

C&C families and alumni alike made substantial donations to C&C's everyday work and play.

Our families continue to be the backbone of giving and our dedicated corps of volunteers enabled us to have incredibly successful Annual Fund and Major Gifts initiatives.

Alumni giving increased by 37% this year! A strong website and community presence on Facebook have engaged our alums, with our reunions at an all time high for attendance.

The Spring Benefit—Great Escapes—was a successful evening of nibbling, tipping, silent and live bidding, and ample opportunity to support C&C. Making its debut at the Benefit, **Adventures in the Block Yard** features animated C&C alumni reliving playful times and flights of fancy.

The inspired and energetic members of the Xllls class of 2011 are bound for a broad range of high schools. Among their choices are: Bard, Brooklyn Friends, Calhoun, Friends, LaGuardia, LREI, Packer, Riverdale Country, School for American Studies at Lehman College, Spence, St. Ann's, Trinity and Xavier.

Our treasured Library is brilliantly expanded and renovated—bringing space and light to C&C students' daily reading for pleasure. We have two new beautiful reading rooms filled with comfy chairs and stacks of books that allow our Middle and Upper School double groups to comfortably read daily. The beloved original Library now houses the Research Room and our new Research Librarian; children of all ages can drop in and pursue the kind of hands-on research that is the backbone of our social studies based program.

Not just the Library, but the basement too! Our archives have a newly renovated and climate-controlled space in our renovated and expanded basement.

From the office of the Archivist came a **letter to the editor of the New Yorker**, published in August 2010. The letter points out the groundbreaking impact Caroline Pratt had on outdoor play spaces, including David Rockwell's newly designed outdoor playgrounds found throughout NYC and discussed in a July 2010 article by Rebecca Mead. He and his team visited C&C several times and it shows!

Did you know that Caroline Pratt is depicted in renowned regionalist painter Thomas Hart Benton's mural *America Today?* Neither did we until C&C's Archivist uncovered this gem while researching Pratt's connections to artists and former C&C staff Charles and Jackson Pollock. The Bentons not only sent their children to C&C, but fostered those relationships with the Pollocks. Both Jackson Pollock and Caroline Pratt are depicted in panels of Benton's mural—you can see Pratt with Benton's wife and child in our beautifully framed copy of "City Activities with Dance Hall" outside the newly expanded Library.

Drawing on the rich documentation of our **Rhythms program**, C&C published a detailed issue of **Currents** filled with archival Rhythms photos and featuring a lengthy piece on Rhythms originally published in 1959 by the Parents Association. Rhythms Teacher Kali Paguirigan shares her reflections as well, showcasing the power and depth of this unique program.

Our popular Add-Ins program offered more than 25 courses each trimester with record-setting enrollment. Also during the after school hours, **C&C Sports Programs** had strong participation and strong results. Our largest softball team with a remarkable 21 players went undefeated! Many of the teams had notable seasons, including the Boys Basketball team, winning the St. Luke's Invitational Tournament.

Community Digital Communications...It has been almost one year since we made the shift from paper to nearly paperless communications. Today our email blasts deliver news and event announcements, and our password-protected website, Community, contains a wealth of information for families: an online directory, Group updates, news, publications and more.

The C&C PA continued to support the School through meetings and special events. **The Community Outreach** work sponsored by the PA covered a wide range of great causes, including UNICEF, City Harvest, Project Cicero, Drive for Japan and more. **Our active Parent Diversity Group** hosted popular community building events, from the Back to School Supper to Family Movie Night to the International Supper.

Highlights 2010-2011

Natural Sights, Smells and Tastes Were in the Air at C&C

The C&C CSA was enjoyed by many—a “community supported agriculture” farm share of fruits, vegetables and eggs coordinated by C&C parents and available to the whole community for weekly pick up through the fall and early winter. Families enjoyed the bounty of Paisley Farms, visited the farm on weekends and Farmer Mike even visited classrooms!

Our halls and outdoor spaces came alive with color as **children planted flowers** in pots, boxes, and hanging pouches—adding a natural charm to our gathering places.

Hot lunch in the Middle and Upper School was brought to our kitchen by Butterbeans. For the first time children could choose from a rotation of healthy and tasty lunch options at school. Later in the year students formed a committee and consulted the chefs on favorites, less popular items and new ideas—a very C&C way to come together and satisfy a hunger.

Leading the Way in Progressive Education

The Admissions Office had yet another very successful year, receiving a record number of applications across many age groups.

C&C continues to be a required destination for educators. We hosted over 120 national, international and local visitors from a range of backgrounds, including our colleagues from the School at Columbia, Packer, St. Bernard’s, Ethical Culture and Calhoun. We continued to host numerous College and University educators and students, including 16 student teachers, and too-many-to-list nursery, early childhood and elementary school educators.

Inside C&C, we share our knowledge and experiences. This year we debuted a special Math Panel Evening organized by C&C Math Specialist, Robert Berkman. The panel was followed by break-out sessions run by C&C teachers. Our **Meet the Grads** event was even more wildly popular this year—a standing room only crowd heard from our recent grads who attributed their can-do attitude towards learning and life to their formative years at C&C.

Outside C&C, our expert staff shared our deep body of knowledge and experience on a number of topics. Director of the Middle and Upper School Scott Moran and Librarian Todd Rosenthal presented at the 2010 Global Education Conference, an online, international conference on the how and why of inviting authentic student questions. We continued our Block Connection Workshops—the program whereby C&C teachers work with educators to support their work with blocks in their programs. Principal Kate Turley was a panelist at Calhoun School on Leading and Preserving and Independent Legacy, and for the first time, Director of Admissions Elise Clark led a workshop on the use of outdoor blocks for a public school in New Jersey.

Our teaching is rooted in progressive traditions, but always flexible and open-ended. Our staff’s teaching practice stays informed and fresh through a variety of professional development work: divisional and school conversations, outside conferences, school visits, work with experts, and even visiting our own Archives. For over a decade we have also offered **summer curriculum grants** for teachers to develop and refine new or existing curriculum pieces. Among last summer’s recipients were IIIs, VIIs, IXs, and XI teachers.

Simply spot-on books for children! Through a C&C summer curriculum grant, IIIs teachers Robin DiJoseph and William Harrison created a fantastic set of children’s books that address issues IIIs children often face. The bright and colorful books are constructed in a collage style with photographs of C&C IIIs classrooms and playgrounds as the background on each page. The stories are short and concise, with simple images and succinct text so that each book can easily convey a clear message. The books were presented at a PA meeting in the fall and parents were so impressed with the books that we were convinced to make them available for sale to the C&C community.

C&C welcomed two outstanding speakers who shared their focused expertise and resources with the whole community. In conjunction with the Parents Association, diversity expert Derrick Gay spoke with parents, staff and trustees about issues of ethnicity and class. Also this year C&C hosted renowned sexuality expert Deborah Roffman who worked with students, staff and parents on establishing a healthy attitude towards sexuality for children at all ages.

Finally, our children themselves develop great expertise as they pursue their in-depth yearlong studies on topics from Greenwich Village to Ancient China. As C&C children develop an ever-expanding understanding of the world we live in, they conduct first-hand research and take many trips, near and far. This year **over 80 trips** were taken by children of all ages!