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Quarterly Newsletter - July 2021



We Crossed the Finish Line!

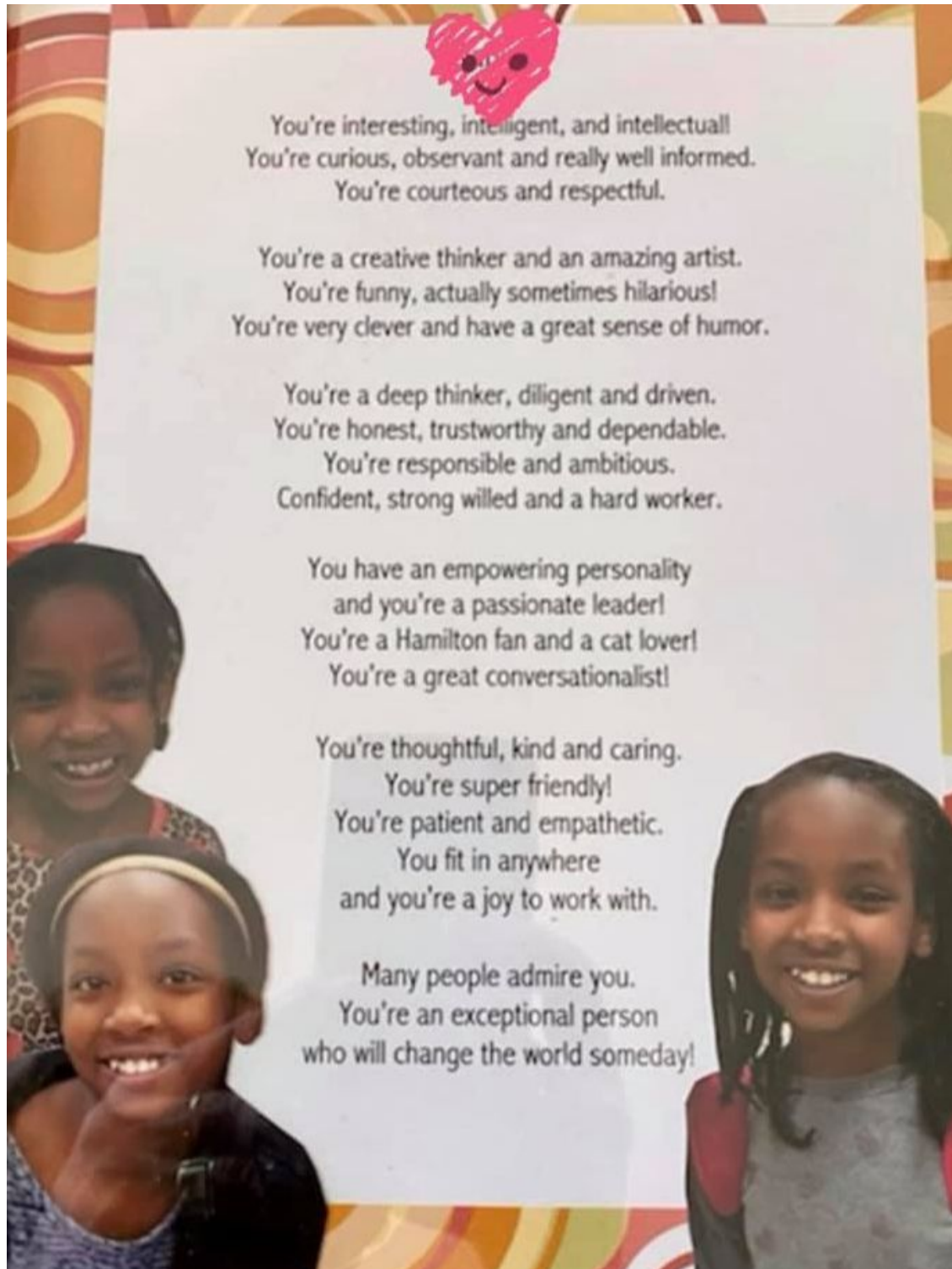
We are so proud of our amazing students and staff for riding the waves of a tumultuous school year filled with many changes, continuing to work hard and staying engaged through the end of the school year! Special congratulations go out to our 5th and 8th grade grads as they move on to Hadley Junior High and Glenbard West High School!

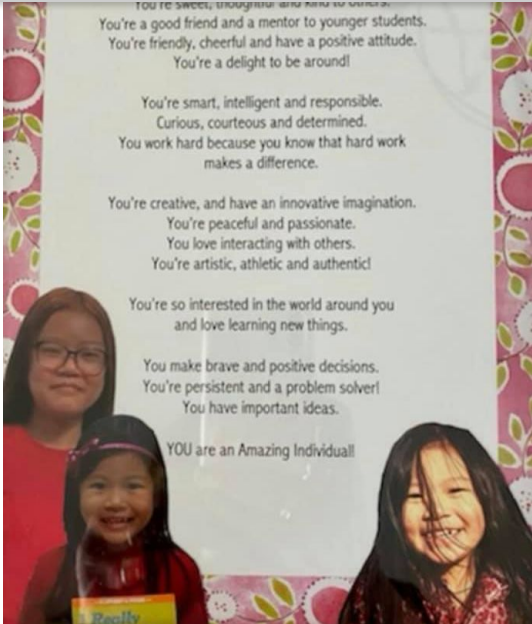
GECRC is proud to have served 138 students in after-school programs in 2020-2021. Services provided to students and families included 1:1 tutoring for elementary students, group tutoring and 1:1 tutoring for junior high school students, academic enrichment, and outreach services that assisted with keeping students engaged in e-learning and supported families with school communications and resource referrals.

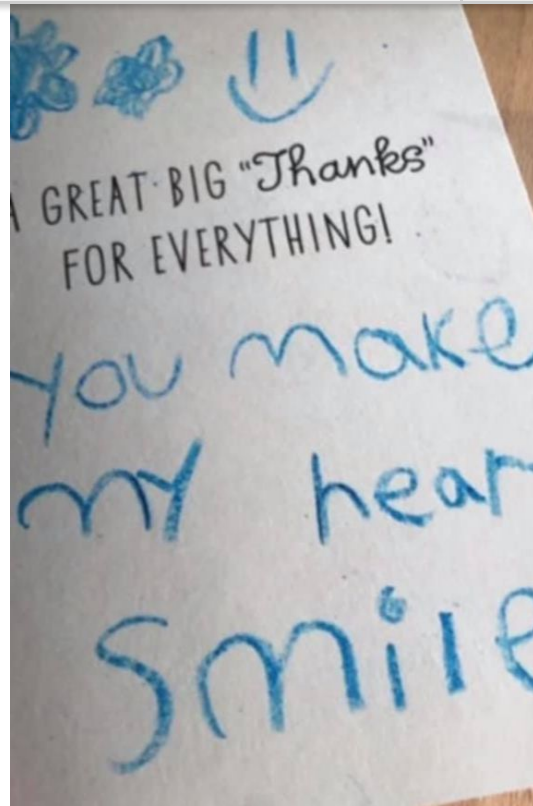
Nearly 200 volunteers assisted GECRC this school year, logging an impressive 3,737 service hours. A positive outcome from the shift to virtual tutoring was the accessibility of tutoring for many of our volunteers; some of which logged on

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Check out some highlights below from the end of the year, including some of the heartfelt student tributes written by staff and hand delivered to our departing Lincoln 5th graders.





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Summer School Kicks Off... In Person!

GECRC's Summer Program began on Tuesday, June 15th with students from both D41 and CCSD89 enrolled, and we are ready and eager to provide a summer of in-person academic enrichment and social support!

"This summer we are so grateful to have our students back in person. It's been a tough year but our students have persevered," says Lizzy Doty, GECRC Summer Program Coordinator. "They've exemplified how they can adapt, grow, and be creative despite the obstacles that online learning presents. I'm thrilled to have them in-person as we dive into project based learning. We'll be leading our kids through many real-life experiences that might've been harder to access this year through a screen. They'll dive deeper into their learning and tap into their creative selves. It's going to be a wonderful summer together. I can't wait!"

GECRC Summer Program classroom coordinators are Lizzy Doty, Katie Reed, Karla Kampen and Maryam Ghouse, with Gillian Wang as an aide. New this summer are four classroom interns; Nathan Curtis, Ava Johnson, Eliza Kochert and Evan Varlas. Thank you for sharing your time and talents with the students of GECRC! A big thank you to all of the other volunteers who helped make

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Summer Program possible and enjoyable for GECRC students!](#)[Translate ▼](#)

"It's been very heartwarming to be back in person with the students," says volunteer and classroom coordinator Maryam Ghouse. "They're always so excited to be together, taking part in our activities with sparkling eyes and smiles under their masks. I think it's a sense of relief and enthusiasm that's shared by staff, students, interns and volunteers alike."



Students were all smiles behind the masks on day one of GECRC's in-person summer program this year!

**Congratulations to our Glenbard West
Scholarship Recipients**



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Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center Scholarship

Jessica Gbor

St. Louis University



Congratulations to our 3rd annual GECRC Alumni Scholarship recipient, Gizlangba "Gigi" Gbor! Gigi attended the GECRC Lincoln Elementary program. At Glenbard West High School, she was a member of the Varsity Track team and Black Student Alliance, created a coding club for girls, and spent time giving back as a GECRC tutor at Lincoln Elementary. While balancing all of these activities, she also won the Chicago Y.E.A. (Young Entrepreneurs Competition) with her book, Margaret's Child and hair care business plan. Gigi plans to attend St. Louis University to study business. "When I attended Lincoln, I went there after school and received love and academic support. As a child, I remember how important the tutors were to me and the huge impact they had on my life."

Thank you to our scholarship sponsor [Union Pacific Railroad!](#)

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Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center Tutor Scholarship

Sydney Melms

**California Polytechnic
State University
Environmental Engineering**



Congratulations to our 2nd annual GECRC Tutor Scholarship recipient, Sydney Melms! She has been an active volunteer in the Lincoln program for her entire high school career; logging over 80 volunteer hours. She is also active as a gymnastics coach and a youth leader in her church.

Sydney plans to attend California Polytechnic State University to study Environmental Engineering.

I was only a freshman when I started tutoring for GECRC at Lincoln Elementary and I've been tutoring ever since. Not only have I tutored for almost four years, I've also been involved in the kids after school play time, trick or treated at Halloween, holiday parties, and helped out with the Summer Program. In addition, over this pandemic school year I've been lucky enough to tutor such a creative, outgoing and eager student over Zoom."

Thank you to scholarship sponsor [Union Pacific Railroad!](#)

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Thank You, GECRC Community!

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Thank you to all who donated to support this year's summer program,
financially and through book donations and supplies, including ...

Glen Ellyn Rotary Club

Glen Ellyn Kiwanis

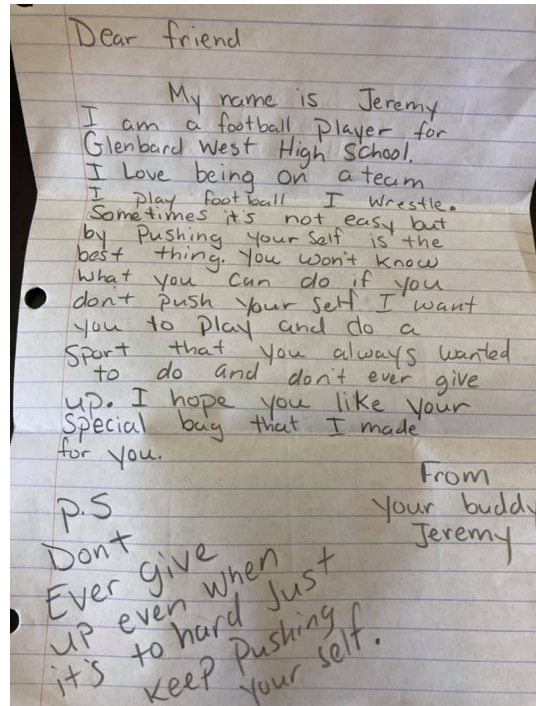
Staples

Glenbard West Football Team

FCCGE Vacation Bible School

Glen Ellyn Public Library

Your Children's Bookshelf



GE Volunteer and Donor Thank You Event

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GECRC supporters spent a lovely afternoon together this June, enjoying the beautiful gardens of Anne and Charles Bouchard, the delicious bites of the Four Seasons Gourmet group (Celia Rodee, Kris Thompson, Lynn Day, Missey Wilhelm, Diana Durkin, Bonnie Rowe, Jennifer Dorn, and Dorothy Hess) and music by Salsa de Cuatro.

Sydney Melms and Gizlangba Gbor, 2021 GECRC Tutor and Alumni Scholarship recipients, were also honored that day.



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Save the Date for Rock the Block: Aug. 21

Last summer we had to get creative with our annual backyard party due to COVID-19 restrictions; we brought some of our favorite local musicians to various neighborhoods throughout Glen Ellyn! The event was a huge hit, so we decided to expand to more music and more blocks! Be on the lookout for music brought to you by GECRC on Saturday, Aug. 21, starting in the late afternoon. Details are still being ironed out, and we will let you know the who/what/when/where as soon as everything is finalized.

We are still in need of musicians! NO act is too small! If you are interested in performing, please reach out to Karen Winter, karenwinter6@mac.com

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The band Back Pocket Bourbon seen here rocking out at Rock the Block 2020 will be back for Rock the Block 2021.



[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Commemorate, Congratulate, Celebrate!](#)[Translate ▼](#)

GECRC 20th Anniversary 2021-2022

Help us commemorate, congratulate, and celebrate 20 years of GECRC's growth and impact throughout our [Anniversary Year!](#) Over the years, GECRC students were supported academically and socially by dedicated volunteer tutors, GECRC staff, and local community partners. GECRC is committed to providing the academic and social support our students have come to rely on for 20 years into the next 20 years. We couldn't do it without the support of our volunteers, generous community members, local businesses and community organizations.

You're Invited!

The Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center (GECRC) invites you to join us in celebrating our [20th anniversary!](#) These two events listed below offer a great opportunity to benefit GECRC while connecting with your friends, family, neighbors, or customers. Please join us at our literary event and our golf outing. For more information, please visit our [20th Anniversary web site.](#)

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GLEN ELLYN CHILDREN'S RESOURCE CENTER

Meet author Claire Lombardo

SEPTEMBER 9TH
6:30 PM

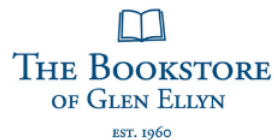
RESERVE 22

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
WWW.GECRC.COM/DONATE
-TODAY/



Claire Lombardo, New York Times bestselling author, was longlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction and has been translated into over a dozen languages. She is a graduate of the University of Illinois-Chicago and the Iowa Writers' Workshop. Born and raised in Oak Park, Illinois, she now lives in Iowa City, Iowa.

HOSTED BY



GLEN ELLYN
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

Tickets are available in advance for \$60 at

www.gecrc.com/donate-today/

You can also purchase tickets to the event at The Bookstore of Glen Ellyn for \$75; you will also receive a paperback copy of "The Most Fun We Ever Had" by Claire Lombardo, as well as a special bookmark sponsored by Marcel's Culinary Experience.

Tickets will be \$70 at the door the day of the event.

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You're Invited!

Charity Golf Outing Benefitting Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center



- Shotgun Start
- 18/9 Hole Scramble
- Contests and Giveaways
- Post Golf Happy Hour

**FRIDAY / OCTOBER 1ST
SHOTGUN START / 1:00PM
VILLAGE LINKS OF GLEN ELLYN**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:
WWW.GECRC.COM/DONATE-TODAY/**



Tickets are available at www.gecrc.com/donate-today/

Calendar of Events

We have thrown a lot of information your way - here is your cheat sheet of what NOT to miss! Mark those calendars!

- Saturday, August 21 -Rock the Block. Time TBD, locations TBD.
- Thursday, September 9 - GECRC Literary Event. 6:30pm, Reserve 22.
- Friday, October 1 - GECRC Charity Golf Outing, 1pm, Village Links.

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Summer Teaching Assistant Nathan Curtis supervises as his classroom students play an intense game of gaga ball

How to Volunteer

We recommend that those interested in tutoring for the first time learn more and fill out the volunteer application form on our website at www.gecrc.com/volunteer. Returning volunteers, please fill out a returning volunteer questionnaire [here](#), or find it on our website, also at www.gecrc.com/volunteer. We will then reach out to discuss fall opportunities. Thank you for your interest!

Community Resources

It is not too late to sign up for the summer reading program at the Glen Ellyn Public Library. Visit <https://gepl.beanstack.org/reader365/> to sign up for the program that runs through Aug. 6. There is a program for youth, from babies up to 8th grade, a high school program and even one for adults. If the Glen Ellyn community reaches a combined reading goal of 40,000 points, the Friends of the Library and the Glen Ellyn Library Foundation will each donate \$1,000 to World Relief, a global humanitarian organization that works locally to help serve the most vulnerable.

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The Glen Ellyn Food Pantry has both walk-in and appointment hours throughout the summer; visit <https://www.glenellynfoodpantry.org/> for more information. If you are able to volunteer your time, make food or financial donations or organize a food drive, you can also find information on how to do so on the [Glen Ellyn Food Pantry web site](#).

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Newsletter

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