



Urban Squash CLEVELAND



2017-2018 Annual Report



Empowering Youth in Cleveland to Reach Their Potential

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Letter from the Executive Director & Board President

Dear Urban Squash Cleveland Family:

This year's Annual Report, covering the July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 program year, comes to you with sincere gratitude. Thanks to you, many wonderful things happened, and many terrific people joined us this past program year. Thanks to you, Urban Squash Cleveland is stronger than ever. And, thanks to you, we have never been more hopeful about the future of our young people. Here are the highlights of the past year and a glimpse into our future.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER

In October 2017, we broke ground on our Youth Development Center situated on the campus of our excellent partner, Urban Community School. One year later, we celebrated our Grand Opening, where, after a day of instruction for wide-eyed children and stiff-legged adults, squash legends, Nick Matthew and Borja Golán, delighted our team, their families, and our supporters and friends with a spirited and entertaining exhibition match on our all glass court. Our new home is beautiful, a tremendous source of pride for our team and an asset for our community. And, thanks to you, it will be for generations to come.

OUR STUDENTS

Our students are thriving. In June 2018, our first cohort of seniors, six in all, graduated from high school. In August, all six entered college – one each to Case Western Reserve University, Miami University, Lorain Community College and The Ohio State University; and two to Ohio University. In June, 8th grader, Elijah Doroh, won the Boy's Urban Squash National under-15 B championship at Williams College. In late August, Elijah entered 9th grade at University School and joined the squash team. Tryouts for this year's Urban Squash Cleveland team are now in full swing under the tutelage of Squash Coach, Marina De Juan, and our new Program Director, Katie Kohn. Over sixty children (a three-fold increase over last year) are competing to fill 22 available spots and bring our total roster to 45.

LEADERSHIP

We're building our leadership team. As mentioned above, an exceptional educator and administrator, Katie Kohn, joined us as Program Director. Katie has already taken significant steps to strengthen the academic support we provide our team and our graduates, overseeing our partnership with College Now, matching each college student with a successful, twenty-something "near peer mentor," forming an academic advancement committee and incorporating SAT/ACT test preparation into our curriculum. Robyn Cooper, an Educational Studies Major from Washington University in St. Louis now serves as our part-time academic coordinator. Finally, on the people front, we have enhanced our already strong board, with the addition of Greg Althans and Tucker Marshall.

FUNDRAISING

On the fundraising front, our Racquets Rally, held in May 19, 2018 raised over \$164,000, an increase of more than 50% over the amount raised in the previous year's Rally. Our annual appeal raised \$17,670, a 70% increase over the prior year. In addition, our successful capital campaign for the Youth Development Center has raised nearly \$3.0 Million on our way to our goal of \$3.5 Million. This year we will close out the capital campaign and fund our endowment so we can serve more children, and serve them even better.

With our dedicated kids in mind, please make a generous gift so we can add more team members and empower more of Cleveland's children to reach their potential. You may give using the pledge envelope enclosed or at www.urbansquashcleveland.org.

You make possible all that we do to help children succeed in class, on the squash court, and in life. On behalf of the youth of Urban Squash Cleveland, thank you for generously supporting our mission and their future.

Sincerely,



Joseph K. Juster
President - Board of Trustees



Iago Cornes
Executive Director



What is Urban Squash Cleveland?

Urban Squash Cleveland ("USC") is a youth development organization that empowers children in Cleveland to reach their potential through academic support, the sport of squash and enduring life skills.

Our program is designed to prepare students for the future. Academic and squash sessions take place six times per week at USC's Youth Development Center.

Squash: Through regular squash practice and competitions, students' passion for the sport helps them develop healthy habits, endurance, coordination, physical and mental awareness, hard work and discipline. The fascinating game of squash is a wonderful vehicle that opens doors and connects our team with meaningful opportunities.

Academics: Students engage in homework help, literacy development, ACT & SAT tutoring, and college support as they pursue personally meaningful post-secondary opportunities.

Enrichment: Team members participate in community service, field trips, internships, camps, and travel to cities and colleges across the country as they form relationships with mentors and volunteers.

USC is a partner of the Squash & Education Alliance (www.squashandeducation.org) which oversees 23 other programs nationwide and internationally. 95% of urban squash students who stay in their programs graduate high school and enroll in post-secondary schools. Furthermore, 73% of urban squash students nationwide graduate with a bachelor or associate's degree in 6 years or less.



Currently serving a total of 45 students in Cleveland from between 4th and 12th grades, Urban Squash Cleveland plans to grow steadily over the next seven years to ultimately serve a total of 100 children each year.



"The USC/UCS partnership is the most dynamic program for kids, their parents and their future that our family has ever been associated with."

Jack Turben

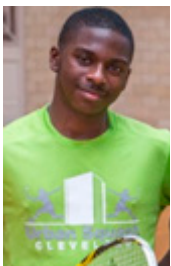


Academic Advancement



Daneyla Ross-Gildon is a freshman at Ohio University majoring in sociology. She graduated from Cleveland Early College High School at John Hay. She is a committed student-athlete who started as a member of the squash team when programming began. She is extremely proud of the resilience she honed as a USC team member, which has helped her attend a college that is far away from her family and friends.

Shaheed Bankole is a freshman at Miami University majoring in biomedical engineering. He graduated from the Cleveland School of Science & Medicine at John Hay. As a high school student, Shaheed completed a highly prestigious internship with NASA. He looks forward to staying connected with fellow USC alumni and students.

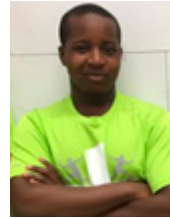


Noah Lee is a freshman at Case Western Reserve University majoring in computer science. Noah was the valedictorian of his 8th grade class at Citizens Leadership Academy. He graduated from the Cleveland School of Science & Medicine at John Hay, where he was a member of the "top 50" in his class. Noah is excited to serve as a volunteer and mentor younger USC students in the classroom and on the squash court.

Latisha Modafferi is a freshman at The Ohio State University and she will pursue a career as a physician's assistant. She graduated from the Cleveland School of Science & Medicine at John Hay. One of her greatest accomplishments is becoming more physically fit and staying focused on her goals, which she attributes to being a USC team member. She is grateful for her involvement with USC because it has provided her with a support



network and a solid foundation that will enable her to pursue her dreams.



One of the first students to join the USC team in 2012, Muhammad Umar is a freshman at Ohio University. He graduated from the Cleveland School of Science & Medicine at John Hay. As a sophomore, Muhammad underwent knee surgery and committed to rehabbing his knee so that he could continue to play squash. Muhammad is a valued mentor and friend to all of his teammates.

James Greenwood IV is a freshman at Lorain Community College, where he will earn an Associate's Degree in software engineering. He graduated from the Cleveland School of Science & Medicine at John Hay. In his free time, James enjoys spending time with his family and babysitting his younger siblings. James is excited to stay involved with USC as a volunteer and mentor to current students.



Community Service

Urban Squash Cleveland team members completed over 130 hours of community service through 4 different organizations: the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, Cleveland Metroparks, Cleveland Sight Center, and Hattie Larlham. We are poised this year to increase that number to more than 350 hours of service to the Cleveland community through different partner organizations.

Fundraising Events

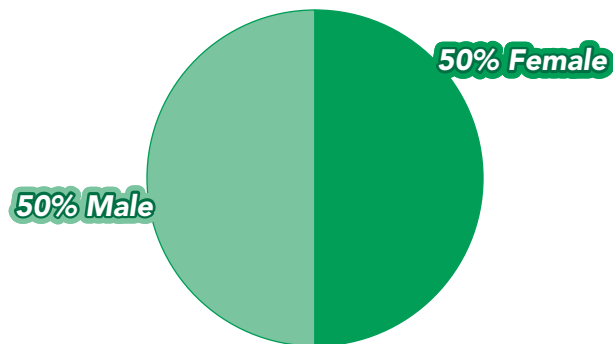
The 2017-2018 academic year was a transformative one for USC for many reasons. In addition to building a home for our students, we had our strongest fundraising year to date. USC raised a total of \$335,000, ending the year with a surplus.

Team Fundraising Event (Racquets Rally) - \$165,000
Annual Appeal - \$18,000
USC Board Contributions - \$90,000
Cleveland Tournaments Contributions - \$42,000
Foundations (Grants) - \$10,000
General Public Contributions - \$2,000
Sponsorships - \$8,000

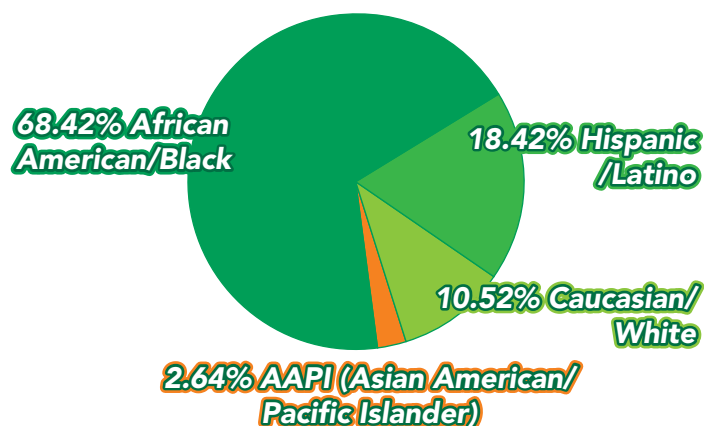
Demographic Information

Program Information

Student Genders



Student Race/Ethnicity



Out of Town Trips

Total of 10 out of town trips during the school year, including visits to:

- Cincinnati (Cincinnati Squash Academy)
- Toronto (Urban Squash Toronto)
- Pittsburgh (Steel City Squash)
- Chicago (Metro Squash)
- Williams College (Urban Individual Nationals)
- Amherst College (Urban Individual Nationals)
- New York City (Urban Team Nationals)
- Kenyon College (Urban Midwest Championships)
- Bowling Green State University
- University of Toledo

Local Squash Focused Opportunities

- Cleveland Classic
- Cleveland Skating Club Clinics
- Turkey Trot Squash Tournament
- Tavern Club Doubles Tournament
- University School & Cincinnati Squash Academy Scrimmages
- Cleveland Skating Club Open
- Rock & Roll Tournament
- Silver CSC Squash Tournament
- Cleveland Racquet Club
- Midwest Tournament

Summer Opportunities

- Rock & Roll Hall of Fame
- Cleveland Museum of Art
- Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
- Internships at Cleveland Clinic
- University School Squash Camps
- Camp Hayo Went Ha (Northern Michigan)
- Spice Acres
- Univ. School Squash Play & Visit
- Aspire (Hathaway Brown Camp)
- Princeton Squash Camps
- Cle. Racquet Club Squash Camps

A New Stage in our History:



The Urban Squash Cleveland Youth Development Center (YDC) is HERE!

Urban Squash Cleveland and Urban Community School worked together to build a state of the art, 10,000 sq. ft. facility for the team. Situated on the school's campus at 4701 Lorain Avenue, the beautiful facility features 4 squash courts, two classrooms, an office for staff members, and boys and girls locker rooms.

USC students finally have a home, and have been enjoying the squash courts, including an all-glass court, and are able to work on their academics in a dedicated learning space. The new building is dynamic, extremely functional and has a great, positive feel for running programming with our students. The quality, efficiency and strength of programming have vastly increased since moving into USC's new home. Staff, interns and volunteers are now able to spend the entire time during sessions helping team members focus on their academic work and squash.

Additionally, the YDC provides a unique, welcoming space for running events, squash play, and offers memberships for anyone in the Cleveland community who wishes to try out the sport of squash, take lessons, or participate in any of the activities offered, including tournaments.

The Youth Development Center at Urban Community School will allow Urban Squash Cleveland to more than double the number of children served in Cleveland each year, and to serve them better. We are forever thankful to the individuals, families and organizations that have made Urban Squash Cleveland's Youth Development Center a reality.



Urban Squash Cleveland Grand Opening



Capital Campaign

\$2,987,867 raised as of October 30, 2018

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 Mary and Jack Herrick
 Marian and Michael Shaughnessy
 The Outcalt Family
 Ray and Katie Murphy
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 James and Angela Hambrick Foundation
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 Andrew and Casee Coleman
 The Althans Family
 The Schloss Family
 John and Angela Marino
 Joan Schiller
 Frederick Taft

A most sincere thank you to the following individuals, corporations, foundations and other organizations for their generous support during the July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 fiscal year. Together, you made 2017-18 a transformative year for Urban Squash Cleveland. Your support makes all the difference in the lives of our team members.

\$15,000 +

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Mrs. Joseph K. Juster (B)
The Tavern Club
Mr. Jack Turben (B)

\$10,000 - \$14,999

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Mrs. Gayatri Madan Mohan (B)
Mr. Jon Outcalt (B)
Mr. Michael Shaughnessy (B)
The Cleveland Racquet Club

\$5,000 - \$9,999

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William Lennon (B)
Mr. Roy Radigan (B)
The Cleveland Skating Club
Ms. Theodora Wolf (B)

\$2,500 - \$4,999

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Orphans Outing Fund
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The Cleveland Foundation

\$1,000 - \$2,499

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**A heartfelt
 thank you
 to all of you!**

Hear it from our Students

“It’s been a long time since I’ve been with USC and it’s weird now, to be so far from them, while at the same time knowing that I might not have been here without them. Between the knowledge usually not found inside schools or the different experiences that they allowed us to have; they’ve definitely shaped a part of my character and have definitely played a role in the person I am today. I feel I can’t ever thank them enough.”

Muhammad Umar



“To be a part of Urban Squash Cleveland means that you have a family away from home. You get a chance to get connected with so many different people from different backgrounds and share a story all with them.”

Daneyla Ross-Gildon





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Getting Involved

You may support the kids of USC by donating online at www.urbansquashcleveland.org, by mailing a check through the enclosed envelope, by volunteering or by donating goods or services in any way you think would be helpful to the children of Urban Squash Cleveland.

- To volunteer, please contact Katie Kohn at katie@urbansquashcleveland.org or by phone at 216-269-4106.
- If you're interested in visiting the YDC and learning more about empowering Cleveland youth, please contact Iago Cornes at iago@urbansquashcleveland.org or by phone at 216-315-2258.

**Visit us at 4701 Lorain Avenue
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