

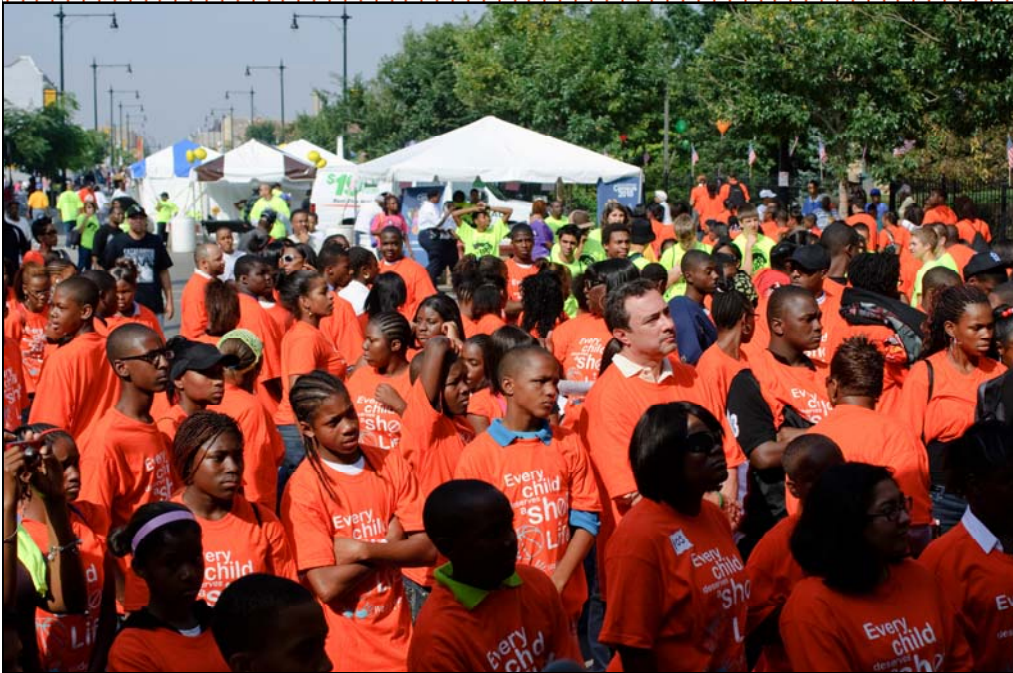


Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC)

1159 W. 79th Street, Chicago, IL 60620 773.483.3696 Fax: 773.483.3692

On the Web : [www.gagdc.org](http://www.gagdc.org)

# Fall The VISION 2009



## Free Passes to the Shedd Aquarium

The Shedd Aquarium offers Community Discount Days, where general admission is free.

Admission includes the Waters of the World, Amazon Rising, and the Caribbean Reef.

Packages including the Wild Reef, Polar Play Zone and Oceanarium are available at a discounted rate.

The next set of 2009 Community Days are Mondays and Tuesdays, Nov. 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24 and 30.

The Shedd also offers A Great Kids Museum Passport for two adults and two children for general admission only. Find them at Chicago Public Library branches.

For more information, please call the GADC offices at (773) 483-3696.

## Renaissance Festival Reaches New Heights on the Nine

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Auburn Gresham 79<sup>th</sup> Street Renaissance Festival welcomed an estimate 9000 festival-goers, featuring live music, performances by Jessie White Tumblers and South Shore Drill Team, a Green (eco-friendly) corner, and a "Taste of 79<sup>th</sup> Street local eateries," on one of Chicago's busiest retail corridors and thoroughfares – 79<sup>th</sup> Street, aka, the **Magnificent Nine**.

The Festival hosted local leaders as Aldermen Latasha Thomas (D-17) and Howard Brookins (D-21), State Senator Jacqueline Collins (D-16), State Representative Mary Flowers

(D-31), and Father Michael Pflieger of Saint Sabina Church.

The Festival also welcomed another civic leader and first time appearances by individuals as Cook County Board President – Todd Stroger, Chicago Southside native and Miami Heat NBA Basketball superstar and Olympian Gold Medalist – Dwayne Wade, and radio personality – Trey Da Choklit Jok of Power 92 Radio.

In all, over 100 businesses, organizations, and performers participated in the Renaissance Festival where there was plenty of food, fun, entertainment and dance for all ages. **See you next year!!!**



Carlos Nelson [R] leads NBA Basketball superstar and Olympic Gold Medalist Dwayne Wade [C], State Senator Jacqueline Collins (D-16) [Rear], Father Michael Pflieger of St. Sabina Church [L] and a host of youth and supporters to the main stage at the 4th Annual Auburn Gresham Renaissance Festival. Photo: Ernest Sanders

*The mission of the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) is to foster and promote revitalization of the greater Auburn Gresham community, which includes Auburn-Gresham, Englewood, and West Chatham.*

# The Importance of 2010 Census Data



U.S. Census Partnership Specialists distribute materials regarding the 2010 Census at the 79th Street Renaissance Festival. Photo: Aum Mu Ra-EI

The Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) recently partnered with the United States Census Bureau to distribute vital information regarding the 2010 Census.

Census Partnership Specialists attended the 4th Annual 79th Street Renaissance Festival to ask and answer several questions regarding Auburn Gresham and neighboring communities' full participation in the upcoming census.

According to materials

distributed that day, every year the federal government allocates more than \$400 billion to states and communities based, in part, on census data. Secondly, census data is used to determine locations of retail stores, schools, hospitals, new housing developments and other community facilities. Lastly, this data also determines boundaries for state and local legislative and congressional districts.

For additional information, please visit:

[www.2010census.gov](http://www.2010census.gov)

or call the GADC offices.

## SOS Children's Village Welcomes New Chief Operating Officer to the Illinois Villages

Michael Byrd formally served as the Regional Administrator of Cook South Region for Illinois' Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) until he accepted the position of Chief Operating Officer for the SOS Children's Village of Illinois.

Located in the Auburn Gresham village and in his new role, Byrd will provide leadership for the implementation and improvement for services and

programs at each of the SOS Villages in Illinois. Also he will insure that each village is compliant to in-house service standards and other regulatory agencies' standard operating procedures and service levels - as those of DCFS.

When asked about the most exciting commitment in his new role, Byrd said, "I am delighted to have the opportunity to continue formulating and implementing policies and procedures that affect the lives of children and families in Illinois. We owe it to them."



Photo: Ernest Sanders



Alvin Hammond Sr. sits on his front porch and proudly displays the 2009 Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation Certificate of Appreciation presented by Aurora Cruz and Linda Johnson (not pictured). Hammond was acknowledged at the 4th Annual Auburn Gresham 79th Street Renaissance Festival Photo: Linda Johnson

## Local Resident Honored as Neighborhood Hero

No obstacles and setbacks have deterred Alvin Hammond Sr. from remaining involved and committed to his community, neighbors and families.

Mr. Hammond lives in the 6800 block of Paulina and has helped keep his block clean for the seven years he has lived there. Not only does Mr. Hammond pick up trash and litter that others leave behind, but he also takes it upon himself to cut the grass of empty lots on his block.

In 2006, Mr Hammond won an award for the best garden in the City of Chicago and continues to maintain it today.

Mr. Hammond received special recognition at the 4th Annual 79th Street Renaissance Festival .

To recommend other neighborhood heroes please contact Aurora Cruz 773.483.3696 or email [acruz@gagdc.org](mailto:acruz@gagdc.org) with the following information; First and last name, phone number, and address or email address. All nominations must be submitted by January 8, 2010.

# Urban Gateways Brings International Exchange from East Africa to Auburn Gresham



High School from Auburn Gresham and neighboring communities performed their final theatrical production of an international exchange play titled, "You Feel Me?" This play showcased the student's ability to produce a range of arts including audio, film, visual, and written. Photo: Joel Wanek

Aligning itself with Auburn Gresham's Quality of Life Plan to make enjoyment of the arts and culture a way of life, The Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) partnered with Urban

Gateways to host their 2nd Annual Art Options summer apprenticeship program for middle and high school students at Perspectives Charter Schools-Calumet Campus.

With support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's Chicago Interna-

tional Connections Fund, arts icon, Urban Gateways participated in an international exchange of teaching artists from Chicago, IL and the United Republic of Tanzania (East Africa).

Urban Gateways' Artist in Residence, Amanda Lichtenstein, traveled to the Tanzania and Grace Gachocha came to Chicago's Auburn Gresham community to teach part of Urban Gateways' Art Options program.

This overseas exchange afforded

each artist the opportunity to showcase their talents, learn from a multi-week residency engagement, and disseminate knowledge back to their own countries and communities.

Twenty-one students from Auburn Gresham, Englewood, and surrounding communities participated in this apprenticeship and were able to focus on issues within the community relevant to their age group, while exploring similarities and differences between American and Tanzanian culture.



Tanzania's Grace Gachocha (right) marches along side her resident host, Darlene Fieberg (left) and GADC's Ernest Sanders (middle right) with the Faith Community of Saint Sabina at a Friday evening violence prevention demonstration in Auburn Gresham. Photo: Joel Wanek

## Auburn Gresham Host to United Kingdom Students

## Hundreds Come to 79th Street for GADC Health Fair



As part of a 3 day Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) training, Helen Bailey and Jane Muller traveled from the United Kingdom to learn more about community development initiatives in the City of Chicago. They visited Auburn Gresham and talked with The Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation's Carlos Nelson and Ernest Sanders. They also sampled baked goods from Julie Welborn's (co-owner) local eatery Perfect Peace Café & Bakery. Photo: Raymond Thompson



[www.gagdc.org](http://www.gagdc.org)



The Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) in collaboration with Atlantic Philanthropies' Elev8 initiative at Perspectives-Calumet Middle School, held its 3rd Health Fair on the Block on 79th Street, bustling with lots of activity and excitement. Thirty-six organizations set up tables to talk about important health issues and a variety of health-related resources available to community members. Photo: Eunice Carson

Auburn Gresham: Chicago's Best Kept Secret ! We Dare You to Tell Someone.



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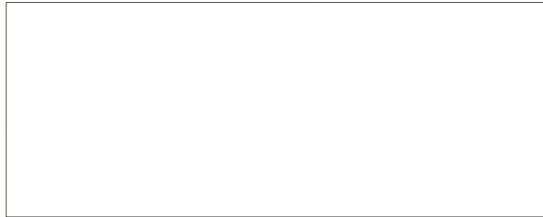
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**Greater Auburn-Gresham  
Development Corporation**  
1159 W. 79th Street  
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*Deliver To Current Resident:*



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# City's Façade Rebate Program Flourishes in Auburn Gresham



Dr. Selvam Medical Offices located at 946 W. 79th Street (BEFORE) Photo: Ernest Sanders

The Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) partnered with the City of Chicago to encourage business owners to participate in the City' Façade Re-

bate Program. Under this initiative, the City of Chicago would provide up to \$10,000 in government assistance for business owners to repair certain features of their store front.

As of today, four local businesses have applied for this funding and each have received a \$10,000 grant. These businesses include: Safe Auto, Mr. Sudsy, Lagniappe Creole Cajun Joynt, and Dr. Selvam Medical

Office of Family Medicine and Pediatrics.

For more information regarding these programs, please contact Cheryl Johnson at (773) 382-0089 or email at [gadc.c.johnson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gadc.c.johnson@sbcglobal.net).



Dr. Selvam Medical Offices located at 946 W. 79th Street (AFTER) Photo: Ernest Sanders

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PHONE: (773) 483-3696 \* FAX: (773) 483-3692  
[WWW.GAGDC.ORG](http://WWW.GAGDC.ORG)