



OBO *E-Mail* Blast

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Taking Orange Out of the Blue with Victor Cruz

Taking Orange Out of the Blue was an initiative born from a partnership between the NY Giant wide receiver Victor Cruz, JP Morgan CHASE, and Candace Goldstein, Director of Special Programs (on behalf of the Orange Board of Education). Ms. Erica Stewart, Administrator for Special Projects designed the initiative around Victor Cruz's autobiography, "Out of the Blue" that provides opportunities for students to learn the importance of perseverance and positive relationships. The name of the program was inspired by the title of Cruz's book. More than 400 books were purchased and donated by CHASE to students who read the book and submitted entries to the "CHASE Success Interdisciplinary Project". Ms. Stewart solicited submissions from students in grades 9-12 that varied from written to video other forms of expressive media.

On October 16th, Orange High School and Orange Preparatory Academy students were treated to an assembly, which was the culminating event of the first stage of the initiative. At the assembly, students from the Rosa Parks Central Community School and Orange Preparatory Academy performed the salsa in honor of Mr. Cruz. The local football hero spoke candidly to the audience, in hopes of inspiring positive student behavior and performance, as it relates to academics, athletics, and attitude. Following the assembly, Mr. Cruz addressed a small group of students who asked questions relating to his book and his growing up in Paterson, NJ. "Students should be commended for the thoughtful questions that were asked of the rising NFL star," said Ms. Stewart, who hopes that everyone will continue to be involved in future activities that will "Take Orange Out Of The Blue" with Victor Cruz and CHASE.

The winners were awarded a ticket to see the NY Giants take on the Pittsburgh Steelers on November 4, 2012 and be the special guests of a Victor Cruz meet and greet immediately following the game. Students were also presented with T-shirts that represent the collaborative effort of "Taking Orange Out Of the Blue".

The student winners are as follows:

Three Chapters Of My Life: Ela Uribe (OPA grade 9) and Avionne Wallace (OHS grade 11)

My Acceptance Speech for the Lifetime Achievement Award: Chinwendu Obi (OHS grade 11)

Comic Strip with Cruz Superhero: Shawn McRimmon (OHS grade 12)

Cell phone nutrition video: Jesse Donat (OPA grade 9)

Movie Trailer for OUT OF THE BLUE: Deion Harrison (OPA grade 9)



Pictured above: (Top row) Chase Success winners; RPCCS/OPA Dancers; Chase Officials and district administrators; (Bottom row) Victor Cruz



Teen Summit 2012

The summit was one and a half days of fun and inspiration for Orange students in grades 6 – 12. The summit began on October 12th, with the play, "manUp", written and produced by Elijah Brown and Jamal Hinnant. It was a thoughtful performance that tackled real life issues young males face every day. Following the performance, there was a panel led by Natasha Akinyele, which was moving and encouraging. The panel members, Antoine Ward, Kylesha Hill, Jhanai Shepard, Elijah Brown, Jamal Hinnant, and Troy Bell, shared their lives and experiences with the students. They all disclosed the challenges and difficulties in their lives – each different, yet with common themes the students could identify with. They all had mentors in their lives who believed in them including teachers and friends. The young women shared that they have to raise their expectations of their men. They have to expect good grades, no gang involvement, and respect from them.

Saturday, October 13th, began with the All Stars Talent Show performance workshop followed by Rutgers University athletics sharing information about the requirements for getting sports scholarships. After the morning program there were five workshops: *Hip Hop Dance* with Debbie Rembert, *The Art of Self-Defense* with Heru Aket, *So You Think You Can Sing* with Troy Bell, *For Girls Only* with Malika Berry, and *From the Set Up to Breakdown: The Life of a Film Shoot* with Justin Niemczyk. Students enjoyed a buffet lunch, catered by Chef Kevin, followed by a presentation by Reginald Rosarian about responsible behaviors, and an acting activity for the 6th and 7th grade students led by Clifford Pierre and Mike Malbrough, from ORNG Inc. Mr. Terrance Brooks also worked with the 6th and 7th grade students twice on Saturday. It was a fun, active workshop the students loved! Then, Troy Bell led a seminar for the young men, *From Boys to Men*. Tatiana Etienne led the seminar for young women, *Living a Life You Love*.

The summit also introduced the "Caring Project." There was a wonderful discussion group for newcomers from Haiti, "Yon Proje Kap Ede-w" led by Loula Deshommes. There were more workshops: *Jazz Funk Dance*, *Kitchen Cabinet Beauty Secrets* by William Marshall, a well-known make-up artist, *Acting* by Wendy McKenzie, *Ultimate Frisbee Fundamentals* with Ben Haim, the award-winning Columbia High School Team Coach, and *The Life of a Film Shoot* again with Justin Niemczyk. The day's program concluded with the Troy Bell & J-Factor performance and raffle prizes. Two iPod touch were awarded from registration entries and students also received prizes from Reebok, Barnes & Noble gift certificates, Frisbees and a professional photo shoot for a graduating senior by Visions By Elle, LLC.

Based on the student evaluations, "It was a very good summit," said Laura Sacks, school nurse at Orange Preparatory Academy and organizer of the Teen Summit. "The students seemed to have enjoyed it and we're thankful for the support from many and for the opportunity to have this summit."

Ms. Laura Sacks would like to thank:

Whole Foods Market in Union, Luna Stage, the Village Trattoria, Rockland Bakery, Hat City, PNC Bank, Southern Comfort restaurant, Staples in Vauxhall, Shoprite in Millburn, Trader Joe's in Millburn, Friday's in West Orange, Costco in East Hanover, McDonald's in Orange, Starbucks in South Orange, and Scott McKenzie for securing Reebok prizes. There were also local organizations that participated: Hands Inc, Arts Unbound, Rutgers Talent Search – Rutgers Trio, From the Start: Abstinence Education Program, and Planned Parenthood. Thanks to the All Stars Talent Show with Nichelle "Browneyes" Brown for their phenomenal performance workshop Saturday morning. Thanks to Carol Lukoff, Cleveland Street School counselor, who shared recycled books with the students. Thanks to Troy Bell and Troy Bell & J-Factor, the Teen Summit's absolute favorite gospel group who closed the summit with positive messages of hope, faith, and personal strength.

Other local talent to be thanked: Concepts 2 Dance Ensemble, directed by Debbie Rembert. Thanks to Visions By Elle, LLC who created the flyers, shirts, and passes, which have become trademarks of each summit. Special thanks to Ms. Linne Mondestin, for organizing the day and keeping everything running smoothly.

Ms. Angela Brisini must also be thanked for a great job as the technology coordinator for the summit. Her expertise in technology and her professionalism in managing the play, the workshops, the All Stars performances, and the other events during the day helped make the summit great.

Finally, the Teen Summit 2012 thanks the staff, parent and community volunteers. There were also a number of students who volunteered. The OHS fraternities, Alpha Theta Phi, including two graduates, and Alpha Theta Tau, were a tremendous help. The All Stars' Directors were also excellent during their workshop.



Pictured above: Scenes for Teen Summit 2012



Antiviolence Week Assembly at Orange Preparatory Academy



On October 18, Orange Preparatory Academy (OPA) students and staff acknowledged Anti-Violence Week with two assemblies for the 8th and 9th grade classes. The assemblies, organized by School Social Worker and Anti - Bullying Specialist, Malika Berry (pictured left), included performances by the OPA chorus, featuring two soloists, 8th graders, Tanesha Brogdon and Sienna Wilson, a PowerPoint presentation that gave the students information and statistics about bullying and cyber bullying and a video presentation that was powerful and emotional and another that added a bit of fun with Sponge Bob.

The OPA drama students added to the event by reenacting scenes from books familiar to the students. Directed by Mrs. Maren Sugarman, the students did several skits from "Cinderella", "The Outsiders" and "Lord of the Flies", to demonstrate acts of bullying. The event concluded with two students being selected in a "name drawing" to receive T-shirts symbolizing the week's effort. Ms. Berry was please with the event, stating, "Overall, the assembly was what I wanted it to be, informative, emotional, funny and true."

Additionally, OPA celebrated the Week of Respect (during the first week in October) with a door decorating contest and a video with staff interviews. They invite all to visit their [school website](#) to view the recording.



Pictured (left to right): OPA drama students; OPA chorus directed by Peter Abazia.



Orange High School Clubs and Organizations for 2012 - 2013

Orange High School students had an opportunity to learn about all of the clubs and extra curricular activities available to them, on October 18th. Students were able to browse displays, promoting activities such as The Cartooning Club, Robotics Club, Orange U A Stitch Club (sewing, knitting, etc.), Chess Club, HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America), Orange Juice Records, The Read Write Poetry Club and more. Each display allowed students to sign up for

clubs, receive club information and hear from current members.



Pictured: Portfolio Development display; Film Club display; OHS Band display.



Pictured: Jewelry Design Club display; Robotics Club display; Tornado News display.



30 Semi-Finalists Announced During Start Something Challenge Kick-Off

On October 15, Rising Tide Capital announced 30 semi-finalists at the Start Something Challenge Kick-off. The event was held at Orange Scholars Academy. The thirty entrepreneurs will move on to the next round of the statewide small business pitch competition, where they will compete for \$25,000 in prizes.



The semi-finalists were selected from nearly 80 New Jersey entrepreneurs, from social entrepreneurs with innovative ideas to raise money for nonprofits, to inventors helping doctors locate veins in the human body. In total, they achieved over 1,600,000 views for video pitches they submitted to enter the competition.

"We were very impressed, not only with the quality of the submissions but also by the diversity of ideas we received during the Start Something Challenge," said Alfa Demmellash (pictured left), the CEO of Rising Tide Capital, the nonprofit organization behind the Start Something Challenge.



The keynote address for the Kick-off was given by Elaina Watley (pictured right), the CEO of Brand Infinite which provides personal brand management for professional athletes including New York Giants wide receiver Victor Cruz. The event also featured remarks from JPMorgan Chase, the lead sponsor for the Start Something Challenge. They included: Elliott Lee, Vice President of Community Relations, Joe Dempsey, President of Middle Market Banking and Kim Jasmin, the Vice President for Global Philanthropy. JPMorgan Chase and Rising Tide Capital have partnered with the Orange Publics School District to provide valuable resources for the Orange community.

"The Start Something Challenge didn't come together overnight, but Chase has been there all along, supporting this mission and our entrepreneurs from the very beginning," said Demmellash.

The 30 selected entrepreneurs will participate in a live pitch event in Newark, New Jersey on October 29. From there, 10 competitors will be selected to compete in the finals in Jersey City on November 12 to determine the three winners who will win cash prizes at Start Something Champions Gala on December 14. To RSVP any Start Something events, click [here](#).



Orange Public School District's Special Education Department Hosts Parent Meeting

On October 16, approximately 65 parents attended the Special Education Parent Association Meeting. "The meeting was an enormous success," said Shelley Harper, Director of Special Services. Parents were presented with information on the Read 180 program, homework strategies, behavioral reinforcements, agency resources and transitional services. During the meeting parents elected a president, several vice presidential positions, recording and corresponding secretaries and a treasurer to serve as the executive board for the parent group.



Orange Public Schools to Honor Veterans with Jeans for Troops Fundraiser

In a recent message to all staff, Mrs. Belinda Scott Smiley, Adm. Asst. to the Superintendent for Operations and Human Resource Services, informed all district members that Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Ronald C. Lee, has approved the wearing of jeans to support New Jersey veterans. The Orange Public School District is proud to join over 150 New Jersey schools and districts participating in the GI GO Jeans for Troops Day on Wednesday, November 7th in honor of Veterans Day (See flyer below).

To participate in Jeans for Troops Day, staff members are asked to contribute \$5.00 and students \$1.00. The Jeans Day will take place the day before the long weekend for the Teachers Convention (November 8 and 9, 2012). Contributions will be collected in each school and department. District contributions will fund returning veterans in finding jobs, providing college assistance and helping the homeless find housing.

The Orange Public School District thanks all for their anticipated support of this worthy cause.

Coming Attractions

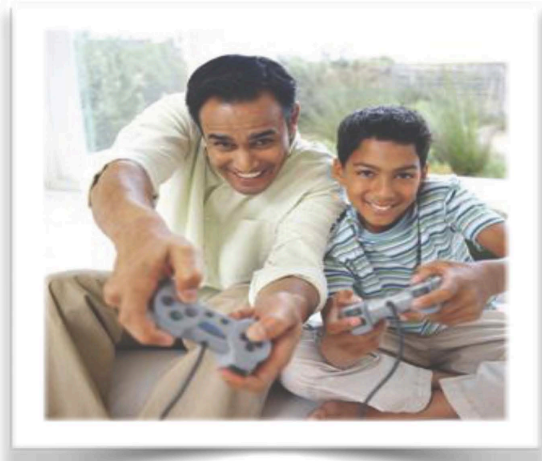
- ***Sunday, October 21, 2012 – Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, Walk with AAngelsNJ, Orange PBA and Not Orange Organizations, 10:00 a.m. at Military Park, Newark (See flyer below)***
- ***Sunday, October 21, 2012 – Fatherhood Football Fellowship, 1:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Park Avenue School (See flyer below)***
- ***Monday, October 22, 2012 – Heywood Avenue School Hispanic Heritage Celebration,***
- ***Thursday, October 25, 2012 – Welcome Breakfast for parents of Special Needs students, 7:30 a.m. in the library at Park Avenue School***
- ***Thursday, October 25, 2012 – Forest Street School Hispanic Heritage Celebration, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room, after Starry Story Night event***
- ***Friday, October 26, 2012 – Spanish Heritage Celebration, 1:30 p.m. in Café at Park Avenue School***
- ***Wednesday, November 7, 2012 – "Jeans for Troops", \$5 Donation to Support Veterans (See flyer below)***
- ***Thursday - Friday, November 8 - 9, 2012 – District Closed for New Jersey Education Association Convention***
- ***Thursday – Saturday, December 6 – 8, 2012 – "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, Abridged/Revised", 7:00 p.m. and also at 2:00 on Saturday, December 8, at Orange Preparatory Academy Auditorium (See flyer below)***

Join Us This Sunday For
**FATHERHOOD
 FOOTBALL
 FELLOWSHIP**

Increased Quality Time
 + Dads and Children
IMPROVED STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



**Calling All Men
 Campaign**



**Sunday October 21, 2012
 1:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
 Park Ave School
 231 Park Ave
 Orange, NJ**

1:00 p.m.



4:00 p.m.



FREE TO THE PUBLIC

Adults Must Supervise Their Children

RSVP By Calling (973) 677-4000 (ext. 6086)

Matt Stevens, Dept. of Special Programs

**Father & Child Video
 Game Tournament**



www.Orange.k12.nj.us



Please Join Us!
AAngelsNJ, Orange PBA and Not Orange!



Come walk with AAngelsNJ, Orange PBA, Not Orange and other community members as we Make Strides and fundraise to support the fight against breast cancer. Celebrate a world with less cancer and more birthdays! Help the American Cancer Society to raise funds for research and to provide more services to cancer patients and families.

If you are interested in joining our Team or making a donation, please register by clicking link below or donate online.

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?fr_id=47308&pg=team&team_id=1212422

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer
Sunday, October 21, 2012
Walk begins at 10:00 AM
Military Park
Park Place & Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey



Mission Statement:

Our mission is to serve and provide resources to underserved and underinsured individuals and families. We are committed to educating and navigating them through issues surrounding Preventive Care, Pre- and Post- Breast Cancer diagnosis and all aspects of Breast health.

\$5

to help our troops

- Find Jobs
- Go to College
- Get Health Care
- Find Housing

Jeans For TROOPS

November 7, 2012

To learn more contact Alex Manis at (973) 830-7275 or manis@gigofund.org

The G.I.  Go Fund
Where Veterans Go Forward

Participating employers collect a \$5 donation from each willing employee. In exchange, participating employees are allowed to wear jeans to work on Wednesday, Nov. 7. Proceeds are donated to The G.I. Go Fund

Make checks payable to: The G.I. Go Fund. Contributions can be mailed to: The G.I. Go Fund, PO Box 1777, New Brunswick, NJ 08903
The G.I. Go Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that assists returning veterans and homeless veterans.

Veterans Day

ORANGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL & ORANGE PREP ACADEMY
PROUDLY PRESENT

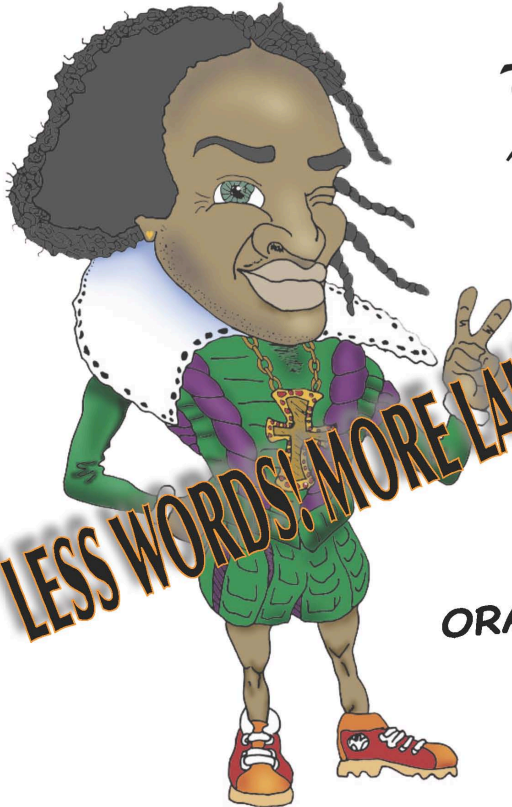
Funnier than Spark Notes! *Shakespeare's Greatest Hits,*
MINUS the BORING stuff!

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare

(ABRIDGED) [REVISED]

By Adam Long, Daniel Singer
and Jess Winfield

LESS WORDS! MORE LAUGHS!



DECEMBER 6, 7 & 8 2012
THURSDAY & FRIDAY at 7:00PM
SATURDAY 2:00PM & 7:00PM
ORANGE PREP ACADEMY AUDITORIUM
400 Central Avenue, Orange NJ

TICKETS \$5, STU/SR \$3
INFO 973-677-4050 x5020
rhodesdi@orange.k12.nj.us

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