ 2023). August's contribution to his team assisted them in placing 2nd during the Maryland AAU district championship and winning 1st place Gold for Division 2 World Championship "Mel" Parker Memorial Award. August has shown tremendous growth on and off the court, in Orlando Florida. During World's he averaged 12 -14 points per game.

August's gracious personality makes it easy for his teammates to trust him on and off the court. Being a multi-talented athlete playing basketball and baseball while maintaining a 4.0 GPA speaks volumes about his character. Like most kids August just wants to play and contribute to the team's success.

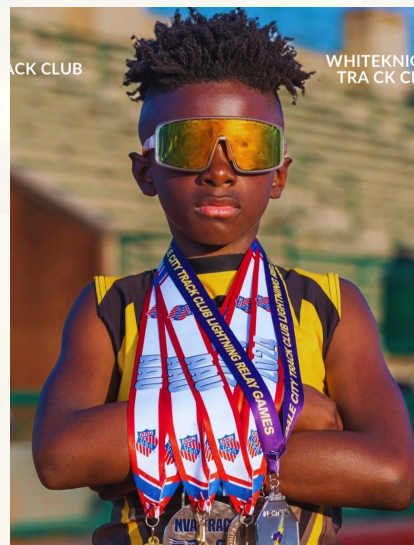




2023 Mel Parker Award Nominees

Carson Padmore – Elementary-Middle School - Track & Field

Carson Padmore had a phenomenal 2024 AAU track season with the White Knight and Ralph Durant Track Clubs (partnered organizations). During his indoor season he placed 6th in the 9-year-old boys 200 meters at AAU Indoor national and helped his team place 6th in the 9/10 boys 4x200 meter relay. This would prove to be the floor for Carson as he went on a tear during his outdoor campaign with the Ralph Durant Academy. He proceeded to sweep AAU Districts, Regionals and most importantly AAU Junior Olympics in the 9-year-old boys Long Jump where he achieved the title of National Champion. At the Junior Olympics he jumped a personal best 15ft ½ inch to secure the national title. Additionally, he placed 2nd at Maryland Districts in the 200, 3rd at Regionals and 4th at AAU Junior Olympics with a personal best 27.76 to become an All-American in the event. Carson's unselfishness and team spirit was undeniable. Carson could have easily had this same success in another open event but became an integral part in the areas best 9/10 4x400meterrelay. Carson ran some incredible legs throughout the summer, anchoring the District and Regional Champion 4x400relays for RDA. Carson had the second fastest 400 split (1:01.06) in the 9/10 Boys 4x400 Relay at The AAU Junior Olympics. The split would later help the 9/10 Ralph Durant Academy Boys 4x400 place 3rd overall at the AAU Junior Olympics with a season's best 4:22.90. Carson ended his year a National Champion, 5x All-American, 2x Regional Champion and 2x District Champion.



Caleb Smith – High School - Track & Field

Caleb Smith is a talented student-athlete and dedicated community member whose achievements demonstrate his well-rounded excellence. In the 15-16 age group, Caleb has made significant strides in AAU track and field competitions. At the Potomac Valley District Qualifier, he earned 1st place in the 4x400m relay with a time of 3:31.88 and 2nd place in the 200mwithatimeof22.58. Caleb also placed 3rd in the 4x400m relay (3:28.70) at the Region 3Qualifier, further solidifying his reputation as a standout competitor.

Beyond his track and field successes, Caleb has been recognized for his athletic abilities in multiple sports (football and track and field). He was awarded the Varsity Scholastic Award for his contributions to the La Plata High School football team and was named Indoor/Outdoor Athlete of the Year for his outstanding performances in track and field. Caleb's efforts have also been recognized by the Charles County Commissioner, who issued a proclamation in his honor for his achievements in athletics.

Caleb's commitment to his community is equally impressive. He has been a consistent volunteer with Shbach Ministries, serving as a youth ministry support during church services and offering math tutoring to elementary school children. In earlier years, Caleb spent time volunteering with the elderly, demonstrating his compassion and dedication to service from a young age.

Balancing academics, athletics, and volunteer work, Caleb exemplifies the qualities of a dedicated and humble leader. His drive to excel in all aspects of life, combined with his strong sense of responsibility and community service, makes him a deserving candidate for the Melvin "Mel" Parker Memorial Award.





2023 Mel Parker Award Nominees

Reagan Smith – High School - Jump Rope

Reagan Smith exemplifies a well-rounded scholar, athlete, and community leader. Reagan is a Senior at the Science and Mathematics Academy at Aberdeen High School and is dual enrolled at Harford Community College where she maintains an overall GPA of 4.7. She recently earned the “AP Scholar with Distinction” award for the second consecutive year, with 7 qualifying AP exam scores. She intends to continue her education attending a 4-year college for an accelerated degree in Biomedical Engineering and hopes to earn her master's degree by 2029.

This past year was Reagan’s 9th year of competing in jump rope where she earned the Joel Ferrell Memorial Award at the 2024 AAU Junior Olympic Games for Jump Rope. At the 2024 AAU Junior Olympic Games she won the overall gold medal in 3 out of the 4 Triple Crown disciplines, medaling in every event AAU Jump Rope offers. She has been recognized as a Maryland Outstanding Athlete four times.

Along with competing Reagan performs in local and regional jump rope performances and is a Junior Coach for the Hoppin’ Hawks. Reagan is also involved within her school community. She is an avid instrumentalist performing as the solo violist in her school’s Orchestra. She participates in a variety of clubs and a total of four different honor societies having held leadership positions for Key Club, National English Honor Society, and Women in STEM Club.

Outside of school, she volunteers with the National Inventors Hall of Fame Camp Invention STEM Camp as a Leadership Intern and tutors within the STEM field. Reagan balances these activities with her part-time job and rigorous school schedule. These opportunities have helped her become the high performing student-athlete and the community leader she is today!



CONGRATULATIONS
To all the athletes
being honored!

Keep Striving For
GREATNESS!





Track & Field Photographs Courtesy of Root Exposure Photography

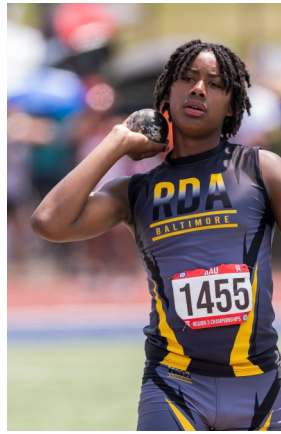
ATHLETICS

Cross Country / Track & Field

Our season kicked off with high energy at the District Qualifier, held June 8th - 9th at Oakdale High School in Ijamsville, MD! Over 2,100 athletes competed! Meet Directors Erin Lavelle of Freedom Flyers and John Steiner of Catocin Track Club ran a great event. The top 16 athletes from this competition earned a spot at the Region 2 Qualifier, at the Prince George's Sports Complex in Landover, Maryland. This thrilling four-day event saw over 2,500 athletes giving their all! Union Athletics proudly hosted, with Eric Allen as the Meet Director.

Next, our season's highlight: the Junior Olympic Games at North Carolina A&T University, and Maryland was represented with pride! More than 15,000 athletes from across the nation came together for 9 days of intense competition in 25 events. The result? An astounding 220 athletes reached the National Podium, placing from 1st to 8th, with many earning multiple awards. The excitement didn't stop there - several athletes broke national records, including Juelz Sewell in the 200 meters and "The House" in the 17-18 Young Men's 4x100 meter relay. The performances were nothing short of extraordinary, with athletes making their mark and leaving everyone in awe, wondering, "How do we find so much talent???"







We are Forever Strong Elite Track Club!

Our mission is simple- BELIEVE and BE GREAT. This is THE FOREVER STRONG WAY. Through the mode of track and field competition, our elite youth athletes develop a go-getting outlook. Track is the method; success is the mindset! The goal of our program is to develop and enhance the strengths of every child while inspiring commitment and teamwork, building confidence and demanding perseverance towards excellence.



Forever Strong Elite Track Club (FSE) is a non-profit, 501c3 youth track and field organization based in Baltimore, Maryland. Established in 2020, the team was born out of a passion for the sport of track and field and a vision of “changing the [youth track and field] game”. We are a traveling club team of elite student athletes, ages 7-17, and uniquely known for our fierce talent and swag. In four short years, FSE has become a powerhouse, solidifying a place among the top track teams in the nation.

The 2023/2024 track season was a fruitful year of highs and lows! We had several kids place in the top ten at the AAU Indoor Nationals in Virginia Beach, Virginia this past March. Ten (10) of our athletes went to the AAU Junior Olympics in Greensboro, North Carolina this summer. Six (6) of them became All-Americans, and our 9-year-old veteran Juelz Sewell broke the national record in the 200m dash! Read about his amazing accomplishment here:
www.baltimoresun.com/2024/08/23/juelz-sewell-towson-sprinter-national-record/.



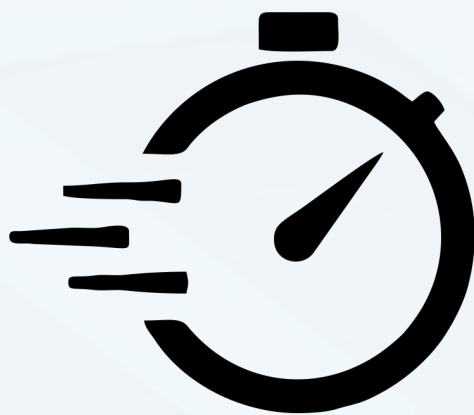
Another milestone goes to our spirited and dedicated Coach Rafael Cooper, who is being honored as this year's 2024 AAU Maryland Coach of the Year. We are thankful for all who have supported our movement throughout the years! Connect with us to learn more about Forever Strong Elite.

Email: foreverstrongelitetrack@gmail.com
 Instagram: [Instagram.com/Foreverstrongelite_](https://www.instagram.com/Foreverstrongelite_)



BALTIMORE
SAIYANS
TRACK CLUB

1 2 3 4 5 6



The BALTIMORE SAIYANS are a group of Track & Field competitors, hailing from mostly Baltimore City & Baltimore County, Maryland who have dedicated countless hours to practice and competition at the local level & the elite level.

The club was created in 2018 with 5 athletes, ages ranging between 7 & 13. With their oldest original athlete attending his 2nd year at the Bowie State University & our youngest original member in 8th grade.

Unlike other clubs, this team is primarily run and funded by the coaches; coaches who offer not only their time, but also monetary support, to guide and train these young people to better their craft. The program originally started to give the coaches' nephew's an outlet and a way out of the normal things to do in the City of Baltimore.

The club is very family oriented. The coaching staff not only take time out of their days to practice with athletes; they spend countless hours with some of them on weekends roller skating, going to the movies, amusement parks, trail walks/ runs, laser tag, go-kart racing & personal counseling sessions.

The coaches are not only coaches, they are like fathers, uncles, big brothers & big cousins to the athletes. They are happy to say that in year 6 they have had over 150 athletes to register during the spring/ summer. With each year they progressively grow their program, doing so with 3 coaches!



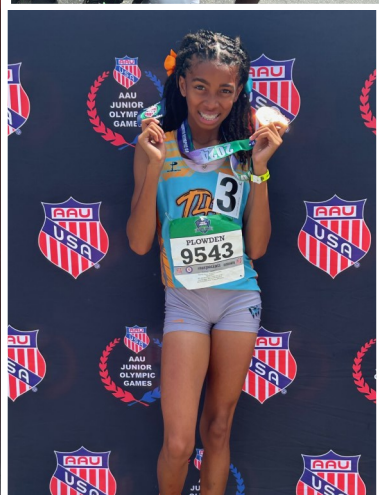


Train 4 A Purpose Performance Academy, affectionately known as T4P Academy, is not just a sports organization—it's a beacon of hope and opportunity for our youth. Founded in 2015 by Dameon Johnson Sr., T4P Academy was built on the noble mission of enhancing and empowering young minds to confront the challenges of today's world and beyond.

This non-profit organization focuses on mentorship, education, healthy living, fitness, and, most importantly, sportsmanship.

At the heart of T4P Academy lies a commitment to providing a structured, safe, and enjoyable environment where our youth can thrive. They don't just teach sports—they build character, self-esteem, problem-solving skills, teamwork, and a sense of community. Since its inception, T4P Academy has profoundly impacted the lives of young people throughout the DMV area, not only mentoring them but also offering them opportunities to travel the country through its renowned track and field and basketball programs.

With an incredible history of producing AAU indoor and outdoor All-Americans, Regional and District champions, and honor students, T4P Academy has truly become a vessel for youth development in both sport and life!





BOYS BASKETBALL

Championship Teams, World-Class Tournaments and a Lifetime of Memories!



GREATER WHITE, AD DUNDALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE & THE MARYLAND DISTRICT AMATEUR ATHLETIC UNION PRESENTS:

AAU MARYLAND *Legendary* **MEMORIAL DAY** **BOYS & GIRLS**

FREE BASKETBALL CAMP!!!*

Saturday, MAY 18, 2024
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

* AAU MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED —SPACE LIMITED TO 60 PARTICIPANTS
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1ST - 6TH GRADES **FREE LUNCH!**

THIS IS A FULL, EXCITING DAY TO LEARN ABOUT THE FUNDAMENTALS OF BASKETBALL, SOME HISTORY ABOUT FAMOUS MARYLAND AMATEUR BASKETBALL COACHES AND PLAYERS, TEAMWORK AND LIFE SKILLS!

We Remember These Legendary Maryland Basketball Coaches:

 WILLIAM "BUCKY" LEE Oliver Center	 HERMAN JOHNSON Bentalou Center	 LEON HOWARD Lafayette Center
 ANTHONY "DOODIE" LEWIS Cock-Kin Center	 JOHN MURDOCK Allstars	 EDWARD WILSON Sevens Park

* THIS BASKETBALL CLINIC AND LUNCH ARE FREE FOR THE FIRST 60 PARTICIPANTS WHO SIGN UP. TO REGISTER OR FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT: BEN DUROSE, MARYLAND DISTRICT AAU GOVERNOR & SPORT DIRECTOR (410) 340-0635



Grindhouse Hoops 2033 team had a great 2023/2024 season. 11 young men overcame adversity and became stronger as a team. Their ability to keep pushing through no matter the favor of the game; led them to winning 3 Championships (Potomac Valley AAU Showdown 2024 (MD), Huskey Sports Tournament Championship (VA) and Defending Champions of Battlegrounds Tournaments (VA). The team took 2nd place for the 2024 Maryland AAU District Championships. The biggest highlight of the boy's season was winning 1st place Gold for Division 2 World's Championship in Orlando, Florida with a 7-0 record.

The team accomplished all of this under the coaching staff of William Powell Jr. (Head Coach) and Duane Ballard (Assistant Coach). With the support of the Team Mom, Admins, Organization Director, and parents.

Great Job Kyran, Gavin, Zay, August, Marco, Jarrell, Big Christian, Caiden, Lil Christian, Camden, and Lamar!



Big Dogs Basketball Organization is an 11U Travel basketball team out of Baltimore, MD. Together with my partner, and head coach, Terry Felix Jr., we have been working with a phenomenal group of young boys from our community to train and prepare for local and travel basketball leagues and tournaments. In just 8 short months, during our first season together, the team was undefeated and went on to win the Baltimore City Recs & Parks BNBL Winter League Championship. Next, we came away from our first official AAU tournament in 3rd place, followed by a 1st place win in the next AAU tournament, and participation in multiple other competitions in the DMV area. In June, we kicked off our summer by traveling to Hampton, VA for the AAU World Championship, where our players showed us and themselves that they all have the talent, skill, and dedication to get themselves to the top!



GIRLS BASKETBALL

Taking It To The Net!

Our vision is to help every player become better through hard work discipline and team play. Within the Maryland Hoopmaster, our mission is to give every player an opportunity to play highly-skilled basketball against some of the best teams and players in the country. There are so many youth basketball leagues that are win-loss leagues, which focus on the end result and that's it. As an organization, our goal is to teach basketball fundamentals and court awareness, or "IQ". It is our intent that at the end of our time with us the player will be better, stronger and faster than when they began.

We have plenty to be proud of! The ultimate goal for all of our players/students is to successfully move into the next phase of their lives through higher education. This is where the cohesion of athletics and academics can play a huge role.

Grade Point Average, (GPA), makes a huge difference when it comes to deciding what schools you can attend. Playing sports will enhance the college experience but it will not make the college experience. Programs are designed to develop players skills in vast areas of the game. We want athletes to compete and conquer and be a well rounded student of the game.







Sports For All, Forever!



**Joanna
Mathews**

MD Lady Hoopmasters
Guard
TEAM Hardy

10



**Joelle
Mathews**

MD Lady Hoopmasters
Forward
TEAM Hardy

8



**Kelsey
Troxell**

MD Lady Hoopmasters
Forward/Guard
TEAM Hardy

24



**Kiara
Hardy**

MD Lady Hoopmasters
Forward/Guard
TEAM Hardy

3



**Leah
Brown**

MD Lady Hoopmasters
Forward
TEAM Hardy

2



**Linnea
White**

MD Lady Hoopmasters
Forward
TEAM JAY

22



**Megha
Makkenchery**

MD Lady Hoopmasters
Forward/Guard
TEAM Hardy

23/25



**Dahmira
Delone**

MD Lady Hoopmasters
Guard
TEAM Hardy

27



**Mya
Blackshear**

MD Lady Hoopmasters
Forward/Guard
TEAM Hardy

36



**Madelynn
Myers**

MD Lady Hoopmasters
Forward/Guard
TEAM JAY

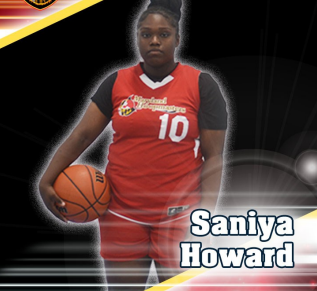
15



**Riley
Kelly**

MD Lady Hoopmasters
Forward/Center
TEAM Hardy

23



**Saniya
Howard**

MD Lady Hoopmasters
Guard/Forward
TEAM JAY

35/10



**Skylah
Anderson**

MD Lady Hoopmasters
Guard
TEAM JAY

26



**Skyler
Mitchner**

MD Lady Hoopmasters
Forward
TEAM JAY

16



**Taylor
Conway**

MD Lady Hoopmasters
Guard
TEAM Hardy

20



**AAU GIRLS DISTRICT
TOURNAMENTS**
RETURN TO MARYLAND
MAY 3RD - 5TH,
MCDANIEL COLLEGE
WESTMINSTER, MD.

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you game to the next level???**



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JUMP ROPE

2024 Jump Rope Highlights

We had one qualifying tournament this year held in Churchville, Maryland and hosted by the Hoppin' Hawks. Teams traveled from Florida, Massachusetts, and Virginia to compete. Hoppin' Hawks sent 4 jumpers to the 2024 JO Games in NC. At the games one of our Maryland Jumpers was awarded the Female Joel Ferrell Award. It was a great year of jumping and we look forward to this season!







SWIMMING

Building champions one stroke at a time!

The AAU and the Central Maryland Swimming League (CMSL) work together to offer amateur sports programs through a volunteer base for all participants to have the physical, mental, and moral development of amateur athletes and to promote good sportsmanship and good citizenship.

CMSL leadership is entirely staffed by parent volunteers, from the board of directors to the team representatives.

The league is comprised of 48 teams separated into nine divisions across four counties and Baltimore City.

In partnership with AAU, CMSL works to provide competitive summer swimming programs for children of member pools to help advance aquatic skills, promote teamwork and principles of good sportsmanship, and develop a love of the sport.

The league is separated into 8 divisions to accommodate a more competitive grouping of teams which is based on the performance of a team during the previous season and may change from year to year.

Each athlete, coach and team representative is an AAU member.

CMSL provides swimmers with several levels of competition to assist in their development as athletes and well-rounded individuals.

The official season consists of five dual or tri meets, a league-wide invitational meet called the Straehle championship meet, and divisional championship meets at the end of the season. All dual and tri meets are held at member pools, usually on Saturday mornings in June and July.

Many teams also organize additional inter-divisional and novice meets throughout the season to provide more opportunities for competition and fun.

All CMSL meets have the same event structure which is separated by age and gender.

The Central Maryland Swim League works to assure that both swimmers and parents alike have a positive athletic experience as well as a positive social interaction across all athletes and volunteers. With over 5,000 members, CMSL is the largest swimming organization within AAU!





VOLLEYBALL

Ball 'Til You Fall!

"This has been an amazing year for AAU Volleyball in Maryland. We have seen outstanding new and returning athletes come through the doors of numerous gyms, where they are welcomed by dedicated and compassionate coaches. Last year, AAU Maryland's Volleyball memberships climbed from 2,933 athletes to 3,626. This is an increase of 693 athletes. We take great pride in the growth of volleyball, and we owe this success to our exceptional athletes, coaches, and volunteers!"

- Isabella Castrogiovanni







Rhonin Swenson

WRESTLING

All Out, All Match, ,All Season!

This year's Maryland AAU Awardees:

Rhonin Swenson - 18yrs old, 2.75GPA @ Bishop McNamara HS, 2024 Maryland Independent Schools State Finalist (3x Placer), 2024 AAU Scholastic Duals All-American (9-1 record)

Billy Tracey - 12yrs old, Billy is currently an "A" Student @ Chesapeake Bay Middle School. 2024 Maryland State Finalist, 2024 AAU Elementary Natl Duals All-American (9-1 record)

Dominique Herbert - 12yrs old, 3.2 GPA @ Esperanza Middle School, 2024 Maryland State Futures Champion, 2024 AAU Elementary Natl Duals All-American (9-1 record)

Alyas Randall - 8yrs old, Alyas is a straight "A" Student at Sunderland ES, 2024 Maryland State 4th, 2024 AAU Elementary Natl Duals All-American (10-0 record)

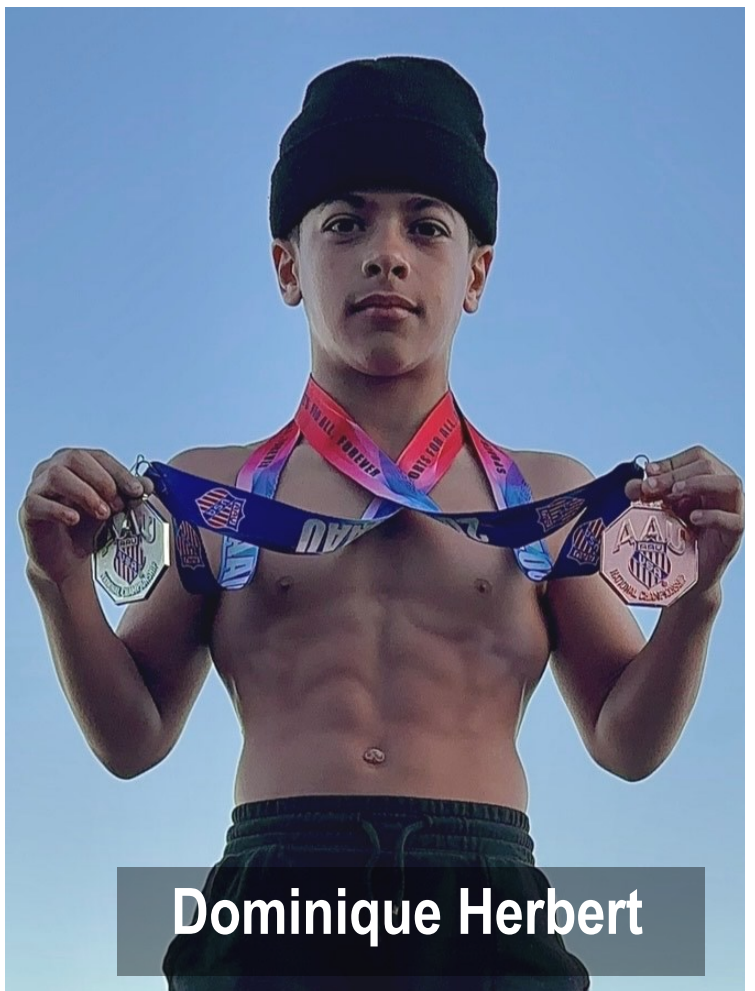
Dylan Verceles - 13ys old, Dyland is a 4.1 student @ Loyola Blakefield MS, 2024 Maryland State Champion, AAU Elementary Natl Duals All-American (10-0 record), 2024 USA Wrestling kids Freestyle & Greco All-American.

CONGRATULATIONS!





Billy Tracey



Dominique Herbert



Alyas Randall



Dylan Verceles



AAU CARES!

AAU Volunteer Makes "A Christmas Wish" Come True For Many!

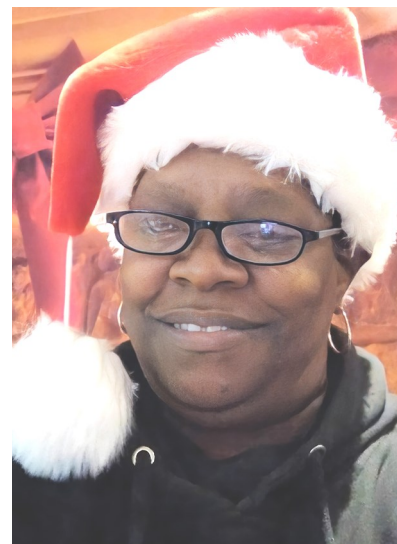
On December 24, 2023 Baltimore's Cecil Kirk Recreation Center celebrated its 32nd Annual "A Christmas Wish" Program, led by our wonderful AAU Sport Director Joyce Venable, who also serves as a Recreation Leader with Baltimore City's Department of Recreation and Parks (she's pictured right).

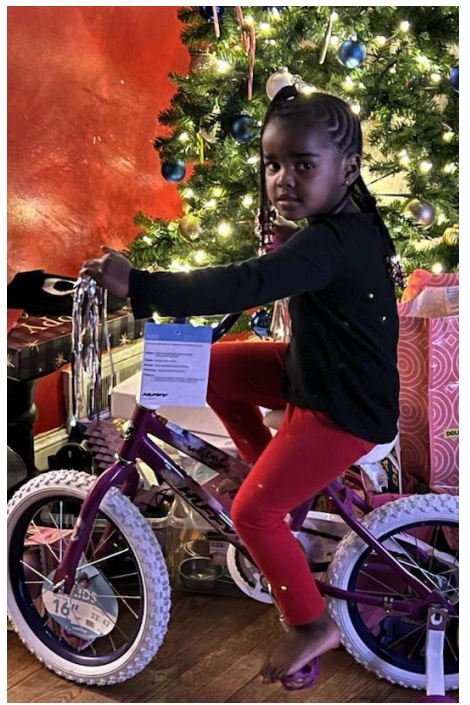
This year, "A Christmas Wish" brought joy to 250 children with gifts, including 100 brand-new bicycles, and served up 300 delicious meals. "Dedication and Determination are the keys to our success," Joyce shared with a smile. "I'm dedicated to brightening each child's holiday and determined to make it happen for everyone on my list. Huge thanks to my AAU family for all your love and support!"

Friends, staff, community members, and local organizations, like the MD District AAU, rallied together to provide generous gifts and donations.

"As always," said Ben DuBose, MD AAU Governor, "the Maryland District AAU is thrilled to support Joyce's amazing program. Her dedication to the kids and our community inspires us every year. We're honored to contribute gifts, money, and our time."

The MD District AAU brought bikes, toys, canned goods, and refreshments to share. AAU volunteers eagerly assembled bikes and toys, wrapped presents, served food, and helped distribute gifts to all, filling the day with smiles and holiday cheer.





A HEARTFELT THANK YOU!

We extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who made our 2024 Awards Banquet possible: the incredible Banquet Committee, Maryland AAU Officers, Executive Committee, MD AAU Sports Directors, Administrative Staff, our wonderful Master of Ceremonies, inspiring Guest Speakers, dedicated Coaches, tireless Volunteers, supportive Parents, and, above all, our outstanding MD AAU Athlete Awardees! We couldn't have done it without each of you - Thank You for your commitment and passion!

Ben & Antoinette DuBose,
Governor, and First Lieutenant Governor
Maryland District AAU



The Maryland District AAU wishes to thank the Administrators and Staff at Morgan State University for your continued support!



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CONGRATULATIONS to all our honored athletes!
Thank You for your efforts in representing the Maryland District, and to the Coaches and Volunteers for your unwavering patience and dedication. You are greatly appreciated and you truly reflect the AAU way. I am eternally grateful to **everyone!**

Mary K. Haynes, Sport Director – Athletics

CONGRATULATIONS 2024 MARYLAND AAU!

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