

JAMES S. RICKARDS MIDDLE SCHOOL

# Rocket Trails

Volume 2, Issue 7

March 2018

Team Rickards...Launching into Excellence!

## Principal's Corner

Greetings Rickards Community,

It's always a pleasure writing this piece for our newsletter, celebrating and sharing the wonderful activities and events at Rickards Middle.

This month, I must begin by sharing with how shaken up we all were considering the tragic events at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas H.S. This was a national tragedy that united the entire education community: teachers, students, support staff and our parents. As Douglas High School begins and continues to provide their students with an excellent education, I know their hearts and minds will have the presence of those lives taken far too soon. At Rickards, our students and staff found different ways to share their voices and express their concerns for gun violence.

On another topic, this month we were extremely pleased to celebrate Black History Month in various ways. Our school's bulletin boards were decorated to reflect the many contributions African American have made throughout history, not only to our country, but the entire world. This celebration culminated with a great performance from our teachers and students. This month we are preparing to celebrate Women History Month with the same enthusiasm.

As we hit the final marking period, we are conducting various ways of providing additional opportunities for our students to reach their maximum potential on the upcoming and important Florida State assessments. We are hosting academic camps for English Language Arts, Math, Science, & Civics.

And finally, remember there are only two weeks left on this third marking period. Please see to it that your son/daughter is doing his/her very best to get good grades and finish the year strong.

Sincerely,

W. B. Collado



### 6th Grade

Ms. Dias—Assistant Principal

754-322-4419

Ms. Clarke—Guidance

754-322-4431

### 7th Grade

Dr. Drake—Assistant Principal

754-322-4414

Mr. Bascome—Guidance

754-322-4411

### 8th Grade

Ms. Sheffield—Assistant Principal

754-322-4416

Ms. Patterson—Guidance

754-322-4433

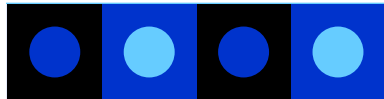




## Women's History Month



"The work of today is the history of tomorrow, and we are its makers."  
- Juliette Gordon Law, Founder of the Girls Scouts of America



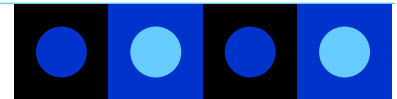
### Science Research



8th Grade students from Mr. Alvarez's class participated in group research experiments.



### #MSDStrong



Students at Rickards Middle School were given a voice and a place to grieve for the 17 lost lives at Stoneman Douglas.



## SVE Garden

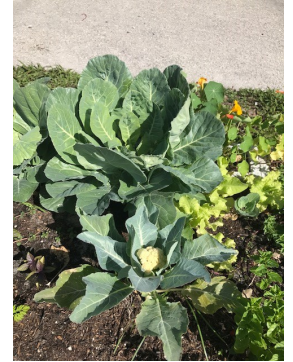


### Homework Help

Homework is an important step to achieving academic success as it encourages students to take initiative and responsibility for completing a task, work independently, and develop self-discipline. Homework prepares the students for lessons or provides the opportunity to review and reflect on learning. We offer free tutoring and Homework Help is **Monday-Thursday, from 3:45-4:45 in the Media Center.**



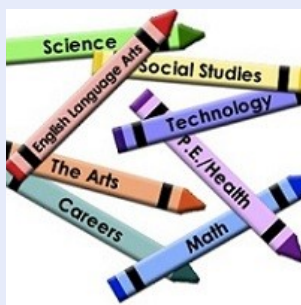
The Rickards SVE classes have grown a beautiful and bountiful garden on campus. We sure are thankful for their continued dedication and green thumbs.



## Black History Month Showcase

Students from the Rickards Middle School After School Programs and several teachers performed courageous singing, dancing, instrumental, and dramatic pieces to celebrate Black History Month. Art classes created beautiful banners to bring the show to life while some talented musicians accompanied many pieces. This was a show to remember!

### Academic Success Camps



The Rickards Academic Camps are now in session! These camps run weekly on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 4pm to 5pm with dedicated Rickards teachers. Tuesday camps focus on English Language Arts. Wednesday camps are dedicated to Math, including Algebra and Geometry. Sign up now to attend!





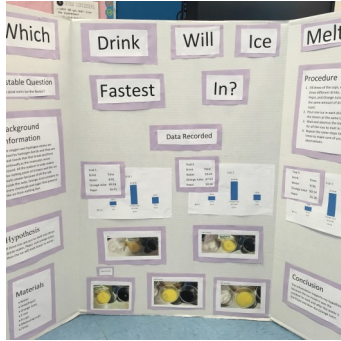
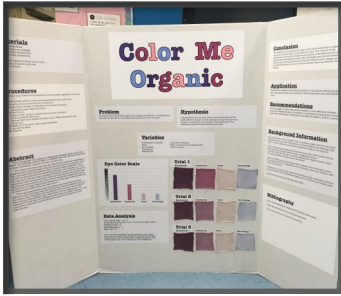
# Rickards Middle School 2017/2018 Science Fair

Students were required to choose a problem, research the problem, create a hypothesis, conduct an experiment to test the hypothesis, collect and analyze data, and form a conclusion based on the results.

2017/2018 Science Fair Winners:

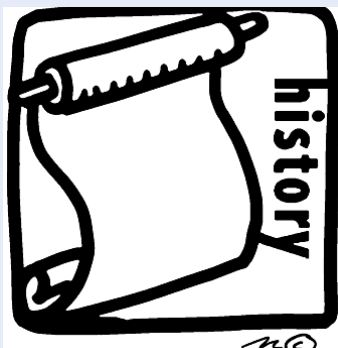
- 1st Place: Nadia Akhtar
- 2nd Place: Aaron Arnold
- 3rd Place: Andrew Pepin
- 4th Place: Shayla Smith
- 5th Place: Sailyn Tejada

With over 50 projects that met all the requirements for the Rickards Middle School Science Fair, these were the top 5 that went on to compete at the County Science Fair. Congrats scientists!



## Broward County History Fair

8th graders Noah Horowitz and Aven Nguyen were selected to represent Rickards Middle at the County History Fair with their website, The Cold War.



RMS Sports Schedule

Track  
Schedule to  
Come.



| MARCH |    |    |    |    |
|-------|----|----|----|----|
| M     | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|       |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 5     | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 12    | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 19    | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 26    | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |



**MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS**



|                                |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| PTSA Book Fair                 | Mar 5—Mar 13<br>Media Center |
| Band Concert @Northeast        | Mar 7<br>7 pm                |
| ESOL Parent Involvement Night  | Mar 8<br>6 pm                |
| Faculty Council                | Mar 9<br>7:45 am             |
| Spring Pictures                | Mar 13<br>Morning Only       |
| SAC/PTSA Meeting               | Mar 13<br>6:30 pm            |
| 8th Grade Northeast Scheduling | Mar 15<br>9 am—12 pm         |
| Faculty Meeting                | Mar 16<br>8:20 am            |
| Band MPA @Dillard              | Mar 20<br>All Day            |
| Debate @Northeast              | Mar 21<br>1:30 pm            |
| Career Day at Rickards         | Mar 22                       |
| End of 3rd Quarter             | Mar 22                       |
| Teacher Planning Day           | Mar 23                       |
| Spring Break                   | Mar 26-Mar 30                |

Tween Special Needs Advisory Coalition and Broward County Public School Present:

# SAME TEAM. ONE WORLD

Let The Adventure Begin



An informative evening for Students with learning differences who will be entering 6th - 9th grade (and their families). School Counselors, ESE Specialist and community providers will be on-hand to share information about wonderful school programs and various Broward County resources such as:

- Respite
- Counseling Services
- After School Programs
- Summer Camp Programs
- Vocational / Employment
- Public Benefits Assistance
- Social and Life Skills Programs
- Free Tax Preparation (EITC)

## TWO LOCATIONS:

South Broward  
Thursday, February 8, 2018  
6pm-8pm  
Silver Trail Middle School  
18300 Sheridan Street  
Pembroke Pines, FL 33331

North Broward  
Thursday, February 15, 2018  
6pm-8pm  
Ramblewood Middle School  
8505 West Atlantic Blvd.  
Coral Springs, FL 33071





Ethel M. Gordon Oakland Park Library, 1208 N. E. 37<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland Park, Florida 33334  
Information: (954) 630-4372 ~ [www.oaklandparkfl.gov](http://www.oaklandparkfl.gov)

# 2018 Illustrate-a-Book Contest

## Ethel M. Gordon Oakland Park Library is hosting the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Illustrate-a-Book Contest

Students in K-8<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to participate in this annual event.

### \*\* CONTEST RULES \*\*

- Choose your favorite book and create a drawing from it. (Be as creative and original as you can be.)
- Drawings must be on 8.5 X 11 or 9 X 12 DRAWING PAPER.
- The **TITLE** of the book being depicted must appear on the front side of the drawing.

*Entries must be received by the Children's Librarian  
no later than Friday, April 6, 2018 @ 5PM.*

In Honor Of

CHILDREN'S  
BOOK  
WEEK  
April 30-May 6, 2018

All participants, families and educators are invited to attend.

**The Award Ceremony will take place on Thursday, May 3, 2018 @ 6:30PM at:**

**Jaco Pastorius Park Community Center  
1098 NE 40<sup>th</sup> Court ~ Oakland Park, FL 33334**

For judging, display, and notification purposes,  
Please print the following on the back of the illustration:

- First and Last Name of Student
- Name of School
- Grade of Student
- Teacher's Name and Email address
- Homeschoolers--(\*Parent's Name)



The 2018 Illustrate-a-Book Contest is sponsored by the Friends of The Ethel M. Gordon Oakland Park Library & Oakland Park Kiwanis





Ethel M. G Oakland Park Library  
1200 NE 37<sup>th</sup> Street  
Oakland Park, FL 33334  
854.830.4370  
www.oaklandparkfl.gov

# Chess Mates Workshop

for Grades 4 - 12

## Why Chess?

- Increase Math Skills
- Increase Verbal Skills
- Problem-Solving
- Concentration
- Self-Confidence
- Discipline
- Visualization
- Insight
- Accountability
- Good Sportsmanship
- Creativity

Thursdays

March 15 - May 10, 2018

5:30 to 7:00 pm

Teen Section of Library

(Participants will receive Community Service Hours)

**WHAT'S YOUR NEXT MOVE?**

Space is Limited. Please Register in Advance in The Library's Youth Services Department,  
Call 864.830.4372 or Email: [debra.cohenkel@oaklandparkfl.gov](mailto:debra.cohenkel@oaklandparkfl.gov).





Ethel M. Gordon Oakland Park Library &  
Island City Stage Partnership Present



## 2018 Teen Drama Workshop

Workshop will focus on:

- Improv
- Theater technique
- Rehearsing and performing an original script
- Learning songs and dances
- Designing and building a set
- Assembling costumes and props
- Script Writing

**Ages 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade**  
**Free Registration**  
**Required**

.....Plus it's a great way to earn community service hours and have fun too!

For more information or to sign-up please call the Ethel M. Gordon Oakland Park Library at 954-630-6372  
1298 NE 37<sup>th</sup> Street ~ Oakland Park, FL 33334 or [www.oaklandparkfl.gov](http://www.oaklandparkfl.gov)



[facebook.com/OPCityFL](https://facebook.com/OPCityFL)



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## 2018 Teen Drama Workshop

Join us as we host a FREE 11-week Teen Drama Workshop led by professional playwright \*Rick Karlin. During that time you will be learning improv, theater technique, writing and rehearsing an original script, learning songs and dances, and designing and building a set and assembling costumes and props.

It's a great way to earn community service hours and have fun too. **Register today as space is limited.**

- Program is open to students in grades 6-12.
- **Tuesday: April 3 from 6 - 7:30pm is a mandatory Parent Orientation Meeting.**
- Meeting Dates:
  1. Thursday: April 12 from 4:30 - 6:30pm
  2. Thursday: April 19 from 4:30 - 6:30pm
  3. Thursday: April 26 from 4:30 - 6:30pm
  4. Saturday: May 5 from 10am - Noon (Tentative)
  5. Thursday: May 30 from 4:30 - 6:30pm
  6. Tuesday: May 15 from 4:30 - 6:30pm (Tentative)
  7. Thursday: May 24 from 4:30 - 6:30pm
  8. Tuesday: May 29 from 4:30 - 6:30pm (Tentative)
  9. Thursday & Friday June 7 and 8 from 1 - 5pm
  10. Monday through Friday: June 11 - 15 from 1 - 5pm
  11. Monday through Friday: June 18 - 22 from 1 - 5pm
- **Saturday, June 23 from 10am - 1pm with the finale live performance at 1pm.**
- **Saturday, June 30 from 1pm - 3pm - Cast Party Celebration!**
- Afternoon snacks will be provided.



\* Rick Karlin is a retired teacher with 40 years of experience working with children. Throughout his teaching career he produced plays with students and for 14 years ran an after school drama club, with the help of theater professionals and parents. Rick is also a playwright that has co-written a number of musicals that have been professionally produced.

For more information or to sign-up please call the Ethel M. Gordon Oakland Park Library at 954-630-6372  
1298 NE 37<sup>th</sup> Street ~ Oakland Park, FL 33334 or [www.oaklandparkfl.gov](http://www.oaklandparkfl.gov)



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# ROCKIN' Reading Buddies



## What is the Rockin' Reading Buddies Program?

**2018 Spring Rockin' Reading Buddies (RRB)** is a free 8 week reading out loud program for elementary school aged children (grades K-4). Children are paired with teen reading buddies once a week for one hour of shared reading (one-on-one) plus literacy-related games or activities.

This program is designed to give your child extra reading practice with a caring teen mentor, to boost young reader's confidence, and get them excited about reading and the Library. The Rockin' Reading Buddies program is all about making reading a fun and positive experience. Young readers are welcome to bring a pillow, blanket, and favorite stuffed animal to get comfy and read!

**Wednesdays: 4:30pm – 5:30pm**

**(March 14, 21 ~ April 4, 11, 18, 25 ~ May 7, 11)**



**Sign-up today!**

Space is limited.



Ethel M. Gordon Oakland Park Library | 1298 N. E. 37 Street | Oakland Park, FL 33334



# Taxes Easy Free

Prepared by IRS  
Certified Volunteers

## FREE tax preparation program serving our community since 2003!

The VITA program, created in 1969, is a free, IRS-sponsored program to help low and moderate-income taxpayers complete their annual tax returns at no cost.

### Your Trusted Place for:

- Screening for Earned Income Tax and Child Tax Credits
- Services in English, Spanish, Portuguese and Creole

You **MUST** bring all required documents listed on the back of this flyer (where applicable).



Ethel M. Gordon Oakland  
Park Library

1298 NE 37th Street  
Oakland Park, FL 33334

January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Tuesdays 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Saturdays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

**CLOSED:** February 17th

**CLOSED:** March 17th

