



What's Happening at Abbott House

News Bites About Staff and Friends Who Help Us Meet Our Mission

JUNE 2022

Last Chance for Corvette Raffle Tickets!

Drumroll please....

Could you be the lucky winner?! It's almost time to find out!

On Wednesday, June 29th (only two days away!) at 4pm, we will be pulling the winning ticket for our Classic Corvette Raffle live on Facebook. [Click here to RSVP.](#)



A limited number of tickets remain, don't miss out! **All sales end at 2pm on Wednesday 6/29.** Only 250 total entries are being sold. [Click here to enter now.](#)

Celebrating Juneteenth

Abbott House proudly recognizes that Juneteenth marks our country's second Independence Day.

Throughout the month of June our Courageous Conversations Committee, composed of staff at Abbott House, has been spotlighting the numerous societal contributions, strength, and courage of the African-American community. This includes promoting Black-owned businesses, an educational PowerPoint, and video performance by American author, poet and civil rights activist, Maya Angelou.



Our volunteer-led Art Program also participated in the celebration by creating Juneteenth-themed projects, like an interactive shadow puppet play.



Project lead Sarah Coble created shadow puppets based on illustrations in the children's book "Juneteenth" by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson and Drew Nelson. Children then read the story aloud and used shadow puppets to act it out. Paintings inspired by the Kente cloth were created on mini canvases and displayed in our Irvington lobby.

Thank you to all the Abbott House family members that contributed to our month-long Juneteenth celebration!

Volunteer Brings Pride to Abbott House

This spring Abbott House competed against other charities in Miles for Meaning, a 30-day virtual fitness challenge. We did not win, but we did manage to shine a bright light on our mission thanks to 100 amazing team members, including Abbott House volunteer and donor, **Gilbert Gaona, an LGBTQIA+ activist and President of the largest LGBTQIA+ Running club in the world, Front Runners New York.**



It is easy to see the parallels between marathon running and life. For Gilbert, who served in the Marine Corps Reserves under “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,” his greatest challenge in life was learning to be comfortable with and accept himself.

He graduated college, got out of the Marines, and “came out” all at the same time. Running has become a way for him to embrace the different parts of himself. *“I love racing to represent both the LGBTQIA+ community and the Latino community,”* says Gaona.



As President of the Front Runners NY Club, Gilbert also sees running as a platform to embrace his love of volunteerism. He has begun adding volunteer days for club members to give back to help others, whether serving food to LGBTQIA+ homeless youth or helping to clean and organize a non-profit space.

Gilbert also credits Abbott House for supporting and providing care to so many children and youth, including youth who identify as LGBTQIA+. His greatest wish for them? ***“My greatest hope for the kids at Abbott House is that they will accomplish their dreams and that no matter where they are in their journey, they will know that they are not alone - and they are perfect.”***



Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}

{{Organization Address}}

{{Organization Phone}}

{{Organization Website}}

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