Legacy Kids
New Group of Rising Stars Come to the Legacy Center

Legacy is excited to introduce our 2019 novice class of Rising Stars! These eight new Rising Stars, Lana Rodriguez, Destiny Jones, Alandrea Lugo, Aaleah Smith, Israel Edwards, Ziyan Hemingway, Amylah Carter and Nafi Curtis were participants in either Legacy’s after-school or community summer tennis programs. This special group of players were chosen to participate in the Rising Stars program based on a talent identification process that included their growing tennis skill-set, a strong commitment level demonstrated through their consistent attendance, positive behavior, and parental involvement. As part of the program, our newest Rising Stars have been enrolled in Junior Tennis Clinics at our flagship Legacy Center. There, they also receive free semi-private lessons and educational and guidance support. We congratulate these special players on being selected as Rising Stars!

Legacy Players go to the USTA Pre-Orange Bowl Training Camp

Legacy players, Abhiraj Srivastava, Omar Aboseada and Kayla Chung, were selected by the USTA Foundation to participate in the USTA Pre-Orange Bowl Training Camp this past December in Florida! During the camp, our players had an opportunity to train with, and learn from, a diverse group of players with unique game styles from across the nation. They worked on various technical aspects of the game as well as new tactics and strategies necessary for demonstrating peak performance. Experienced coaches focused on stroke production, proper footwork, effective strategy for match play, and tennis specific strength and conditioning training. In addition, they learned how to overcome possible setbacks in the game, regain concentration, and maintain mental toughness throughout the entire match through enlightening off-court mental training workshops. Our Legacy players were delighted to have this opportunity and will no doubt carry this positive memory with them for the rest of their lives.
Changing The Game

Legacy’s Changing The Game, free or low-cost after school programs, have been in full swing since September! Legacy staff and coaches go out to twelve different school locations and introduce upwards of 300 students to the fundamentals of tennis and fun fitness, but it’s much more than tennis! The program includes nutrition education, STEM activities, family night programming and team/individual competition that culminate in end of the year tournaments. We aim to “change the game” on the court, while helping build character traits, promote health and wellness habits, and sharpen goal setting skills that resonate in the classroom.

Legacy Player Jeremie Casabon Wins USTA National; Gold Ball

Legacy’s own Jeremie Casabon (pictured right) along with Philadelphia native, Henry Ruger, recently won the Boys’ 18s Doubles Championship at Winter Nationals in Orlando, Florida in December. In doing so, they attained the coveted Gold Ball. Along the way they beat the #2, #3 and #6 seeds without dropping a set. Upon winning the Gold Ball Jeremie said with a big smile, “Finally, I’ll be able to see gold when I wake up every day!” In singles, Jeremie came in eighth overall out of 128 players. He had an excellent showing upending the #1 seed. Jeremie began playing tennis at Legacy when he was 3 1/2 years old in the Munchkins Clinic. Coach Kein Wilson made the game so much fun that Jeremie fell in love with the sport. Moving up through the clinics and working with Legacy Coaches, he continued to improve his game. For the past three years, as a Legacy player, the USTA Foundation has awarded Jeremie with a Jimmy Evert Merit Scholarship which provides support for travel expenses.

Today, Jeremie trains at Evert Tennis Academy in Boca Raton, Florida and is coached by John Evert. When home, he trains with Legacy Director of Tennis, Sanjin Kunovac, on court, and Legacy Fitness Coach, Ryan Fatzinger at the Legacy Center. Jeremie works exceptionally hard at the sport and is extremely grateful for all of the support he receives from the Legacy and Evert Tennis Academy coaches. Jeremie is aware his success is due in large part to the circle of people who surround and guide him.

New Guidance Program

In October 2018, Legacy launched our first ever Educational Guidance Program. Our goal is to help our players get into high performing high schools to improve their chances of success. Components include one-on-one tutoring by college tennis players from local universities, parent resources and education, building relationships with administrators at the area’s best schools, and offering monthly workshops to support and improve school performance. To date, our workshops have included an intro to Philadelphia’s best schools and how to apply, strategic planning for student athletes who want to play tennis in college, organization and time management skills, and note taking and study tips. Future guidance workshops will cover managing test anxiety, concentration and focus, and developing a player profile. All are designed to improve performance in school and on court. Some of the handouts from the workshops are available to all Legacy players at www.legacyyte.org/about-us/resources
Legacy Teaches Character

Legacy strives to prepare young people for success! We have partnered with the character organization, CITRS, to include character education throughout our programs. This month’s virtue is fortitude: the ability to persevere, uphold one’s values, and face adversity with courage. Coaches will be talking about fortitude on court, and we have a bulletin board next to the library featuring youth exhibiting the virtue of the month. If you snap a photo that demonstrates fortitude, send it to our Director of Education, Jude Henzy at jhenzy@legacyyte.org. You can also submit photos for our February virtue: Positive Attitude.

At Legacy, serving youth is at the heart of what we do. Launched in October, Legacy’s Play and Serve initiative brings together programs and events that give adults the opportunity to play and have fun while contributing to Legacy’s ability to serve young people and prepare them for success! Play & Serve helps Legacy provide free or low-cost youth tennis and education programs; Legacy also ensures that all kids have access to world-class coaches, facilities and the resources needed to put them on a pathway to success.

Play pli/ verb
1. engage in activity for enjoyment
2. take part in

Serve serv/ verb
1. perform duties or services for another
2. to answer the needs of
3. an act of hitting the ball to start play

36th Annual Legacy Benefit
April 18, 2019 at The Legacy Center

Save the date for our biggest fundraiser of the year! Join us for an evening to remember including a wonderful dinner, drinks, live music, and one of the largest silent auctions in Philadelphia. Help us make this night a big success for our kids! To join the Benefit Committee or volunteer contact Sibby Brasler at 215-882-4200 or sibby@brasler.com. To become a sponsor or donate an auction item contact Marcie Baker at mbaker@legacyyte.org. Purchase your tickets now at donate.legacyyte.org/annuallegacybenefit.

Upcoming Events

- 36th Annual Legacy Benefit April 18th
- Session 3 starts March 4th, Register now
- Legacy Summer Camp and Community Summer Programs take place June through August
Our Mission:
Preparing youth for success through our inclusive community, using tennis, education and character programming.