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OpenDoors

Invest in a Child, Strengthen a Community

July News

Volume 1 Issue 2

OpenDoors Calendar



OCTOBER 9

WNC's best off-road Duathlon
to benefit OpenDoors & French Broad River Academy

Our Contributing Artists Meet Randy Shull

By sharing his time, talent and random great ideas, Artist Randy Shull helped get OpenDoors off the ground in 2009.



NEWS FROM JEN RAMMING, CO-FOUNDER & DIRECTOR

OpenDoors takes Summer Fun Seriously

Asheville is known around the world as a destination for Summer fun... OpenDoors is working hard to ensure that local kids know our town in the same way. With your contributions, generous business donations and scholarship funds, we are taking Summer Fun seriously!

While not all parents can afford camps and enrichment programs, we believe that all parents *do* want to provide fun and safe activities for their kids over the Summer. The hard truth is, without the help of OpenDoors, many local kids would be spending time on the streets in neighborhoods where crime rises as the temperatures do the same.

This Summer, OpenDoors kids are in

- basketball camp at UNCA, learning high

One of our earliest contributing artists, it was Randy's vote of confidence that nudged our first Benefit Art Auction into becoming reality.

A master in painting, architecture, landscaping and furniture design, Randy's creations are part of museum exhibits across the country. He also maintains studios in Asheville and Mexico. We are excited and thankful to be able to announce that Randy will once again donate one of his beautiful works to next year's February 25th OpenDoors Benefit Art Auction.



Untitled painting by Randy Shull

Randy believes the ideals of OpenDoors mesh beautifully with those of his new, vibrant [Pink Dog Creative](#) multi-use arts space. With his wife Hedy Fischer, he has literally brightened up Depot Street in Asheville's River Arts District. The futures for many local children will also be brightened by the generous support Randy continues to share with OpenDoors.



level game from amazing role models

- soccer camp at ABYSA, honing skills and building relationships to continue in the Fall
- Clay camp at Odyssey ceramics in the River Arts District with contributing artist Gabriel Klein
- Swim team with the West Asheville Waves and the East Asheville Mountain Lights
- Poetry slam camp and journaling at True Ink
- Academic enrichment and garden camp at Isaac Dickson Elementary
...and much more.

We also have several students in tutoring (with ice cream or swimming as a reward) all summer long, so they jump ahead in the Fall instead of the expected slide back. Our mentors and team leaders are getting together with kids to keep them connected and engaged with their friends from school and with Asheville's many offerings for festivals and fun.

Please join us in doing for OpenDoors kids what we do for our own. Transportation is always a key element in keeping our program moving forward.. so as you plan your summer days of going to the pool, heading to Bele Chere, taking a hike, going to the beach or on a bike ride... take a child with you! It's so easy to share the fun and it makes summer a more enriching experience for everyone.

Many thanks for all you do for Asheville's children and Happy Summer!

Warmly,



342 Depot Street
Before & After



b

Jen Ramming
Executive Director



Check our [website](#) any time for updates...
Our Doors are Always Open!

So Jen walks into a bar...

A lady who appreciates great wine meets a lady who loves what she calls the "impactful work" OpenDoors is doing in Asheville... and *that* is how [Santé Wine Bar](#) became one of our fabulous supporters!



As the busy business owner of Santé, Carla Baden does not have a lot of extra time on her hands. Carla says she was so touched by the passion, attitude and mission behind OpenDoors however, she knew she had to find a way help. From donating wine for fundraisers, to loaning us space, to just cheering us on... Carla is an important member of the OpenDoors community.

Bloomin' Fun!

OpenDoors 1st Annual Garden Tour and Donor Thank You Party raises over \$1200



Rain came down, but spirits stayed high! Thank you to everyone who joined us for last month's OpenDoors Garden Party.



Summer Special @ Santé

Sundays & Mondays
4:00 - 6:30pm
Sample any 10 by-the-glass wines for only \$10

Next Month..

- Details on the 'Du'
- Find out what Asheville High's Teacher of the Year has to say about OpenDoors
- Get exclusive OpenDoors deals around town
- Expect a whole new "experience" at the Art Auction this year
- Find out easy ways to help a child get ready to go back to school



Stay in Touch

Questions? Contributions? **Compliments?**

OpenDoorsNewsEditor@gmail.com

Cheers... and thanks Carla!

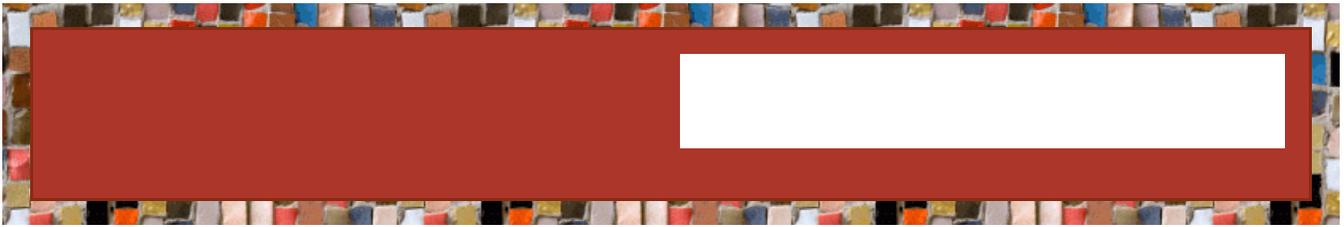
Our Amazing Youth Meet Jasmine



Most of the children OpenDoors has the honor to work with, are preschool or elementary school aged. Jasmine, however, came into the program as an 11th grader at Asheville High School. Though her grades were solid, her conduct led her to the brink of losing it all.

Believing in her potential, OpenDoors got involved and helped Jasmine and her mom navigate a "credit recovery" program through Asheville High summer school at the Reid Center and got her into a GED program at AB-Tech. Jasmine not only finished the program - she graduated a full semester early!

She is now working towards an Associates Degree from AB-Tech and plans to pursue a 4-year degree in the future. Jasmine is also a valuable volunteer within OpenDoors.



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<http://opendoorsasheville.org/>

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