PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

As I concluded my first full school year as president and CEO of An Achievable Dream, I reflected on what a spectacular year 2018/2019 has been. With every year that passes, I am constantly reminded of how honored I am to work with students, teachers, staff, and donors who continue to grow and accomplish amazing things together.

With the 2019/2020 school year already off to a great start, we are thrilled for some changes this year will bring. On November 16, we will be hosting our 27th Annual Tennis Ball at the Hampton Roads Convention Center. We are excited to announce that this year, the Tennis Ball will be moving to a larger space in the exhibit hall at the Convention Center! The increase in size of the event will allow us to offer more corporate sponsorships, special auction items (such as boats, motorcycles, and cars inside the exhibit hall), more space for socializing, and new and improved bars! Not to mention an exciting program you won’t want to miss.

Although the expansion of the Tennis Ball is very exciting, the best part of the evening will be watching a bright future for every child.

Join us for the 27th Annual Tennis Ball

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16 | 5:30 – 10:30 PM
Same location, great new space!
This year’s event will take place in the exhibit halls on the first floor of the Hampton Roads Convention Center.

An evening you won’t forget for a mission you believe in.

Join us for an unforgettable evening as we celebrate the students of An Achievable Dream Academies and meet the Class of 2020 and the Class Sponsor during an exciting program! Shop for a purpose in our extensive silent auction and high-energy live auction, mix and mingle with local business and community leaders, and be inspired by this year’s keynote speaker, Isaiah Lucas, AAD Class of 2015. (See page 3 to read more about Isaiah.)

Event attire is black tie-optional.

Open bars | Passed hors d’oeuvres | Gourmet dinner

Purchase tickets and sponsorships today at TennisBall.org. See page 2 for more information on sponsorship packages.
Imagine Sponsor $10,000+
- Reserved Tennis Ball table for 10 people
- Limousine transportation to and from Tennis Ball
- 20 chances to win raffle car
- Premium seating in dining room
- Free delivery of purchased auction items to your home
- Full-page ad in Tennis Ball program booklet
- Logo and listing in Tennis Ball program booklet and event screens
- Logo in Winter 2020 Achievements newsletter
- Logo and listing on An Achievable Dream’s website and event website

Diamond Sponsor $3,750
- Reserved Tennis Ball table for 10 people
- Limousine transportation to and from Tennis Ball
- 10 chances to win raffle car
- Preferred seating in dining room
- Free delivery of purchased auction items to your home
- Full-page ad in Tennis Ball program booklet
- Listing in Tennis Ball program booklet and event screens
- Listing in Winter 2020 Achievements newsletter
- Listing on An Achievable Dream’s website and event website

Platinum Sponsor $2,500
- Reserved Tennis Ball table for 10 people
- 5 chances to win raffle car
- Preferred seating in dining room
- Full-page ad in Tennis Ball program booklet
- Listing in Tennis Ball program booklet and event screens
- Listing in Winter 2020 Achievements newsletter
- Listing on An Achievable Dream’s website and event website

Gold Sponsor $1,500
- Tennis Ball tickets for 6 people
- 3 chances to win raffle car
- Half-page ad in Tennis Ball program booklet
- Listing in Tennis Ball program booklet and event screens
- Listing in Winter 2020 Achievements newsletter
- Listing on An Achievable Dream’s website and event website

Silver Sponsor $1,000
- Tennis Ball tickets for 4 people
- 2 chances to win raffle car
- Quarter-page ad in Tennis Ball program booklet
- Listing in Tennis Ball program booklet and event screens
- Listing in Winter 2020 Achievements newsletter
- Listing on An Achievable Dream’s website and event website

Bronze Sponsor $500
- Tennis Ball tickets for 2 people
- 1 chance to win raffle car
- Eighth-page ad in Tennis Ball program booklet
- Listing in Tennis Ball program booklet and event screens
- Listing in Winter 2020 Achievements newsletter
- Listing on An Achievable Dream’s website and event website

To purchase tickets or sponsorships, visit TennisBall.org
Meet Isaiah Lucas

AAD Class of 2015 and 2019 Tennis Ball Keynote Speaker

I began my journey at An Achievable Dream in 3rd grade. Throughout my time at AAD, there were many experiences I will remember for the rest of my life. One of the opportunities I experienced was visiting and taking a tour of the White House. As a child, I had the dream of being President of the United States, and being able to walk into a space so full of history was amazing to me. I never thought as a young black male from Newport News, I would ever have the opportunity to visit the White House. Since that day, I have known with confidence that my dreams were achievable.

An Achievable Dream is a major stepping stone in my success story, which isn't finished yet. When all the elements, whether it was my family or financial status, were telling me no, An Achievable Dream was telling me yes. The program taught me that nothing is impossible, and it gave me the confidence and the hope I needed to tackle my dreams head-on. I went through difficult times as a young student: I didn’t have a strong sense of identity, I contemplated suicide multiple times, and I thought that nobody loved me. An Achievable Dream gave me reassurance that I am loved, I do matter, and I can do this.

After my time at An Achievable Dream, I attended Richard Bland College, where I served as an Admissions Ambassador, Resident Assistant and President of the Residence Hall Association. After my time at Richard Bland I transferred to Old Dominion University, where I served as Director of Academic and Organizational Affairs for SGA, Program Assistant to the Dean of Students, and a two-time Student Government Association President. I also became the first African American graduate student to serve in that role.

After I finish my Master’s program at Old Dominion University, I can see myself pursuing multiple careers. I would like to work at a college or university, in Black Student Affairs, in a role that allows me to ensure the well-being, unity, development, and education of black students on campuses where they are a minority. I can see myself teaching at the collegiate level in a higher education program. I hope to see myself on the school board for Newport News Public Schools. I would also love to create an organization that inspires black male high school seniors to live up to their full potential.

As the 2019 Tennis Ball keynote speaker, I feel a variety of emotions as I look back on my time at AAD. I am honored and humbled, but most importantly, I am excited. It is an amazing honor to give back to a program that has given me so much. To be given the opportunity to address a thousand people and talk about my personal experience is amazing. I am most looking forward to sharing my trials, as well as my success, and to show that I really am somebody.

Tennis Ball Silent Auction Item Categories

- Children’s Items
- Pamper Yourself Experiences
- Holiday Items
- Cheers & Spirits
- Home & Garden
- Sports
Dreaming of Field Trips!

Our Dreamers had amazing opportunities to attend many different field trips throughout our 2019 summer intersession! From college tours, to hands-on activities, to a private airport tour, our students were given so many unique opportunities this summer. Here is a look at the unforgettable opportunities YOU and supporters like you helped make possible for our Dreamers during summer intersession.

Third-grade students from An Achievable Dream Academy participated in STEM and team-building activities at the Newport News Shipbuilding Apprentice School.

Fourth-grade Dreamers spent the day at the U.S. Coast Guard Base.

Seatack Elementary students spent the day at MSP Design Group, designing t-shirts and learning about designing apparel.

Achievable Dream students at the US Open Tennis Championships in New York. The USTA Mid-Atlantic provided this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our students.
Students learned from different Tidewater Community Colleges Professors, while getting to learn in a real college classroom!

Students learned about different animals at Mariners’ Museum, where they learned more about animals and played with dogs and kittens.

Third graders at Seatack Elementary learned about the TSA security process and received a private airport tour at Norfolk International Airport.

Chick’s Oyster Bar hosted our students for a behind-the-scenes restaurant tour and even treated our Dreamers to lunch!

High school students learned about debate skills from the nation’s most successful debater at George Mason University Debate Institute.

Students learned from different Tidewater Community Colleges Professors, while getting to learn in a real college classroom!

President’s Message, continued from page 1

the Class of 2020 walk across the stage in their caps and gowns for the first time. Year after year, this tradition continues to be our guests’ favorite part of the evening—and ours as well.

We are also incredibly excited to be announcing our inaugural A Night to Dream gala to benefit the AAD program in Virginia Beach. The event will take place on Friday, February 7 at the Cavalier Hotel. We know it will be a spectacular evening you’ll want to share with your family and friends. (See back page for sponsorship and ticketing information.) I hope you will join us in November and February as we continue to celebrate achieving dreams together!

Sincerely,
Lee Vreeland, Ed.D., President & CEO

To our Boards of Directors, thank you for your time, support, commitment, and for sharing the Dream.

An Achievable Dream, Inc.
Brian K. Skinner, Chair
Mari Ann Banks
Richard A. Coleman
Elizabeth B. David
William B. Downey
Ivan “Bubba” Hutchison
Nancy L. Levin
Paul Muse
Matt Needy
Linda Rohrer
Mario Stellute
Dwight West

AAD Middle & High School, Inc.
Mary Hughes, Chair
John F. Biagas, Vice Chair
Ray Bagley
Robert Braig
Arthur S. Casey
Denise R. Chamblee
Michael Daniels
Chris Edinger
Kevin Harrison
Marsha Hudgins
Branch Lawson
Thomas Meehan, Sr.
Charles Spencer

AAD Endowment, Inc.
Timothy P. Dykstra, Chair
Marvin Friedberg, Vice Chair
E. D. David, Treasurer/Secretary
Anne Conner
William Ermatinger
Gordon Gentry
Aubrey L. Layne, Jr.
Steve Roberts

AAD Virginia Beach
Frances Luter, Chair
William Foster, Vice Chair
Charles Barker
Joan Berlin
Tony Brothers
Capt. Christopher “Kit” Chope
Carol Curtis
Craig Grube
Lori Kalfus
Jay Klebanoff
John Lynch
Cheryl McLeskey
Jack Ross
Bev Sessoms
Jeff Silverman
Annabelle Stiffler
Michael V. Taylor
Vanessa Yearick

AAD Certified Academies
Dr. Catina Bullard Clark, Chair
Courtney Graves
Peggy Layne
Donna Marcials
Gabriel Morgan
Bruce Rubin

www.achievabledream.org
The 2019/2020 school year started with a bang—or should we say, a dance! To kick off the school year in style, officers and deputies from the Newport News Police Department, Newport News Sheriff’s Office, Virginia Beach Police Department, and Henrico County Sheriff’s Office joined some of our Dreamers and AAD staff for a dance party! The officers, deputies, students, and staff joined together to create a video, the latest social media craze, “The Git Up Challenge.” It was an amazing day filled with laughs, lots of dancing, and life-long memories! Visit AchievableDream.org to see the video!

“Careers” Day
In August, our Dreamers in Virginia Beach spent the day learning about different career opportunities from many local businesses in the Hampton Roads area. Representatives from Newport News Shipbuilding, W.M. Jordan, Bank of America, Cox Communications, State Farm, Hercules Fence, Virginia Media, Capital Group, Kroger, and NBA Referee Tony Brothers spoke to our students about their jobs, the kinds of services their companies provide, and how they achieved success in their careers. Our students were inspired and motivated by this interactive day!
Celebrity Weekend Extravaganza and Trailblazer Awards Gala

This year, An Achievable Dream was again the beneficiary of the **Celebrity Weekend Extravaganza**, hosted by **Men for Hope** and **Tony Brothers**. An Achievable Dream participated in the program at the **Trailblazer Awards** Gala (part of the Weekend Extravaganza), a night to honor local community members who are Trailblazers in our region, as well as the Celebrity Golf Tournament. Proceeds from the weekend helped support An Achievable Dream. Thank you, Men for Hope and Tony Brothers, for your support and dedication to An Achievable Dream!

Billfish Tournament

In August, An Achievable Dream was honored to be one of the nonprofit beneficiaries of the **Virginia Beach Billfish Tournament**, presented by **Charles Barker Automotive**. Thank you to the Virginia Beach Billfish Foundation and Charles Barker Automotive for your support!

F. Wayne McLeskey Memorial Marlin Open

An Achievable Dream was grateful to be included in the **F. Wayne McLeskey Memorial Marlin Open**. After the awards ceremony, in an overwhelming show of support, the winners of the Open donated all of their earnings to An Achievable Dream! Thank you **Cheryl McLeskey, Virginia Beach Fishing Center**, and all the boats and crews who donated their winnings to benefit our students! Below: members of the AAD team accept the donations on AAD’s behalf.

Supplies, Supplies, Supplies!

Thank you to our friends at **Capital Group** and **Virginia Natural Gas** for their donation of school supplies. Every donation helps our **Dreamers** prepare for a great school year, helping them on the path to success.

From left to right, Julie Angilly, Cheryl McLeskey, and AAD teachers Jillian Hernandez, Sheila Wilson, Jameka A. Canady, Yvonne A. Lassiter, Shelby Hernandez, Jasmine Belmont, Cydney Gentry, and Erin Malone
Join the Dream Club!

Join supporters like AAD alumna Barbara Banks in this powerful local movement. With five monthly giving levels available, anyone can support An Achievable Dream!

Step 1: Visit www.AchievableDream.org/Dream-Club and pledge monthly, recurring support at an amount that is meaningful to you.

Step 2: Tell a friend! Share on social media, forward an email and help us spread the word about the Dream Club!

Your tax-deductible donation makes it possible for our children to succeed in school, continue to college and become successful members of society. An Achievable Dream is changing lives through education. With your support, our students are well on their way to achieving their dreams!

When I saw an affordable way to give to AAD, I thought to myself, “If I can find a way to give to Old Dominion University, a school I might not have attended without AAD, I was surely going to find a way to give to ‘the Dream’—a cause I know to be tried and true.”

—Barbara Banks, AAD Class of 2009 Instructional Designer, Business Owner, and PhD Candidate

Stay Connected with An Achievable Dream. Sign up to receive our monthly email newsletter, the Power of the Dream, and receive the latest information on our Dreamers. Go to www.AchievableDream.org or send an email to information@AchievableDream.org.