

BOTTOM LINE



Solid Rock Youth Center Partner Newsletter

April 2015

Please be our Special Guest at the Art Show and Exhibit

The youth center is having its 2nd annual Student Art Show and we want to extend a special invitation for you to attend! It is on Friday evening, April 17th, from 6:30-9 PM at the SRYC.

This will be a night like no other in the area! Our students will be displaying their art work in all different mediums, including painting, sculptures, and photography. Prizes will be awarded by our judges, Jim Gafgen, Paula Pennie, and Caleb Daubenspeck. Jim Gafgen is a lifelong Morrisville resident and famous for his Robert Morris Statue in Morrisville's town square. Paula Pennie is a local art teacher and Caleb Daubenspeck is an enterprising art student. In addition, our judges as well as other local artists, specializing in different mediums, will be featuring their own artwork and their process. You will have an opportunity to interact with the artists and get a feel for how and why they create their masterpieces. This type of interaction is invaluable to our student artists. The final piece of our night will be a conversation with our judges when they tell of their own histories with art, their love of their work, and expert advice for everyone attending.

The artists are further supporting the youth center by donating their own artwork for our first Silent Auction. One hundred percent of the proceeds will go to the SRYC, with one exception. If any of the students donate artwork, they will keep their full price. The money earned from the Silent Auction will go to putting in new cabinets

on our back kitchen wall, which will greatly increase our storage space and maximize the potential for that area. The event is open to the public and we are especially excited to see you there!



Top Right: One of last year's winners

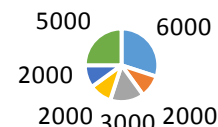
Left: Caleb Daubenspeck and Jim Gafgen are judges

"I want to be a part in knowing that the teens of this community have somewhere to hang out with their friends, instead of the streets. They can feel like they belong with no peer pressure."

- Diane M.



SRYC Funding Needed



- Current Staff
- Current Events
- Games & Computers
- Café Equipment
- Future Staff
- Future Building Plans

Land bought for the future community and youth center building



A New Community and Youth Center Building

The youth center has an awesome problem. We serve around 18 to 25 kids on any given open night and at some events we have over 60 in attendance. It is great to see so many youth enjoying the youth center. It is also rather cramped. Our current facility has served us well, but it is not our own. We are located in the upstairs of the First Baptist Church, which totally remodeled it to fulfil our needs. We are outgrowing this space in leaps and bounds. Many people have offered donations of games, furniture, and such that we can't accept, simply for lack of room.



Our future looks bright as we have already bought and paid for the property directly across the street from our current location. We are now exploring building options for the best use of the space. We also have our first 1000 dollars in contributions towards our future home.



What does that future building include? Our focus is to build not only a youth center, but a community center. First, it would include all of what already exists: The Rock Café, a lounge area, a gaming and arcade area, a computer homework room, and a concert stage. All of these would be expanded and updated to meet the needs of today's youth. In addition, it would add: a counseling area, a dojo space, a dining area, classrooms, recreation rooms, a gym, and offices. While it would be open for the youth during off school hours, it would also be open for the community and available for special community events or classes. It is a rather ambitious plan, but can be accomplished in practical terms with people who are dedicated to see it become reality. There are many possible ways that this may come about, so as of right now, all options are being considered. The goal is to have an in-hand plan within the year and to have the building operating within five to six years. Hence, while we are continuing to improve and maintain our current space, our long term focus is on the new building and what it will mean for the youth and Morrisville community as a whole.

There are several ways you can make this venture successful. We are currently looking for people willing to be visionaries with us and step to the front of our fundraising with their time. We also need architects, liaisons with the council, building code advice, and more. Please contact us if you can help in any of these!

Staff

Without willing staff giving of their time, the youth center would not open its doors. It is their chance to interact with youth who need a positive role model and teach life lessons to teens who are willing to hear. Some of the amazing benefits of working at the SRYC are personal satisfaction, visibility and involvement in the community, an opportunity to meet new people, and building into the youth.

One volunteer stated, "It has given me a purpose, making me want to be a better person, so that I can be a better role model. They need to have someone positive to look up to, instead of the many negative models that are out there."

Volunteering is a great way to support the youth center in a different way! Time is a valuable commodity that not everyone has, but we must staff the youth center fully in order to open our doors. If you would like to volunteer, but simply don't have the time, a gift of \$25 will fill that spot for one night!



A spa night at the SRYC

Donate with Ease

There are other simple ways to donate to the youth center that don't cost you anything! While it does not replace larger gifts, it is a good way to supplement them. Check them out!

Smile.amazon.com:

Every time you shop at Amazon, they will donate to us. Simply go to the site, and type Solid Rock Youth Center, Inc. and select us. It will say "Supporting: Solid Rock Youth Center" in yellow at the top of the page.

TD Bank Affinity:

Simply register your account for the SRYC at the bank and at the end of the year TD makes a donation to the youth center based on how much is in your account. We also receive \$25 for any new account created. You can go to any TD location, or fill out a paper we have. Just put in Solid Rock Youth Center AG009!

Goodsearch/Goodshop:

Each online search or shopping trip (at 5,000+ stores) through their site, means they will make a donation! Simply download their search bar or shop through the site.

We are the Solid Rock Youth Center

Solid Rock Youth Center (SRYC) was established in Morrisville in 2005 to give the teens of the community a safe and fun environment to pursue recreational, educational, and spiritual development, allowing them to build character and leadership skills based on Christian morals and values.

This provides an environment where the students always feel welcome and where they are learning communication skills, life skills, problem solving, team work, physical fitness appreciation, and the decision making process.

Located in the heart of Morrisville, it is fully staffed with the Rock Café, lounge areas, band equipment, game systems, computers, and games such as pool and air hockey. The volunteer staff provides activities for the youth such as: tournaments, sports, music, computers, community service, and more. We also sponsor an annual Art Show and Music Festival. Our themed nights include such things as Comic Con, Anime, Kung Fu Night, and our famous large Nerf Fights. We also have a huge Superbowl party. While we average 18 kids a night, some events can have over 60 youth in attendance!

The SRYC is open all school year long for grades 6-12 every Friday and Saturday night from 6:30-9:00 PM and is always free for them to attend. *If only it were free for us to operate!* We run everything we do from the donations of people just like you who care about keeping our kids in a safe, fun place where they are also learning. Each donation not only helps us to keep our facilities running and provides an event each night, but also enables us to give them special opportunities and events, such as our Caregiver's Day and Art and Music Festivals. Would you consider helping us to continue this vital and one of a kind organization in Morrisville?



Superbowl 2015 at the SRYC

If you would like to donate to the SRYC, please send a check payable to SRYC at the address on the back of the newsletter. For one time donations you will receive a tax deductible receipt within the month or for monthly donations at the end of the year. Please write on the memo line if it is a one time or monthly donation and if you would like it to go to a specific project.

www.SolidRockYouthCenter.com

Community Service Opportunity

We are proud to be one of the few places in Morrisville where youth can perform community service hours. This works in two different ways.

The first is an opportunity for youth who are looking to add something more to their college or work applications. Community service is a great way to do this. Youth work on everything from art projects, to janitorial services, to learning how to run the sound system and different events. We work with them to discover what they are passionate about and give them opportunities to use that passion. This is open to every youth that attends the youth center.

We are also partnered with the court system so that those who have court ordered community service can fulfill their hours with us. These are youth who were skateboarding in the wrong place, were out after curfew, or got in trouble at school. We provide a safe place where they can not only serve the community, but also learn some new skills and be part of serving teens their own age. Many of our community service youth bring friends with them who hang out while they wait for their friend to be finished.

Our program has served over 35 kids! We've found that many come to the youth center because they had community service with us or know someone who did and said it was a great place to hang out! Many who were ordered to do community service have recommended us for community service to those who want the experience! Some have continued to serve on staff and others have become leaders in their own right. Our kids who complete our program are proud of their service and we are proud of them!

Contact Us

Open:

Friday and Saturday nights

6:30-9:00 PM

Grades 6-12

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solidrockyouthcenter](http://www.facebook.com/solidrockyouthcenter)

Office hours

Wed. 10am-5pm



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