

# COVID-19 ONLINE PROGRAMMING

## A message from our founder

Dear East End Boys Club Supporters,

As we face the continued uncertainty of COVID-19, relationships have arguably never been more important. EEBC has always worked from a foundation of commitment and accountability which is why we continue to develop, evolve and engage our community through new programming opportunities for our members.



Following Spring Break, EEBC moved programs completely online with over 40 members and mentors attending our first meeting. Everyone was in good spirits and excited to reconnect, even if only through our phones and laptops. Each week, our meetings continue to grow and evolve as we discover the opportunities these changes present us with.

The EEBC meets as scheduled every Wednesday with guest speakers and intimate mentor breakout sessions and we've added a second weekly meeting with the newly established Delta Boys Club hosted by Sands Secondary School. In addition, many of our amazing mentors have stepped up to offer some unique and exciting programming to keep our members active, engaged and connected throughout the week.

In many ways, these changes have turned out to be a blessing in disguise. Technology has given us the freedom and convenience to increase the time and support we offer our members. We are now able to check in with them through the week and hold them accountable to goals we help them set. They are opening up and sharing more with our mentors and it has strengthened all our relationships. The success of our online programs has been so promising that we have decided to keep much of the online components going even after life gets back to normal.

It is vital to reflect on the wonderful work produced by our young people between September 2019 and March 2020. We've had more than 100 students from the EEBC and the Girls Group involved in three major stage productions, Henry V, Casey and the Octopus, and Are We There Yet?, accompanied by more than 20 short films all written by our youth.

Each of these shows ran for two weeks and entertained capacity filled audiences. We have some of Vancouver's finest guest artists from the Entertainment Industry working and mentoring our members in an apprenticeship style capacity, providing cutting-edge training while developing important and healthy learning situations. Each of these productions involves more than 200 hours of writing and rehearsals. The audience experiences the value of the work our organization produces. As Executive Director of the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation, Mr. Mike Halligan wrote in reference to the EEBC, "...this work is necessary and so inspiring".

We are grateful to all those who come to our productions to witness first-hand the "spirit" of our youth on stage and in films. These artistic endeavours are the conduit to providing learning opportunities which in turn build self-esteem, self-confidence, and strong work ethics, skills that lead to the pursuit of excellence. Our students witness their growth, celebrate their achievements and realize accomplishments few believed were possible.

It has been amazing to see our team of mentors, members and supporters accomplish all this in just the past few months, and now witness how they embrace the new challenges facing us ahead. On behalf of our entire community, thank you for everything that you are doing to support one another and the East End Boys Club through this tumultuous time.

Best regards,

**Jim Crescenzo**

Founder and Director of the East End Boys Club Society



## East End Boys Club Meetings

**EVERY WEDNESDAY, FROM 3:00PM - 6:00PM**

A major priority for EEBC members during quarantine is to stay socially active and remain consistently connected to our community of mentors. Following Spring Break EEBC group members and mentors welcomed a featured guest speaker on Zoom. As a result of moving meetings online, EEBC members have been more productive than ever. Each week we invite men from all walks of life to share their adversities, as well as their achievements. Through these personal stories, our youth make connections with guest speakers and vice-versa. Our model of teaching life lessons and sharing experiences, has been successful and we strive to bring these weekly learning opportunities to our youth even during the Covid-19 crisis.

## Leadership Breakout Sessions

**EVERY WEDNESDAY, FROM 3:00PM - 6:00PM**

Since going online, we have added a Breakout Group consisting of 5- 6 youth and a mentor who facilitates more focused discussions based on the guest speaker's theme. Later, the larger group reunites to have an all-inclusive presentation of what evolved from the small group discussions and to complete the session.

## Grocery Assistance

**ON AN AS NEEDED BASIS**

Under normal circumstances we typically offer our members a pizza dinner during these Wednesday meetings however, during the Covid-19 restrictions we are re-allocating these funds to purchasing gift cards from Safeway to assist our members and their families with buying groceries.



**JOHN PATRICELLI** has been instrumental in helping build and sustain our Boys Club Programs at Templeton, and John Oliver Secondary schools. He is an admirable mentor as he has overcome many personal adversities and is now a successful businessman and realtor who is in the top 10% of his industry. John is the recipient of the Realtor's Care Award for 2018, one of only 14,000 realtor's receives this award annually. He is also the Lead Facilitator for Camp Choice and gives freely of his time to help individuals in recovery.

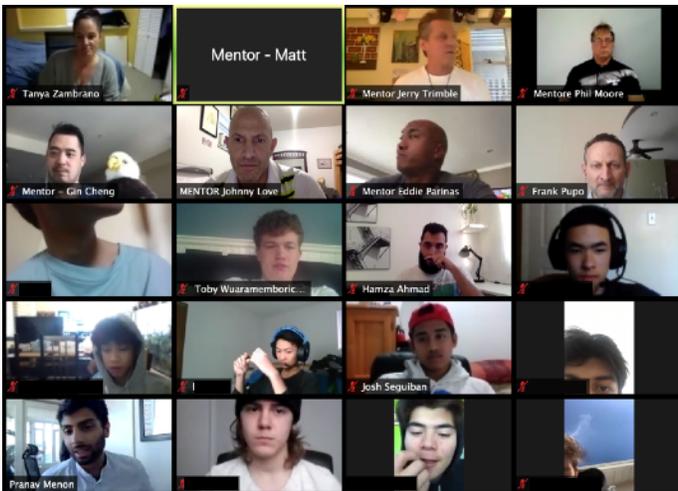


**MANNY SOBRAL** is a secondary school teacher, working with highly at-risk students in the SUMMIT program at Vancouver Alternate Secondary School. Manny represented Canada at the 1988 Olympic Summer Games and held the IOB Super Welterweight Boxing title. Manny brings a strong work ethic and a champion's outlook to our group.

## Delta Boys Club Meetings

**EVERY FRIDAY, FROM 2:00PM - 5:00PM**

The EEBC has two groups in Delta. Jim Crescenzo is working with teachers Bryce Murray and Grant Jamieson from Sands Secondary School and Community Youth Leader Roy Sansa, from Seaquam Secondary. The Vancouver and Delta groups have their own attributes and their specific set of problems. The EEBC-Vancouver, and Delta groups have been meeting via Zoom and positive friendships are developing, and because of this, future collaborations will be exciting to watch.



A screenshot of one of our online meetings

## Weekly Check-ins

**TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS, 3:00AM - 5:00PM**

Jim Crescenzo and our other mentors will speak with youth to discuss: how things are going at home; at school and with their friends. They will also identify what is going well and what needs immediate attention. The EEBC will pool its resources to support members during these challenging times. If any of our youth need additional counselling we will connect them with a professional counsellor in the Vancouver area.



PRANAV MENON has been instrumental in moving all our programs online, so we never had to skip a beat. He is a UBC Engineering graduate where he left his mark by creating a campus-wide peer-driven entrepreneurship support service through AMS Services, to working at Microdermics (a medical device venture), to enabling entrepreneurial support for UBC faculty members working on impactful research.



LEVENTE MIHALIK graduated from Templeton's Boys Club and Film Program. He was one of several students who received financial sponsorship from the EEBC for his Undergraduate Degree. He won the Outstanding Practicum Award for Inspiring Educators and is now teaching with the VSB. Levente was recently honoured as one of "B.C.'s most enterprising young business leaders" in the 2019 BC Business 30 Under 30 list.

## Building Character & Integrity

**EVERY MONDAY, FROM 3:00PM - 4:30PM**

The school closures mandate has allowed our mentors more time to meet in smaller groups with EEBC members from Vancouver and Delta schools. During these Building Character and Integrity sessions, our youth will engage in more in-depth conversations on topics which center around character traits that depict “what makes a good man”.

We are using the framework of *Character Counts, The Six Pillars of Character*, which include the following themes:

### Trustworthiness:

- Honesty
- Reliability
- Loyalty
- Integrity

### Respect:

- The Golden Rule (Treat others as you would like to be treated.)
- Tolerance and Acceptance
- Non-Violence
- Courtesy

### Responsibility:

- Duty
- Accountability
- Pursuit of excellence
- Self-Control

### Fairness:

- Justice
- Respecting the law
- Openness

### Caring:

- Concern for others
- Being Compassionate

### Charity:

- Get involved in a cause that you feel strongly about

### Citizenship:

- Love for your country
- Social responsibility
- Respect the law

Students will reflect and write about their impressions of the ideas discussed and how they are present in their lives or how they can be adopted. They will outline their action plans and how they will achieve their objectives.



ALI CHAUDHRY will be one of the many mentors who will host these sessions. He is an alumni from the EEBC and Theatre Temp programs. He works in the finance industry for the Vancity Credit Union; however, he always makes time for his passions of acting and give back to his community. Ali has been a coach at Camp Choice. He continues to come back to the club to help mentor youth in the same program that he credits "changed his life".



**Mentors routinely check-in with our youth**

## Academic Support

**MONDAY - FRIDAY, ANYTIME**

We are also offering academic support to our EEBC members who are struggling with their grades during these unprecedented times. As many of our mentors are teachers in the school district, we are able to connect with the teacher of our members to get a detailed understanding of where they might be falling behind, and make sure that they pass every subject. Darren Dissegna, Matt Kennedy, Levente Mihalik and Manny Sobral are the academic supporters for this program. Schedules are established and take place across the week.

## Basketball Workouts

**EVERY MONDAY, 5:00PM - 6:00PM**

EEBC members are also invited to join professional basketball player Clay Crellin for another weekly fun and exciting at-home workout. Clay has developed basketball specific exercises designed to help keep the skills of our basketball loving members sharp, while they are restricted from being able to play out in the community. Clay will teach our members theory and strategies about the game from a player's and coach's perspective as well as, diet, nutrition and lifestyle for successful basketball performance.



**JUN HYUNG KIM** is a teacher for the Burnaby School District and an award winning filmmaker. In 2018 he received his Bachelor of Education from UBC and can be found teaching for the Burnaby School District during the school year. Jun's passion for youth work was a result of his parents working many years as missionaries in at-risk Canadian communities.



**CLAY CRELLIN** is a former Canadian college All-Star and MVP, and invitee to the Drew League (the most prestigious summer league in America). After a gruesome hit-and run leg injury, Clay never placed blame and focused on his rehab. He now plays professional basketball for various International leagues and founded his own non-profit which empowers underprivileged teens through fitness and basketball.

## Young Moviemakers Film Classes

**MONDAY - FRIDAY, ANYTIME**

Young Moviemakers has been hit hard by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Their film education programs usually teach over 1000 students a year and that all changed over night, leaving 30 YM film instructors out of work. YM began collaborating with EEBC to develop a completely remote film education program, which empowers its youth participants now more than ever. Members meet with YM instructors several times a week to develop short video projects, and are guided every step of the way.

## Stage-Play Development

**EVERY MONDAY & TUESDAY, 10:00AM - 12:00PM**

Renown theatre producer and director Kevin Bennet and EEBC is developing a theatrical dramatization of the impact and magic our programs bring to people's lives. Collaborations and brainstorm sessions are held twice a week, where Kevin interviews our many speakers and members in order to extract inspiration for the production which will be ready for the Fall of 2020.



MATT KENNEDY is a Templeton alumni. He graduated from UBC's Theatre and Film Program. An accomplished actor, Matthew joined forces with Levente Mihalik and together they created a new film company called, Young Moviemakers. Matthew is the head of the Film Department at Mulgrave School in West Vancouver. He will be instructing our elementary students during our Summer Film Camp in July 2019.



KEVIN BENNET is another graduate of Jim's Theatre Program at Templeton Secondary. Kevin is an internationally renown theatre director who has directed plays at the Globe Theatre in London, at the Shakespeare Festival at Stratford, and at the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

## Boxing Workouts

**EVERY FRIDAY, 5:00PM - 6:30PM**

Each week, EEBC members are invited to join Jerry Trimble for a fun and exciting at-home workout. He will put members to the test with a gruelling one-hour workout, featuring boxing and kickboxing techniques. Jerry is an actor, a three-time World Kickboxing Champion and a member of the World Kickboxing Hall of Fame.

## Mindfulness for Youth

**EVERY THURSDAY, 2 - 3PM & FRIDAY, 11 - 12PM**

Research in neuroscience has shown that mindfulness provides numerous benefits for adolescents. Some of these benefits are stress reduction, minimized anxiety, and in some cases it eases symptoms of depression, all of which can in turn help to bring about improved grades and increased test performance. Mindfulness may improve attention span and concentration, it can create changes the brain in ways that protect against mental challenges and improve control over emotions while increasing compassion and empathy. Our EEBC mentor Jerry Trimble will be leading our Mindfulness for Youth sessions online twice per week.



JERRY "GOLDEN BOY" TRIMBLE is the former PKA and PKC World Kickboxing Champion and current film and TV actor, with a resume that includes projects like "Heat", (playing alongside Al Pacino) "Charlie's Angels" "Green Hornet" and more. He is also a Motivational Youth Speaker who empowers teens to get out of their comfort zone, discover their gifts and go after their dreams. Jerry uses his real-life experiences as proof that if an insecure, fearful, bullied teen like he was can make his dreams come true, anyone can.



**A Mindfulness session**

## Post-Secondary Trades Planning

**EVERY MONDAY, 12:00PM - 1:30PM**

Wendy will work with our students who are especially interested in learning a trade. She will assist EEBC youth in gaining entrance into post-secondary trade programs and help them continue their journey into apprenticeship training. Wendy will organize guest speakers on-line, who will present a variety of trades and information about different career opportunities.



WENDY GILMOUR has worked in four school districts around the province. She works with students in the “Youth Train in Trades” and “Youth Work in Trades” programs for all 18 secondary schools. Wendy has been instrumental in helping many students gain entrance to trades programs in colleges and helping them continue their journey to apprenticeship.

# OUR PRINCIPAL DONORS

**Mr. Francesco Aquilini and the Vancouver Canucks Organization**

**Mr. Paolo Aquilini and Canucks for Kids Fund**

**Mr. Jim Bosa and North Shore Studios**

**Mr. Jason Bosa**

**Mr. Ryan Bosa**

**Mr. Frank Giustra**

**Mrs. Judy Hager**

**Mr. Tommy Humphreys**

**Mr. John Mackay**

**Mr. Chris Mackay**

**Mr. Brian Paes-Braga and Quiet Cove Foundation**

**Mr. Andy Szocs**

**Mr. Kyle Washington and the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation**

**Mr. Timothy Young and the Young Family Foundation**

## OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

- Arriva Ristorante
- Arts in Action and Ms. Claudine Pommier
- Boffo Properties
- Cannoli King
- City in Focus
- Confratellanza Italo- Canadese
- Corpus Christi College, UBC
- Daniele and Stefanie Tamburrino and D&S Developments Inc.
- Dr. Andrew Seal and Mrs. Hilde Seal
- Dr. Peter Meehan and Ms. Anne Marie Meehan
- Dr. Rainer J. Zindler
- Ducati Richmond
- Federico's Supper Club
- Fibre Corin Mouldings
- Fratelli Bakery
- Grace Choi Events
- ILWU Service Committee
- International Longshore & Warehouse Union Local 500
- Italian Chamber of Commerce
- Kalena Shoes
- La Grotta del Formaggio
- Marcello's Pizzeria
- Milani Plumbing
- Mr. Allan M. Lim
- Mr. Bruno Benedet and Bosa Foods
- Mr. Daniele and Mrs. Stefanie Tamburrino
- Mr. David Sidoo
- Mr. Edward and Mrs. Mary Gacek
- Mr. Fraser Ballantyne
- Mr. Gino Muoio
- Mr. Graeme Zucko and Ms. Arlin Zucko
- Mr. John Skender and Cougar Canyon Ventures
- Mr. Kenley Tamoto and Artbutus West Agency / Fundamental Power Solutions
- Mr. Kevin D. Halicki
- Mr. Kevin Torvik
- Mr. Leigh Curyer and NEXGEN Energy Ltd.
- Mr. Manny Sobral and the North Burnaby Boxing Club
- Mr. Michael Cuccione
- Mr. Michael Moody and R. Dunn Enterprises Ltd.
- Mr. Nat Veltri and Inform Brokerage Inc.
- Mr. Peter and Maria Katsionis
- Mr. Peter Bull
- Mr. Peter Leitch
- Mr. Peter Read
- Mr. Raza Mirani
- Mr. Richard Gacek
- Mr. Sal Audia
- Mr. Sal Mobilio
- Mr. Sandy and Mrs. Gabriella Moscone
- Mr. Tom and Ms. Karen Cooper
- Mr. Tyler Federal and SJF Investments
- Mr. Wayne Deans and Deans Knight Capital Management Ltd.
- Mrs. Ann Halicki
- Mrs. Mary Gowan
- Ms. Carla Bergman and Purple Thistle Institute
- Ms. Cathy Lavery and Mr. Rick Richardson
- Ms. Diane Smith
- Ms. Maxine Tamoto
- Ms. Michelle Chui and Mr. Dave Gardiner
- Onni Group
- Raymond James Canada Foundation and Mr. Rusty Goepel
- RE/MAX
- St. Mark's College, UBC
- Stile Brands
- Telus Corporation
- Templeton Secondary School and the Vancouver School Board
- Vancouver Folk Festival
- Vancouver Police Department
- Via Tevere

## OUR INVALUABLE HELPERS

- Administration, Custodial and Office Staff at Templeton Secondary School
- Mrs. Dale Deluca
- Ms. Penny Engleman
- Mrs. Adelina Garcea
- Ms. Cathy Lavery
- Lega Femine Confratellanza Ms.
- Jo-Ann Nykilchyk
- Ms. Tara Schmit
- Ms. Amy Vine