

13th & UNION PARTNERSHIP Newsletter



Volunteer Spotlight: Samantha Hoplock '17

Samantha Hoplock '17, a history major from Point Pleasant Borough, N.J., has served for two years as one of our Ready. Set. Read! tutors.

Hoplock says she enjoys tutoring because she loves working with children and being able to help them on their educational journey.

"My most memorable tutoring moment was this year," says Hoplock. "The little boy I tutor was very shy in the beginning and hated to read. Now when he sees me he becomes very excited and can't wait for us to read together," she says. "Even though I am a part of each child's life for just a short period of time, they learn so much and appreciate the friendship that we create together."

We thank all the tutors who give of themselves to the children at 13th and Union. This fall we had seven Ready. Set. Read! tutors, 12 homework center tutors, and 12 teacher assistants from Albright College. ■



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Samantha Hoplock '17 has served for two years as a reading tutor.

Trained and Ready

Thanks to the leadership of the sophomore class, there are a dozen tutors trained and ready to embark on a mentoring adventure next semester. The dedicated students, who were trained by Professor Brenda Ingram-Wallace, Ph.D., and Dorothea Miller, Partnership Coordinator, have applied for clearances and adjusted their schedules. At the end of January, they will be paired with 4th and 5th grade students from 13th and Union. ■

Community Partnership Fair

The Albright College and 13th and Union Partnership hosted its second Partnership Fair on Oct. 7. The 13th and Union Elementary School Gymnasium welcomed 21 local community organizations to share beneficial information on educational services and ways to create a healthier environment and lifestyle.

Several of the community partners presented interactive games for children. Fair participants included: Abilities in Motion, Council on Chemical Abuse for Gambling, Alcohol and Drugs, Centro Hispano and Albright College's Schumo Center for Fitness and Well-Being and Accelerated Degree Programs. Also attending were Berks County Community Television, Catholic Charities, United Way Berks and the Albright Early Learning Center. Albright students provided volunteer services at the fair.

There were 12 in-kind donations given from local businesses including Weis, Wawa, Giant, Berks Women in Crisis, Mama's Pizza, Pizza Italia, Ollie's Bargain Outlet and Redner's Markets.

Next year, to strengthen the fair and create more sustainability, the partnership hopes to host its third fair in collaboration with an event held by the 13th and Union Elementary School. Stay tuned for more information! ■



21 community organizations shared information on creating healthier lifestyles at the second Partnership Fair.

iPads Purchased

In January, iPads were purchased through a grant from Dollar General. The tablets will be used by the Ready. Set. Read! tutors to read stories to their students. They will also be available for vocabulary searches and background information. Many thanks to Dollar General for this resource! ■