



Centre communautaire
Tyndale St-Georges
Community Centre



Fall 2019

Senior's Program at Tyndale St-Georges

Every Tuesday morning, Tyndale's golden-agers gather to live their lives to the fullest.

Tyndale St-Georges senior's program started years ago and is, until this day, a space where elders go to stay connected and involved. For a long time, the program did not have enough activities focusing on intercultural exchange amongst seniors of different cultural backgrounds, according to Chrissy Diavatopoulos, former Director of the Adult Development Department. This year, things have changed for the better!

Thanks to a grant from Service Canada called The New Horizons for Seniors Programs, elders finally have the opportunity to partake in culturally-related group activities. The program will see special help from new members of the community. A student from Dawson College in Social Services doing her internship with the Department helps animate the senior's group.

Along with extra aid, guest speakers will come in to give workshops on topics related to cultural diversity. Museum outings are a must in the newly modified program. Some of the museum visits will even focus on the history of different communities.

To top it all off, once a month a community member will animate a cooking class promoting the various types of cuisines in the community. For example, in October, the group focused on a main ingredient during the cooking workshop: apples. They made a few dishes with apples as the main ingredient. In November, the group made a vegetarian omelet with vegetables harvested from their community garden, a plot they received after being on the waiting list for six years!

One member in particular, Ethel, a Nova Scotian who moved to Montreal 14 years ago from Ontario, loves to be a member of the Centre. At 89 years old, she is far from idle! "My grandkids will say, 'aren't you bored?', and I say 'no, there's always something to do: I bake, I cook,'" Ethel says.

Benjamin, 77, moved to Canada in 1970 after a long journey from Mauritius to Europe. Like Ethel, Ben has found a way to keep himself engaged and inspired in the senior's group. He is always ready to socialize and loves to line dance with the other members.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



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New at Tyndale St-Georges

Indoor Playgrounds

Starting this fall, in partnership with **Table de concertation petite enfance famille**, Tyndale St-Georges and Amitié Soleil would like to invite children under 5 years old and their parents to participate in the first ever free space at **Les Parcs intérieurs**. Everyone is invited to the Tyndale Gymnasium one Saturday a month, from October to May for free physical activities and indoor games.

Here are some important details to remember

Where: Tyndale St-Georges Gym, 870, Richmond Square

Next dates in 2020: Saturday, February 8; Saturday, March 14; Saturday, April 18; Saturday, May 9.

Time: From 9:30 am to 12 pm

Snow, rain, or shine, we are looking forward to seeing you all at our Little Burgundy Indoor Playground!

Get to know your Tyndale St-Georges staff

Leandra Borneck started her journey at Tyndale St-Georges as an intern. The French-born educator studied social work in her native country, and graduated in June 2018. Although Leandra worked in the foster care system back home, she decided it was time for her to switch gears.

In May 2018, she contacted Monique Barling, the Volunteer Department Director, to ask if she could do a six-month internship at Tyndale St-Georges. During those six months she “was everywhere trying everything,” Leandra says. She volunteered in every department giving French lessons at the Adult Development Department two days per week, spending time with the little ones in Early Childhood Department as well as cooking for the children in the After School Program. Every afternoon she would help in the classrooms during homework time and assist in the library.

Soon after her internship, Leandra was offered a position as part time educator at the Children, Youth and Families Department, as well as part time librarian. Five months later, in May 2019, she became full time Librarian at the Tyndale St-Georges Children’s Library.

Leandra does more than read to the children, she brings her education background to the position and is a devoted educator who thoroughly enjoys her time with the children.

“I am so happy to be part of the Tyndale Family and to take part in the impact the Library has on the youth.”



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A special Thank You to our volunteer writers and translators!

Thank you to our dedicated contributors, Krystina Scenna, Christopher Neal, Karen De Lutis, Emily Dupuis and Amanda Darveau for the time they put into writing and translating our important documents. We are forever grateful!

Oscar Peterson’s story featured at the Tyndale St-Georges Children’s Library



Author **Bonnie Farmer** treated children participating in Tyndale-St. Georges’ Saturday library program Nov. 9 to a rare glimpse of Little Burgundy’s past through the story of its favorite son, the late virtuoso jazz pianist Oscar Peterson. Ms. Farmer, who grew up in Little Burgundy herself, captivated her young audience with a reading from her fictionalized biography of Peterson, “Oscar Lives Next Door”. The book, available in both languages at Tyndale’s library, tells his story from the point of view of Millie, an imagined neighbor of the young Oscar, whose family was known for making music at all hours. It offers a walk through a lost world of jazz clubs and train whistles that were the earmarks of the old Little Burgundy before the Ville Marie expressway cut through its heart in the 1960s. The kids learned that Oscar, now remembered by a park in his name and a couple of murals in the neighborhood, was gifted with “perfect pitch” and hands both skillful and big enough to reach many keys on the piano. They also learned that he became a pianist by a twist of fate: he had to abandon his first love, the trumpet, after a bout with TB left his lungs too weak to sustain the breath needed to blow the horn. After the reading, Ms. Farmer—who is also a kindergarten teacher—led the children through a quiz on the Oscar Peterson story, followed by a fun exercise in which the kids, equipped with glue and scissors, made and decorated model pianos and trumpets. Many thanks to Bonnie Farmer for generously sharing with us her original story rooted in our own community.

by Chris Neal

CONTINUED FROM THE COVER

“They’re a really great, friendly, chatty group,” Chrissy says.

Humorous as well! Jenny, a 93-year-old Ukrainian who arrived here in 1948 on a small soldier boat, has been Benjamin’s long-time neighbour on Victor Hugo Street. She loves playing games, especially bingo. “I always win!” Jenny exclaims.

Some members, like Eleanor, 74, who arrived to Canada from Barbados in 1968, is happy to have found a sense of community at Tyndale St-Georges.

The group happily anticipates the upcoming activities the program has to offer.

The senior’s program runs every Tuesday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.



Thank you to the Mar-Kin Foundation for donating 12 new computers and 2 new printers!

We are so grateful to the Mar-Kin Foundation for their generous donation. The staff and youth are so excited to have brand new computers to work on.

With this amazing donation, we are able to keep the computer lab in our main building on Richmond Square, open 7 days a week! We are also able to offer 2 new weekend positions to community members and youth. **Thank you!**

Community Bazaar - Bazar Communautaire

BRAND NEW ITEMS!
CLOTHES, CRAFTS, SNACKS, AND MUCH MORE...

DES ARTICLES TOUT NEUFS!
VÊTEMENTS, ARTISANATS, COLLATIONS ET BIEN PLUS...

7 dec. 2019
10 am - 5 pm
870 Richmond Square

*To reserve a table please call
514-931-6265 before Nov. 28.
*Pour réserver une table appelez au
514-931-6265 avant le 28 nov.

Community Bazaar

Our winter Community Bazaar is approaching! Come by the Tyndale St-Georges Gym and get an early start on your Holiday shopping!

Household items, baked goods, homemade snacks (samosas, pakoras, crepes...), new & gently used clothing and articles, homemade crafts, henna, and more!

This is a great opportunity to spend time with your community, make money and support your neighbors!

When: Saturday, December 7th from 10 am to 5 pm.

Where: Tyndale Gym

For more information or to reserve a table, contact Aishah at 514-931-6265.

Do you or someone you know have a great Tyndale Story to tell?

Was Tyndale St-Georges an important part of your life? Did the Centre help you, or someone you know, to make your dreams come true? Did you meet your Special Someone at TSG? We want to know, so please share! Send us an email to tinanaim@tyndalestgeorges.com and we will take it from there!

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