

# Kenwood RROTHERHOOD, Inc.

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## Happy New Year 2020

By Dr. Shelby T. Wyatt, Chairman Board of Directors

Happy New Year! It's the second decade of the Kenwood Academy Brotherhood. Over 750 young men have experienced "True Brotherhood" since our beginning in 2004. Currently, the Brotherhood is doing well. The senior members are taking their responsibilities very seriously by providing peer mentoring to each other. The officers are collaborating to ensure that the Brotherhood is alive and active.

The 2019-2020 Brotherhood year is going strong. Brotherhood still meets twice a week. Wednesdays, during Advisory, tends to be the most popular meeting. Friday meetings are still strong, but we have time constraints with the athletes that are dividing their time between Brotherhood and practice.

So far, the officers have presented thought provoking topics and interesting creative ice breakers. The Kenwood Administration placed

Please see New Year's greeting on page 2



Dionte Henderson
2019-2020 Treasurer

## **Kenwood Academy Brotherhood**

By Dionte Henderson, Treasurer

Hello, my name is Dionte Henderson. I have been a part of Brotherhood since my freshman year. I am the Brotherhood's current Treasurer. As Treasurer this year I am looking out for the financial status of Brotherhood. I am making sure we continue to have fundraisers to raise money for college trips, food, and the future Brotherhood members.

This year, as treasurer, I have learned a great deal about accounting and money handling. As time goes on, I feel that I will learn a lot more. I investigated Krispy Kreme's for our first fundraiser. At first, I thought it was going to be an easy job. You get the donuts. You sell the donuts. I didn't know all the things that go into creating a fundraiser like completing forms for Chicago Public Schools in order to have a fundraiser. I also didn't know that we need to buy napkins for the donuts. Finally, I didn't know that the

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Pierre Carll-Moton



Pierre & Jerode Planning



Mosaic's Committee

## **Brotherhood MOSAIC: Elements of Art**

By Pierre Carll-Moton, 2019-2020 Event Coordinator

Happy New Year Brotherhood Alumni and Supporters. My name is Pierre Carll-Moton. I'm currently a senior at Kenwood and have been a Brotherhood member since freshman year. I was elected to be the Event Coordinator for this year. I'm writing to explain to you a fundraising idea that I had at the beginning of the year.

The Brotherhood members and I are planning the Brotherhood Mosaic Event aka the Elements of Art. Initially it was going to be a film festival hosted by the Kenwood Academy Brotherhood as a fundraiser for our annual Spring College Tour. The Arts and Culture adaptation was suggested by Ms. Kimborough, an intern for the Brotherhood. From then on, improvements to the blueprint for the event have been contributed by Jerode Rodgers, a spoken word poet and Brotherhood alumni, and Dr. Wyatt.

Jerode came up with the Mosaic idea because it represents what Brotherhood is all about. When you look closely at a mosaic you see small pieces. But when you step back you see the bigger picture. That is how the Brotherhood works. When you look closely at us, you see each of us working together. When you look at the whole Brotherhood group you see how the small pieces are working together for the bigger picture; Tru Brotherhood.

Please see Brotherhood Mosaic on page 4

#### Happy New Year from page 1

exercised machines near our Wednesday meeting space. It has become the "warm up" spot before the guys engage in male mentoring topics.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fundraising Gala held on October 10, 2019 was a huge success. Honorees David Borom, Cortez Hicks, Xavier Thorns, Anthony Downing, and Elizabeth Kirby gave compelling acceptance speeches indicating their continued support of the Kenwood Brotherhood. The most influential speeches for the evening came from current Brotherhood members Kamaree Abel, Brian Calhoun, Jeremiah Johnson, and Jeremiah Pope. Each one told their personal story of how the Brotherhood has helped them to stay on a positive path. Alumni Jordan Lanfair was so compelled that he volunteered to donate \$1000 in a college scholarship to any Brotherhood member that chooses teacher education as a college major.

**The Holiday Social** was enjoyed on December 19, 2019. The guys donated socks/hats/scarves/gloves to be donated to the homeless Pacific Gardens Mission in Chicago.



Original Brotherhood Members: Cortez Hicks, Dr. Joyce Brown, Xavier Thorns, Jonathan Thomas, Dr. Wyatt

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## Wassup with the Brotherhood Alumni?

JERODE "JERONIMO" RODGERS, CLASS OF 2005

Jerode has come a long way from the "Realest Hood" that he performed at the Brotherhood's 2005 Awards Ceremony. He has travelled across the United States as a Spoken Word Artist. Although he is married with a daughter, he still finds time to support the Kenwood Academy Brotherhood. Here is an excerpt from an interview conducted in the UK.

**Jeronimo Speaks**, is blazing a trail across the US using the emotive power of Spoken Word. The Chicago born poet, has been steadily rising in popularity since he first appeared on the Spoken Word and Poetry circuit in 2010. With hard hitting and illuminating poetry inspired by his observations and life experiences, he has expanded his following and dazzled critics, so much so that last year, Chicago's P.O.E.T Organization named him Spoken Word Artist of the year.

#### Q. What is it about the art that speaks to you?

Poetry is important to me because I feel like it is the unsung language of those without a voice, it allows those who usually would not be heard to be the center of attention, it allows the otherwise quiet to scream till their hearts content, it allows a flow of information to travel to ears otherwise would never have heard it and last but not least it touches hearts in a manner and depth that nothing else could ever do in my opinion.

## Q. What influenced you to transition from writing raps to creating spoken word pieces?

I was first introduced to spoken word in high school at an open mic [event]. I did not know that spoken word was so entertaining. I thought all poetry was written in old English or performed in a boring monotone type of style. So, when I first saw it and heard it performed like it was being done, I was instantly in awe and was a fan of the culture and knew ever since then I would be an intricate part of it.

Brotherhood Alumni - please register your contact information online at <a href="https://tinyurl.com/y9hwkc3e">https://tinyurl.com/y9hwkc3e</a>.

#### Kenwood Academy Brotherhood from page 1

icing on the donuts melts when it gets warm. For that reason, the donuts must stay cold. Where do we put them? Doc's car of course. He had to order and then go get the donuts. It was a long drive from Kenwood. I also didn't think that Kenwood students and teachers would be buying donuts like they did. One day we sold 300 donuts in one day.

My expectations as treasurer this year is for Brotherhood to be at a financial standing were all our members will have a chance to go on college tours and see what job opportunities are available when they get out of school. My personal goal as treasurer is to develop long-term strategies and fundraiser, and always ensure that Brotherhood has enough money. I think Krispy Kreme's should be an annual fundraiser for Brotherhood.









Jerode Rodgers, '05

"...it is the unsung language of those without a voice..."



Dionte making sure the money is correct.

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Brotherhood Mosaic from page 2

The event has changed to not only be a fundraiser for the Kenwood Academy Brotherhood spring college tour, but also a celebration of arts and culture in the Hyde Park and Chicago communities. Participation from the community and Kenwood Brotherhood alumni is needed, as the community is what brings this event together and makes it what it is.

The purpose of the Brotherhood Mosaic event is to celebrate the arts and culture in the community. Though it is a fundraiser it is really a way to bring together people in the community and appreciate them for their work. The acknowledgment

### **Upcoming Events**

By Pierre Carll-Moton & Jeremiah Pope, Event Planners

#### Happy New Year 2020

Upcoming events that we are working on:

- 1. Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> Brotherhood Mtgs.
- 2. Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>- Brotherhood Meeting
- 3. Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> Brotherhood Meeting
- 4. Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> Dr. MLK Speech Contest
- 5. Jan. 24th Finals Study Table
- 6. Jan. 29-Feb. 1- Southern Illinois University-Carbondale College Tour
- 7. March 20<sup>th</sup> Mosaics Arts Festival 6:00-8:00 p.m. Cost is \$10.00

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of their talents as well as the talents of the people in the Brotherhood is very important. I hope to see YOU there!

#### Pierre



