

# City Academy

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 16, 2009



## HEARTFELT THANKS

I would like to personally thank our City Academy community for participating in the annual Community Coat Exchange by donating coats and warm clothing items. Donations were down this year, from 700 coats last year to 400 this year and more people than ever came to Library plaza to get coats. Your donations touched many lives the day after Thanksgiving. Whole families, some of them homeless, vets in need of clothes, and others benefited from the available items. This is probably an indicator of the hard times many people are facing. Organizations like Crossroads Urban Center Thrift Store, where the left over coats were taken, are more important than ever as more and more people experience joblessness, homelessness, and difficult economic situations. As the winter months move on,

please consider continuing the spirit of giving by bringing any warm clothing items directly to the organization of your choice or to City Academy, Community Coat Exchange Partner, for distribution to people in need. Together we are making a difference to the lives of people in our own communities.

Deanna Taylor, Founder,  
Community Coat Exchange



*Happy holidays to the City Academy community. We hope our students are able to have a healthy break and that they are also able to stay focused on the work they are currently producing and will be finishing as the quarter comes to an end in the first few weeks of January.*

## Announcing the 2010 VSA arts Playwright Discovery Call for Scripts

The VSA arts Playwright Discovery Program invites middle and high school students to take a closer look at the world around them, examine how disability affects their lives and the lives of others, and express their views through the art of playwriting. Playwrights may write from their own experience or about an experience in the life of another person or fictional character. Scripts can be comedies, dramas, or even musicals—be creative! Young playwrights with and without disabilities are encouraged to submit a script. Entries may be the work of an individual student or a collaboration by a group or class of students.

The winning play will be professionally produced or staged at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. The winning playwright receives \$2,000 and a trip to Washington, D.C., to see his or her play performed.

All submissions must be received by April 15, 2010, for consideration.

## IMPORTANT DATES

DEC.21-  
JAN 1

No School- Winter  
Break

JAN. 15

End of 2nd Term

JAN. 18

No School-  
MLK, Jr. Day



## EXCITING AND FUN WELLNESS COMMITTEE EVENTS!

### DECEMBER

Slide on into your Winter Break with the Wellness Committee on Saturday, Dec.19. Join us for a fun time of sledding and hot chocolate at Sugarhouse Park. Bring your own sleds or disks or whatever you want to slide on!

Meet us at Highland High near the main entrance at 12:30 and we can scope at a top notch sledding spot together!

Also, the Wellness Committee is looking for donations of hot chocolate packets for these upcoming events.



## SAVE THE DATE!!!

**City Academy is Celebrating a  
“Decade of Excellence”**

**Please plan to join us on February 10, 2010**

**for our**

**10 Year Anniversary Gala & Fundraiser**

**4:10pm – 6:10pm featuring:**

- **Silent Auction**
- **Live Entertainment**
- **10 Years of Photos**
- **Food, Drinks, Fun, & Prizes!**

The public is welcome to this event so please feel free to bring as many guests as you like! Just send us an email with the number of guests attending and your name to: [rsvp@cityacademyslc.org](mailto:rsvp@cityacademyslc.org)

# The Giving Tree

Once there was a giving tree who loved a little boy.  
And everyday the boy would come to play  
Swinging from the branches, sleeping in the shade  
Laughing all the summer's hours away.  
And so they love,  
Oh, the tree was happy.  
Oh, the tree was glad.

But soon the boy grew older and one day he came and said,  
"Can you give me some money, tree, to buy something I've found?"  
"I have no money," said the tree, "Just apples, twigs and leaves."  
"But you can take my apples, boy, and sell them in the town."  
And so he did and  
Oh, the tree was happy.  
Oh, the tree was glad.

But soon again the boy came back and he said to the tree,  
"I'm now a man and I must have a house that's all my home."  
"I can't give you a house" he said,  
"The forest is my house."  
"But you may cut my branches off and build yourself a home"

And so he did.  
Oh, the tree was happy.  
Oh, the tree was glad.

And time went by and the boy came back with sadness in his eyes.  
"My life has turned so cold," he says, "and I need sunny days."  
"I've nothing but my trunk," he says, "But you can cut it down  
And build yourself a boat and sail away."  
And so he did and  
Oh, the tree was happy.  
Oh, the tree was glad.

And after years the boy came back, both of them were old.  
"I really cannot help you if you ask for another gift."  
"I'm nothing but an old stump now. I'm sorry but I've nothing more to give"  
"I do not need very much now, just a quiet place to rest,"  
The boy, he whispered, with a weary smile.  
"Well", said the tree, "An old stump is still good for that."  
"Come, boy", he said, "Sit down, sit down and rest a while."  
And so he did and  
Oh, the tree was happy.  
Oh, the tree was glad.



**Please Support The Annual Giving Tree Project**  
**at City Academy**  
**December 2 – December 17**



**PLEASE BRING ITEMS IN LIST BELOW TO ADVISORY**  
**TO BE DONATED TO THE RONALD McDONALD HOUSE**

***\*\*\*All items must be NEW for the health of the families.\*\*\****

# RONALD McDONALD HOUSE HOLIDAY WISH LIST

Updated 09/09

Many of the families at the Ronald McDonald House can't return home for the holiday season. Thanks to generous "elves" like you, Santa visits our Houses each year to create a very special Christmas for these families.

*Gifts must be new and unwrapped.*

**Please deliver gifts to 1135 East South Temple House no later than December 15<sup>th</sup>.**

## **Gifts for Parents and Teens**

Photo albums

New Release DVD's (PG, PG-13 or G rating only please)

Men's toiletry kits , something that would also be nice for an older teen boy to use

Women's cosmetic, bath or manicure sets

Men's and women's gloves and hats

Scrapbooking kits

Jewelry

Pen set

Handheld games (electronic Solitaire, Hangman, 20 Questions, etc) & batteries

Model kits

Small tool kits

Pajama bottoms (Men's and Women's M, L & XL)

Long sleeve tees (Men's and Women's M, L & XL)

## **Gifts for Children & Babies**

Footballs, basketballs, soccer balls

Toys: newborn-18 months, 2-5 years & **6-14 years especially** (we have plenty of board games)

Newborn size clothes

All Children size pajamas

**Gifts for All Ages** – Often it is difficult to predict a family's specific needs in advance of the holiday. Gift cards in denominations of less than \$25 are greatly appreciated. Please purchase cards to national retailers in case a family does not have a chance to use the cards while in Salt Lake City.

Gift Cards (\$25 or less): Barnes & Noble, Toys 'R Us, Bath & Body Works, Borders, Old Navy, Target, Wal-Mart and Home Depot are recommended.

Gasoline Gift Cards (\$25 or less): Maverik, Chevron and Tesoro are recommended.

Grocery Gift Cards (\$25 or less): National chains such as Kroger (Smith's is a Kroger affiliate) and Albertson's are recommended.

Restaurant Gift Cards (\$25 or less): Olive Garden, Red Lobster, Pizza Hut and Sizzler are recommended.

For more information or other volunteer projects, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator @ 801-363-4663

[www.rmhslc.org](http://www.rmhslc.org)