



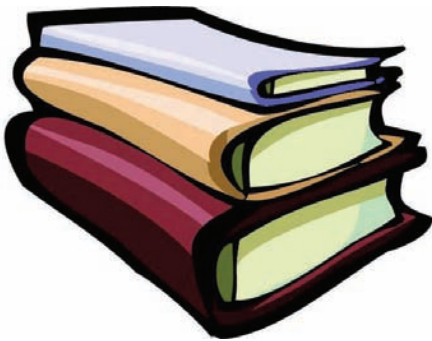
## HIGH HOPES HOOT

February 2011

Volume 1, Issue 2

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## READERS AS LEADERS

High Hopes and Everybody Wins! CT have joined forces for another year of Readers as Leaders.

Readers as Leaders is an opportunity for high school students to read to and mentor first graders at Burns Elementary School.

Every Monday, High Hopes students review a children's book and practice reading with enthusiasm and confidence.

Being prepared to read to the elementary school children makes the experience for both the High Hopes student and the elementary school student very enjoyable.

On Thursdays, High Hopes students travel to Burns Elementary School and spend

the afternoon with their mentee. After the book has been read the mentor and the elementary school child play games.

If you are interested in joining the Readers as Leaders program



please see Ms. Suzy or Ms. Mae in Room 148.

## THE HIGH HOPES ROOM MAKEOVER CONTINUES

The community service club and the mural arts club have made major advancements with the High Hopes room reno-

vation project. The walls are now bright pink, blue, green and yellow.

Next up, we will paint a mural representing High Hopes activities. The mural has been de-

signed by eleventh grader Shawnee Chaives.

To get involved come to Room 148 Mondays and Wednesdays.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- February 8, 2011—CT Youth Forum (Glastonbury High School)
- February 9, 2011—GSA Open Mic Event, 3:00—5:00 (Hartford Room)
- February 14, 2011—Girls Rock Valentines Day Celebration  
(Invitation Only) Room 148, 3:00-4:30
- February 17, 2011—Readers as Leaders, First Day at Burns Elementary School
- February 21, 2011—Presidents Day, Schools Closed



## SPOKEN WORD POETRY



On February 3rd, Asia Edwards recited an original poem in front of a large audience at Billings Forge Studio space.

Asia’s poem was broadcast live on the radio.

Asia wrote her poem as part of High Hopes Poetry Out Loud club.

Billings Forge is a community organization that focuses on uniting people around the arts, healthy food and a

love of Hartford.

Asia’s poem can be found on Page 3.



## MANY NEW GUITARS AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS

Thanks to some very generous donations the Song Writing Club now has additional guitars for High Hopes students to use.

Students also have access to several other instruments drums and a bass.

Currently the club is looking for additional singers!

The Song Writing club meets Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays in the hallway by the Di-



## POETRY OUT LOUD

The following poem was written and performed by Asia Edwards at Billings Forge on February 3, 2011.

She sits quietly in the back of class.

She's the girl with the glasses and the ripped shirts.

The one with no friends who wishes not to be seen.

She isolates herself so she can daydream

Of a place no one knows about. It's her own little escape route when reality starts to kick her.

If you take a magnifying glass to her brain

You would wonder, how do she stay SO SANE?

Explore her mind.

See what she sees.

Exploer her mind

And wonder, why is she on her knees

From a blow to the stomach

By the man she calls daddy.

A punch to the nose by a woman she knows is mommy.

Explore her head

And you'll see her run to her room

As if running from the dead.

At school, her peers laugh at her

Like she's a television show meant for entertainment

But she will never cry

So they won't have the slightest hint

That the torture they put her through at school doesn't even compare to the hell she faces at home.

Let's take one more look at her dome.

Explore the right side of her head.

She's crying of hunger

Because she wasn't even fed.

Take a look at the left side.

What do you see?

She doesn't even hang like a leaf on this family's tree.

She feels the family turned their backs they day she was born.

She's the black sheep,

But she'll never publically mourn.

She stands on a cliff

Overlooking the cars

Looks up at the stars

And closes her eyes

Moves forward and to their surprise

She's GONE.

Who was that girl?

Nobody knows.

What was her favorite color or song?

Nobody knows.

What could she have achieved?

Nobody knows.

Who were her friends?

Nobody knows,

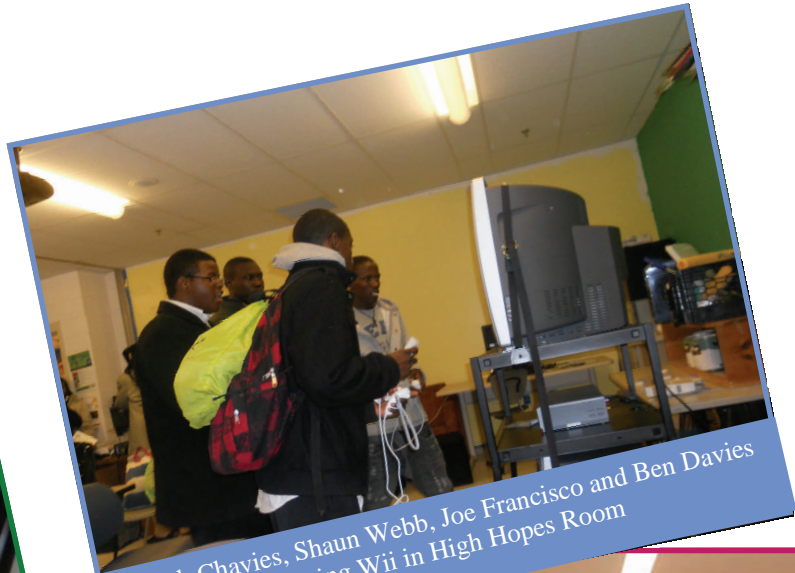
Because no one was willing to

EXPLORE.



**LEADERSHIP  
GREATER  
HARTFORD**

30 Laurel Street  
Hartford, CT 06106  
860.951.6161



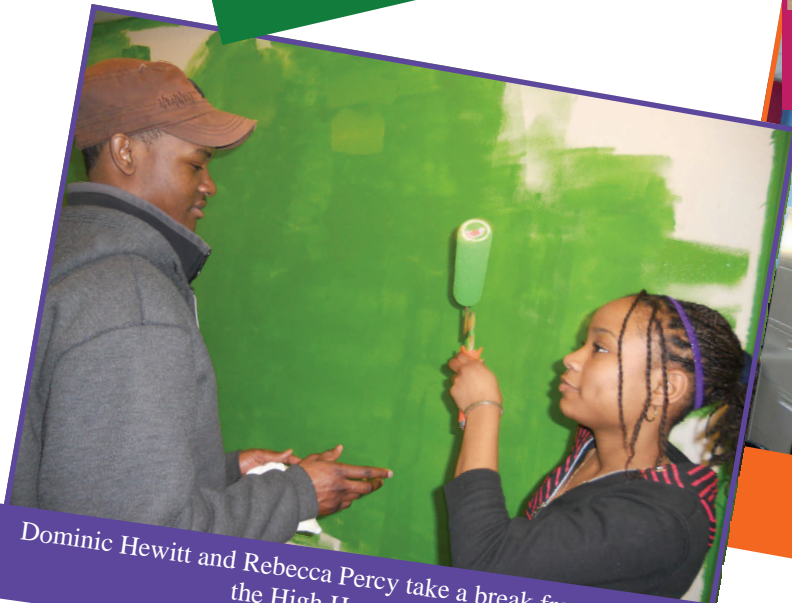
Elijah Chavies, Shaun Webb, Joe Francisco and Ben Davies  
Playing Wii in High Hopes Room



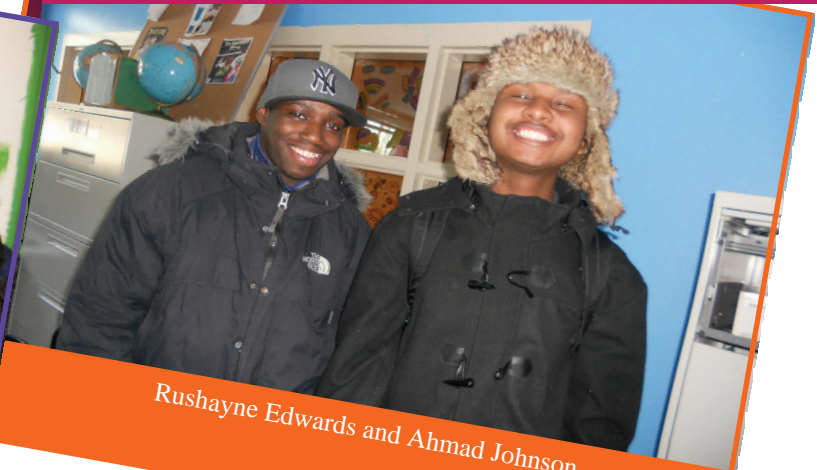
Sherina Cade



Pamela Fonseca, Dinelly Torres, Jimille Bowers, Angel Ayala,  
Elijah Chavies and Shavonne Jackson.



Dominic Hewitt and Rebecca Percy take a break from painting  
the High Hopes room.



Rushayne Edwards and Ahmad Johnson