



Annual Report 2014

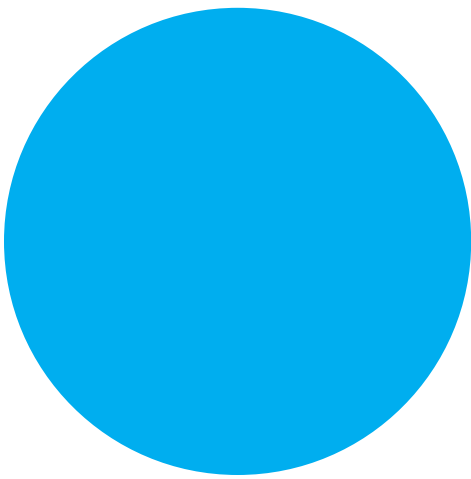
Columbia Heights Day
Initiative



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Message from the Organizers



Dear generous friends of the Columbia Heights Neighborhood,

Thank you for the overwhelming support that you poured in to the 8th Columbia Heights Day festival! Despite the challenge that the cloudy and rainy weather posed at the beginning of the day, the event eventually overcame the challenge and had a good turnout.

This is the first time that we brought together the Columbia Heights Day Initiative and the 11th Street Business Alliance to lead in organizing the event and bring the businesses and the community together for the neighborhood. This is also the first year that we brought the festival on the street. Aside from the Family Fun Field at Tubman Elementary School, we also closed off two blocks on 11th Street for stage performances, vendors, and street performers. The impact was a street bustling with people having fun as they immersed themselves in the community festival atmosphere.

Overall, we are very pleased with this year's event and very grateful for all who made it possible. We would like to thank the sponsors who significantly contributed to the festival - Meridian Pint, Pepco, Wonderland Ballroom, the Advisory Neighborhood Commission, Best Buy, Bloombars, The Coupe, DC Home Buzz, El Chucho, KBC, Maple, RedRocks, Room 11, Solimar International, Three Spot, and Zipcar.

We would also like to thank the vendors, local artisans, and different community organizations who came and showcased diverse local products and causes. Thanks to the volunteers who came to help set-up tents, guide vendors, facilitate games and sell t-shirts on the day of.

Most importantly, the event would not have been possible without the help of the volunteer board members who met and planned weekly for months leading to the CH Day.

We look forward to a more exciting, fun-filled 2015 here in Columbia Heights! With your help, we plan to bring together various organizations and individuals who love Columbia Heights and work together to give the best for the community.

Sincerely,

Chris Seek
Columbia Heights Day Initiative

The Columbia Heights Day Initiative



History

Columbia Heights Day Initiative began in 2007 as a conversation between two friends who were reminiscing about their younger days in Houston and bemoaning the lack of community adhesion in Columbia Heights. Childhood friends Sergio Herrera and Alan Petner were then challenged by their good friend Allison Basker to create and bring about a community-wide festival for Columbia Heights

With more heart than money, the trio held the 1st Columbia Heights Day festival in October 2007. Having pulled off a successful effort, the group set their sites on conquering bigger crowds and an even larger event for subsequent festivals.

What began as a dare has turned into one of D.C.'s more successful community based festivals. Crowds have grown in each of the festival's eight years as the festival's activities keep on getting better and more exciting.

An all-volunteer board of directors and a volunteer planning committee, responsible for fundraising, organizing, logistics, and managing the annual festival and other events, has governed Columbia Heights Day Initiative.



2009 Columbia Heights Day



2010 Columbia Heights Day

The Columbia Heights Day Initiative



Mission

Columbia Heights Day Initiative shall host community festivals and future community events through volunteer efforts and corporate donations, which highlight Columbia Heights businesses, provide information from community organizations, and promote Columbia Heights' values, characters, and history of neighborhood relationships principled on generosity, inclusion, harmony and family.

Vision

The vision of the Columbia Heights Day Initiative is to promote togetherness and community through the various parts of the Columbia Heights neighborhood. This shall be accomplished through sponsoring various community events, culminating with an annual community festival.

Role

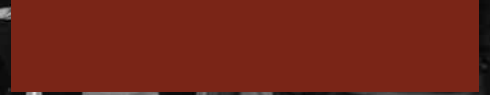
The role of Columbia Heights Day Initiative is to facilitate those activities and events necessary to fulfill the mission of the organization. Columbia Heights Day Initiative, as a 501(c)(3) corporation organized under the laws of the District of Columbia, engages in fundraising activities with corporate and non-corporate sponsors and promotes community events through strategic partnerships with like-minded organizations, groups and individuals.



2012 Columbia Heights Day



Board of Directors



Chris Seek
President

Melissa Parker
Secretary, Community Representative

Joel Reiser
Treasurer, Community Representative

John Andrade
Board Member, Business Representative

Peyton Sherwood
Board Member, Business Representative

Lia Seremetis
Board Member, Community Representative

Matt Szymanski
Board Member, Business Representative



8th Annual Columbia Heights Day Festival

CH Day 2014 Highlights



On its 8th year, the Annual Columbia Heights Day Festival held on October 11, 2014 continued to be a success, exceeding the expectations of the organizers. Thanks to the sponsors, vendors, 11th street businesses, volunteers, and organizers, the festival was able to gather the community of Columbia Heights and celebrate the momentous day.

The planning of the event began on February 2014. The Board of Directors were assigned with different responsibilities for the event including fundraising, inviting vendors, coordinating the set-up and security, promoting the event, and managing the different activities for the event. Despite the rain, more than 5200 participants attended the festival.

Aside from the new Board of Directors and festival planning committee, there were several changes made to the festival. One of the most crucial changes this year was the street layout of the festival. In addition to the Harriet Tubman Elementary School's soccer field and outdoor area, the 2014 festival included having two blocks of 11th Street, between Park Road and Kenyon Street, closed off for the set up of tents and booths.



Flow of Activities

Although the day started out to be cloudy and rainy, the weather eventually turned out to be better as the crowd numbers began to increase. At 8:00 AM, the volunteers and organizers started to set up the tents, booths, and the stage. The festival officially started at 10:00 AM with community yoga, zumba, and stage performances.

Vendors also began to receive customers as festival goers walked along 11th Street. Alongside these booths were the Moonbounce and Dunk Tank areas. Politicians volunteered to get themselves wet and helped raise funds for the Harriet Tubman Elementary School Parents

Teachers Association (PTA). For every dollar donation, a participant was given three chances to throw the ball and dunk the politician of the hour. This activity raised a total of \$755 for the Harriet Tubman PTA.

Tubman Elementary School also hosted the Family Fun Field Day where kids could do different activities, arts and crafts, story time, collect stickers, and get a chance to win a Popcorn Machine donated by Best Buy. The petting zoo, a favorite among children, was also located on the soccer field. After the festival, a free movie screening of E.T. - Extra Terrestrial was also held on the soccer field where families cuddled and wrapped themselves in blankets



The Dunk Tank was able to raise \$755 for the Tubman Elementary School - that's at least 2,265 throws from the kids and the young-at-heart!



Flow of Activities

Three of the most popular contests during the Columbia Heights Day Festival were the Pie Eating Contest, Adult Tricycle Race, and the Popcorn Machine Contest.

Even before the actual event date, many people have inquiring about how they can join the Pie Eating Contest. The crowd cheered for their friends and neighbors who bravely went on stage for this challenge. Without using their hands or any utensils, the contestants were tasked to finish the blueberry pies that they were eating to win a t-shirt and gift certificate from Wonderland Ballroom. In the end, after less than 5 minutes, the winner Gabe Barouh, was determined!

Another popular contest was the Adult Tricycle Race, which went on to be very successful! The lines to participate and try out the tricycles continued on and on until one of the tricycles broke. Children couldn't help but join in as well. Big thanks to Peyton Sherwood (of Kangaroo Boxing Club) and Rose Donna (of Wonderland Ballroom) who were in charge of managing the race.

Meanwhile, in the Tubman field, kids were given a chance to win the Popcorn Machine from Best Buy. To win the machine, the children had to try out all the activities on the field and collect stickers. Those who collected all the stickers were then given a raffle ticket where they could put their names and contact number for the raffle draw just before the Movie Night. The lucky winner was Brizel, who collected her prize on Monday, October 13.



The Lucky Popcorn Machine winner, Brizel!





Vendors and Sponsors

Various vendors and sponsors came in to be part of the Columbia Heights Day Festival. They not only provided our festival goers with food, beverage, gift items, and entertainment, but they also helped to raise funds for the community. Their contribution, support, and patience were a great part in making the festival happen.





Festival Planning Committee & Volunteers

Planning Committee

Chris Seek
President

Melissa Parker
Secretary, Community Representative

Joel Reiser
Treasurer, Community Representative

John Andrade
Board Member, Business
Representative

Peyton Sherwood
Board Member, Business
Representative

Lia Seremetis
Board Member, Community
Representative

Matt Szymanski
Board Member, Business
Representative

Sarbjit Gill

Annabel de Braganca

Cheeneo Otarra

Volunteers

Bryan Alexander
Aron Baum
Jess Blinn
Malecia Bynum
Wing Kei Chan
Sarah Christiansen
Vitold Chrzanowski
Dale Colbert
Rose Donna
Tiffani Fleming
Sarb Gill
Randy Goldstein
Ryan Hauptman
Liz Heimann
Ashley Hodge
Brionna Hunter
Creyb Ishliob
Jerimie Jones
Simon Jones
Polly Kisin
John Kwening
Paul Lagoy
Monika Lawrence
Beverlie Lord
Mim Lu
Karyl Marsigli
Chickaro Martin
Maarit Moran

Stephanie Mulhern
Andrew Neely
Beth Osborne
Cheeneo Otarra
Jenise Overmier
Alison Pease
Jusna Perrin
Adrienne Peters
Jess Pierno
Katie Rehwaldt
Patricia Ruane
Christina Seek
Adrian Servetnick
Rashawn Stepney
Ted Taliaferro
Will Thanhauser
Jessica Tierney
Cornelia Treptow
Lauren Vick
Kayla Whitley
Mariah Whitley
Rose Woo
Jeff Yerxa

Photographers

Mike Danko
Liz Heimann

Acknowledgements

Columbia Heights Day Initiative would like to acknowledge the following individuals, organizations and corporations for their generous support and in helping us meet our fundraising and festival goals.



Allison Baker
 Bartered Threads
 Beltway Right to Life
 Best Buy
 Cardon Studios
 Catania for Mayor
 Cherry Blossom Creative
 Chipecto Inc.
 Coccy Cafe
 Cove
 Craft Kombucha
 David Do for Ward 1
 DCPL/ Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood Library
 DC Self Defense Karate Association
 DC Sustainable Energy Utility
 DC Vote
 The District Church
 Early Learning Project/ Georgetown
 Elevate Interval Fitness
 FIT360 DC
 GoodShuffle
 Help-U-Sell Federal City Realty
 Home Fix Custom Remodeling
 Inspire DC
 Karl Racine for Attorney General
 Khepra's Raw Food Juice Bar
 Kitchen Saver
 Lafayette Federal Credit Union
 Laura for School Board
 Local High

Acknowledgements



Marcella Kriebel Art + Illustration
Mousybabe
Muriel Bowser for Mayor
My Sister's Place
nmcJewelry
Peace Corps Response
Pleasant Pops
Project Northstar
RedRocks
Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of
Washington DC
Shrine of the Sacred Heart DC
Sign of Jonah Partnerships in Healing
SOGH Art Truck
SW Church of Christ
Thip Khao by Chef Seng
Thrive DC
Tower Construction & Engineering Services
Viva The Life Real Estate Team
Washington Peace Center
WHUT Howard University
Yoga Heights
YMCA
YWCA NCA
Zipcar
Zukerberg for Attorney General





Financial Statement

Income Statement

Income

Donations and Grants	\$4,800.00	
Sponsors & Vendors	\$27,450.00	
Miscellaneous	<u>\$1,430.00</u>	\$33,680.00

Less: Expenses

Equipment Rental	\$9,097.67	
Security, Traffic Control	\$8,968.44	
Entertainment	\$4,753.26	
Marketing	\$3,850.22	
Event Permitting	\$2,000.00	
Medical	\$1,190.00	
Donation for Tubman PTA	\$755.00	
Food & Beverage	\$429.30	
Insurance	\$733.40	
Bad Debts*	\$2,500.00	
Tubman Field Custodian Fee	\$513.92	
Refund	\$200.00	
Banking Fees	<u>\$312.00</u>	<u>\$35,303.21</u>

Net Income

-\$1,623.00

*An organization pledged to donate \$2500 for the Columbia Heights Day Initiative but was not able to pay the check.



