



Q4 NEWSLETTER

RICHMOND'S WRITING AND COMMUNICATION
NON-PROFIT FOR YOUTH

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MONEY MOVES FOR PODIUM YOUTH: RVA CELEBRITY DISH, GIVING TUESDAY, & CHRISTMAS UNDER THE CLOCKTOWER

BY VICKI YEROIAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To prepare for a big 2023, Podium RVA ramped up its fundraising this quarter by hosting events and campaigns every month. Do you remember ...

The RVA Celebrity Dish, October 6th

Hosting our 4th Dish, this year honored Richmond's own Dr. Arthur Kellermann, Councilperson Stephanie Lynch, and Kathy Kathlson. With over 120 people in attendance, the night filled with laughter from the roasting and toasting of our honorees. Huge shout outs to McGuireWoods and Tyro Partners for co-sponsoring the night, to alum Charmeya McMurray for sharing about her incredible work post-graduation, and to Board member Dre'mon Miller for emceeding the show! With \$32,000 raised and a net income of \$20,000, Podium exceeded its goal to support our fall programs and next year's college scholarships!



PODIUM'S YOUNG PROFESSIONAL BOARD WITH
SPECIAL ALUM GUEST, CHARMEYA MCMURRAY



A BEAUTIFUL EVENING

Giving Tuesday, November 29th

Giving Tuesday is a global generosity movement that started in 2012 as a simple idea: a day to encourage people to do good. Over the last decade, this idea has grown into a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity. Giving Tuesday is the largest global nonprofit fundraising day of the year, and that's because of incredible folks like yourself. Because of a collective fundraising effort, on November 29th, Podium raised over \$600 for our youth programs this winter session.



Christmas Under the Clocktower, December 2nd - 18th

For the second year in a row, Podium participated in RBI Services' Christmas Under the Clocktower! Nonprofits across the region decorated their trees at the Main Street Station downtown, and for a two-week period, folks came, enjoyed the decor, and voted for their favorite trees. At Podium's tree, we kept true to our spirit. Encouraging families to communicate with each other, Podium set up a card making station where folks young and old shared their hopes and wishes this holiday season. And like the best Christmas trees, Podium placed journals under ours as gifts for children to take! Through this campaign, Podium raised \$2,250!



OPENING NIGHT



THE YOUNG PROFESSIONAL BOARD AND OUR TREE

This fall, Podium made some money moves! Our goal is simple: keep all of our weekly programs in Richmond City and Henrico County running strong, and build the necessary resources to start supporting youth in need in Hopewell and Petersburg cities as soon as possible. Will you help Podium's goal turn into its reality in 2023? To learn how you can support Podium's expansion as a Central Virginia literacy resource for children and teens, [click here.](#)

FALL PROGRAMS & LOOKING AHEAD TO WINTER

BY CANDACE WEATHER, PROGRAM DIRECTOR

With fall 2022 programs coming to a close, we are excited to reflect on all that we've been able to accomplish! This fall alone, Podium served over 280 youth in a total of 12 programs: 6 in high schools, 5 in middle schools, and 1 youth center pilot program. We launched our Common Cent\$ program, focusing on financial literacy with a creative writing twist. Podium also prepared our Boys & Girls Club student leaders for their annual Youth of the Year Competition, hosted our first family writing night at George Wythe High School, and ended on an incredible note this December with our regional open mic. Our students shared the most beautiful writings with Podium staff, family, and friends!



PROGRAM LEAD CANDACE WITH
YOUTH AT LUCILLE BROWN



MENTOR ANDI WITH YOUTH AT GEORGE WYTHE

Our upcoming winter session will be the beginning of a new era for Podium: a season of expansion! In February, Podium will begin piloting middle and high school programs in Hopewell City with our new partner The Well, a youth center serving Hopewell City Public School students. Additionally, Podium is moving from bi-monthly to weekly programming with Peter Paul Development Center, hosting Theatre and Debate with the Boys & Girls Club, and continuing Power of the Pen, the Teen Scene, and our Common Cent\$ programs from the fall. We can't wait to see all that 2023 will bring!

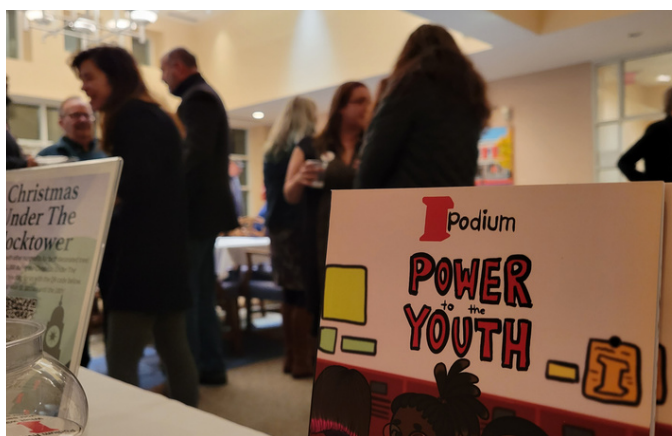
SUPPORTER AWARDS NIGHT RECAP

BY AERIN MILLS, COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

On Monday, December 5th, we celebrated the incredible people who make Podium's work possible during our annual supporter awards night. The Podium family is the best of the best, and we can't thank you enough. The turnout was incredible! From alumni, to staff, volunteers, trustees, long-time donors, and very good friends, we are so thankful for every individual who not only showed up this evening, but who make Podium's work possible throughout the rest of the year as well. From the delicious food to the festive Poinsettia cocktail, we shared good times and laughs all around!

SUPPORTER AWARDS NIGHT RECAP CONTD.

Supporter Awards Night started in 2021 with the inauguration of three awards. The Hammer Award goes to our top supporter, the person who provides the most impactful support to Podium over the course of the year. The Robbins Award goes to our top advocate, the person who demonstrates the most passion and commitment towards generating awareness and resources for Podium. Finally, The Big Heart award goes to our top annual donor/fundraiser. We were thrilled to honor many excellent individuals that night, including Armani Hall, Dre'mon Miller, and Kerry Swarr who received each award respectively. Thank you to everyone who showed up for Podium in 2022, and we look forward to seeing you in the new year!



THANK YOU, PODIUM FAMILY!



DRE'MON MILLER WITH THE ROBBINS AWARD



ARMANI HALL RECEIVING THE HAMMER AWARD



KERRY SWARR RECEIVING THE BIG HEART AWARD

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www.podiumrva.org



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