

The **ROUNDTABLE**

EDUCATION. OPPORTUNITY. EQUITY.

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH

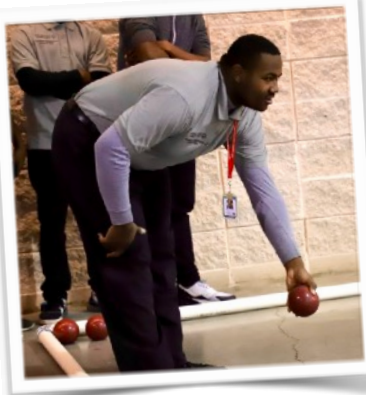
Bocce Unifies Scholars of All Abilities!

High school students of all abilities across Philadelphia are celebrating a different sort of championship. It's one that brings young adults together in competition and camaraderie to play the game of bocce. It's been weeks of training and competing to get to the division finals and now these scholars: **Kareem Chapman, Damont Smith, Khaleel Tindley, Jayden West, Deshaun Bryant, George Marion, Kyshawn Morrison, Tavion Moore, Kalah Bester, Domonekia Hayes, and Kierra Vaughn** are working together to take home a win. This competition included 12 high schools with eight players per team – half with intellectual disabilities, the other

half without. Senior Kalah Bester said, **"It taught me patience and teamwork and gave me a chance to see how independent they could be."**

These students trained for two months and competed in league days before getting to the division finals. But it's not just about winning. There's more to what you see here than winning medals. Special Olympics of Pennsylvania is promoting inclusion in schools. "We find that once those friendships happen, there is less bullying in

the schools," said Kristin Craven, special events and marketing manager of Special Olympics of Pennsylvania. And it seems to work. **"They want to be your friend and it never hurts to talk to them and be nice to them,"** Bester said. All in all, there's still a win at stake and some are after it. The winning team goes on to compete for the state championship in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Second and third place get to visit the Phillies and play at Citizens Bank Park.



FEBRUARY 6-7
Report Card
Conferences
1/2 DAY



FEBRUARY 14
Valentine's Day
Dance



FEBRUARY 17
President's Day
NO SCHOOL!



FEBRUARY 28
Black History Month
Performance
12pm Dismissal

Scholars Getting Some Culture...

Mansion scholars visited the Philadelphia Museum of Art to explore the **Designs for Different Futures** exhibition that brings together over eighty works of art and design addressing the challenges and opportunities that humans may encounter in the years, decades, and centuries ahead. From daring flights of imagination to products already on the market, the works on view explore what lies ahead for the earth and its inhabitants – through the interplay of design, art, science, and technology.

Along with these futuristic designs, scholars saw classic famous masterpieces like VanGogh's "Sunflowers" and Monet's "Waterlillies." Rounding out their field trip was the obligatory picture with Philly's own Rocky statue.



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Mansion C-H-E-E-R!

By Tahira Briscoe. The Strawberry Mansion cheerleading team has grown tremendously since the last school year. More and more scholars have been joining the squad in comparison to the last school year, where there were only five cheerleaders on this team. This year, there were twelve, and you can see the dedication, energy, and confidence in the girls' eyes. The new girls on the team were able to catch onto the cheers and dance choreography very quickly and had lots of fun doing it.



This year for the Mansion cheerleaders, they suffered a temporary loss of their cheer coach, Ms. Christina, however Monique Tinley kindly stepped in to be the girl's cheer coach for the rest of the season. Special thanks to Ms. Tinley and her daughter, Porscha, for creating the dance routine for the cheer competition that took place on December 8, 2019 at the Liacouras Centre. Unfortunately, Co-Captain, Sasha Goody was unable to participate in the annual cheerleading competition due to an injury, however she was still in the stands supporting her team even though she wasn't eligible to compete. The cheerleaders had a great 2019-2020 season and are looking forward to the next season representing Mansion athletics. In conclusion, I am proud of the girls, our Mansion sports teams, and as always, **Forever Mansion!**

