



STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

MERCER HUB Issue 2.1

Ongoing and Upcoming Events

Parent Zen

At NJ4S, we understand the importance of educating and helping to raise the next generation, but what about families and parents? That's where Parent Zen program comes in.

Led by our amazing Prevention Consultant, Ms. Falose Andre, Parents Zen aims to give parents the break they need and the community they deserve. Ms. Andre, the proud parent of two young children, draws from her own experiences to guide the program.

Come, relax, and connect with other parents as you navigate parenthood.

Tuesdays from 9:30 to 10:30 am
Cadwalader School, 501 Edgewood Avenue
Trenton, NJ (Please use Door 3)

parent Zen

Giving parents a space to connect for wellness and support.

Cadwalader School
501 Edgewood Avenue
Trenton, NJ (Please use Door 3)

Tuesdays,
starting October 29th

9:30 - 10:30 am

REGISTER NOW!

NJ4S **Catholic Charities**
DIOCESE OF TRENTON

Young Writers Workshop

The Young Writers Workshop with Taj Bewley is steadily becoming a creative safe space where aspiring writers come together each week at the Trenton Free Public Library.

Here, students begin their journey into the vast and ever-expanding world of storytelling. While our focus this year has been on short screenwriting, we have been blessed with amazing young writers from all walks of life. Our students are encouraged to dabble in all forms of writing, from short stories and

poetry to graphic novels and beyond. Our workshop is a place where imagination knows no bounds, allowing each young writer to fuel their passions, experiment with genre blending, and develop and forge their own legacy in storytelling.

Tuesdays 5 to 6 pm
Trenton Public Library
120 Academy Street
Trenton, NJ 08608





STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

MERCER HUB

Ongoing and Upcoming Events

Truth in Text

Join us for our thought-provoking discussion group, where we analyze and explore Ta-Nehisi Coates' groundbreaking article, "The Case for Reparations." Within this piece Coates delves into the centuries-long history of racial injustice in America.

Led by NJ4S HUB Director Michael Lovaglio, the group examines the ever-lingering effects of slavery, segregation, and discriminatory practices, and how they continue to impact the Black community as a whole.

Through personal narratives and historical context, Coates seeks to make a compelling argument for reparations—not so much from a financial standpoint, but from the lens of moral and social responsibility in addressing enduring inequalities.

Debate within this space is encouraged as we seek to engage and grapple with these powerful ideas, foster critical conversations, and consider how we, as a diverse community often pitted against each other based on race, religion, and orientation, can contribute to the

healing of still-festered historical wounds.

Next Group: Thursday, Feb. 6th

**Suite 10B, 1670 Whitehorse-Hamilton Square Road
Hamilton, NJ**

truth in text:
a weekly reading group

The Mercer Hub is hosting a weekly small reading group on Ta-Nehisi Coates' 2014 Atlantic article, "The Case for Reparations," as well as David Frum's rebuttal articles published within the same publication. The first lesson will start with a screening of Coates delivering a lecture at West Point. Dinner will be provided.

Coates is the recipient of the George Polk Award for commentary in 2014; he was a MacArthur Fellow in 2015 and a National Book Award recipient for Nonfiction, also in 2015.

When: Thursday, October 3 from 6:30 to 8 pm
Where: Suite 10B, 1670 Whitehorse Hamilton Square Rd.
Hamilton, NJ 08690

Registration required.
Scan code to sign up.

truth in text is sponsored by the NJ4S Mercer Hub. The Mercer Hub team works closely with schools, family success centers, and other community-based providers to make sure students in Mercer County have the mental health services they need to succeed and grow.

Ordinary People Change the World

This ongoing workshop is a fun and inspiring program aimed at fueling the passion for reading in young and developing minds.

Sessions are held every other Wednesday and children, from Pre-K to 3rd grade are invited to explore the stories of legendary figures who have made a profound impact. Through reading about icons such as Dolly Parton, Frida Kahlo, and John Lewis, young readers truly learn how ordinary people can achieve extraordinary things. These stories offer a lot more than just history and facts; they reveal the heart of their subjects and

how traits such as resilience, kindness, and determination can move the world forward.

**Every other Wednesday
Trenton Public Library
120 Academy Street, Trenton, NJ 08608**





STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES MERCER HUB

Community Screenings

Last year saw the beginnings of NJ4S' Community Screening events. These FREE movie days, offered at AMC at Princeton Market Fair and The Princeton Garden Theater, have become fast favorites.

We've enjoyed the continued adventures of the sea-trekking Moana in *Moana 2* and the growth and development of Riley and her expanding

complex emotions in *Inside Out 2*. Past showings have also included: *Chicken Run*, *Trolls*, and *The Great Muppet Caper*.

Our Community Screenings draw dedicated and jubilant crowds. Don't miss your chance to get out with family and friends while experiencing the magic of cinema in a welcoming community setting, all while saving yourself a little money.

"Life's like a movie, write your own ending."
— Jim Henson

A Community Screening
of Jim Henson's *The Great Muppet Caper*

Stop the presses! The crime of the century has occurred, and investigative reporters Kermit, Fozzie and Gonzo are out to crack the case. Join us for a FREE screening of Jim Henson's *The Great Muppet Caper*.

Saturday, June 15, 2024

10 am

Princeton Garden Theatre

Scan for your free ticket

This free screening of THE GREAT MUPPET CAPER is underwritten by The New Jersey Department of Children and Family Services, in collaboration with Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton. To raise awareness for the new NJ4S program, a statewide, innovative hub-and-spoke model of services and resources to support youth mental wellness.



Free Community Screening

CHICKEN RUN

Join Ginger and Rocky as they attempt to lead their fellow hens to freedom. Doors open at 9:30 am with a pre-screening activity for students in grades Pre-K — 3.

Saturday, August 24, 2024

10 am

Princeton Garden Theatre
160 Nassau St.
Princeton, NJ

Free Community Screening

Disney MOANA 2

Join Moana and Maui for an expansive new voyage alongside a crew of unlikely seafarers. For more information, please call 609-394-5157 x3602.

Saturday, December 7, 2024

10 am

AMC Market Fair
3521 US-1,
Princeton, NJ

Free Community Screening

Trolls

Come join us for a fun, upbeat, musically thrilling screening of the Trolls movie!

Monday, December 30, 2024

10 am

Princeton Garden Theatre
160 Nassau Street
Princeton, NJ



STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

MERCER HUB

Relaxation Through Art

Painting and Calm with Clay

NJ4S's Painting Workshops and Calm with Clay events are where creativity and relaxation meet, all under the expert watch of Ms. Helene Lodge.

These programs are designed with fun in mind as well as creating a calming experience that allows children the perfect opportunity to unwind while learning the fundamentals of different art mediums.

Helene is a skilled and passionate artist with over 30 years of knowledge and experience. Watch as she guides participants through



engaging paint sessions and hands-on sculpting projects, fostering both expression and emotional well-being.

Whether exploring color theory or shaping their imagination with



clay, these workshops provide the necessary environment for nurturing budding artists while helping them build confidence, reduce stress, and develop essential skills for growth in numerous aspects of life. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity where children create, relax, and have fun!

Stay tapped in with your school's ClassDojo and keep your eyes peeled for flyers around the Mercer area. When that time comes, mark your calendars and come be part of the action. We can't wait to see you there!

Student Support Services Mercer Hub

1670 Whitehorse-Hamilton Square Road, Suite 2 & Suite 4
Hamilton, NJ 08690
609-394-5157 x3600

Online at https://www.catholiccharitiestrenton.org/nj4s_mercer_hub/

