

# Big Partner Little Partner Newsletter

March/April

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Parent Contact: Kristine McGlennen [kmcglenn@gac.edu](mailto:kmcglenn@gac.edu) or 933-6776



**BPLP T-SHIRTS!**  
T-shirts are being offered to Big Partners and Little Partners. We are currently asking the Big Partners for sizes right now in the monthly evaluations. We were able to get a really great deal - you can get two t-shirts for \$10. Money is due Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. So Big Partners, make sure to talk to your Little Partner and their families.

## Upcoming Events

The year seems like it may be coming to an end soon, but there are still a lot of fun and large events planned for the program. Listed below are the exciting new events that we have in store.

### Movie Night & Pajama Party

Come Monday March 19<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm in the St. Peter Room in the campus center. We will be watching either *Cars* or *Over the Hedge*, everyone will be able to vote on which movie they would prefer to watch. Feel free to make it a pajama party, and where your pajamas, bring pillows, or sleeping bags. Food and drink will be provided. There will also be coloring and other small craft things to do, if people want to while the movie is going on.

### International Art Fair

On March 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:30-8:30pm, everyone is invited to participate by enjoying henna, finger painting, paper folding/origami, paper mache, dance, and beading. Feel free to stop by at any time, stay for 30 minutes or three hours. Pizza and beverages will be provided. It will be held in the International Center kitchen and lounge on campus. Please rsvp to [manders3@gac.edu](mailto:manders3@gac.edu) if you plan on attending.

### Sports Day

Enjoy a fun filled night of sports! Athletes and coaches from Gustavus will be putting on stations and games that relate to their specific sports. It should be a lot of fun, and a great way to practice skills or get to know a sport that you may not know a lot about. Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm in the Lund Forum.

### Children's Museum Field Trip

Come and enjoy a fun day at the Children's museum. Right now the tentative date for this field trip will occur some time during the week of April 23<sup>rd</sup>. More information will be sent out, once we receive it.

### End of the Year Picnic!

Little partners, families of little partners, big partners, and coordinators are all welcome to enjoy a fun evening of activities. Be able to talk to coordinators if you have any questions or comments. Say good-bye for the year, and enjoy some great food and activities. The picnic will be held in early May, sometime in the evening. Keep you eyes out for more information in the mail.

## Skating and Swimming event was a big splash!



*BPs and LPs enjoying the skating and swimming event in Lund.*



During the month of February, everyone was invited to skate or swim in Lund as an event. It was not a huge turn out, but it was a lot of fun! People enjoyed their time out on the ice either on their skates or in their boots, and after some fun time on the ice, they warmed up by swimming in the pool.

Remember that you can skate or swim in Lund Center as a one on one event between Big Partners and their Little

Partners. Pool hours and ice rink hours can be found out by calling the Lund Center desk at 933 - 7666. The ice rink is not always up, as it does get taken out during the spring months, so there is a chance that it may not be available. But keep in mind there are tons of other activities you can do at Lund.

## Parents - don't forget...

One of the biggest parts of making this volunteer program successful is communication. We understand as coordinators that people get busy at times and are not always able to contact their Big Partner or Little Partner when they would like to. This especially goes for Big Partners who tend to get very busy during the end of the school year. So as coordinators, we would like to remind the Little Partners

and families to feel free to contact your Big Partner if they have not contacted you when they normally do, or if you have not heard from them in a while. I am sure they will greatly appreciate it, especially since things can get very overwhelming. As parents, if you find that you cannot get a hold of your Big Partner, or haven't heard from them, feel free to contact Kristine McGlennen, the parent coordinator at 933-6776.

## Mid-year Check-Ins for Big Partners

Hello Parents and/or Guardians- I hope your son/daughter is having a great experience with BPLP! Throughout the past month, the coordinators met with all BP's for a mid-year check-in. All check-ins went very well. Additionally, if you have any suggestions for the program, or your expectations of the program have not been fulfilled please feel free to contact me!

Kristine McGlennen  
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933-6776

## BPLP Pair of the Month "Eric & Matt"

"My name is Eric Miller and my little partner's name is Matt Theis. He is eight years old and a second grader at South Elementary. We hang out for a couple hours every Thursday afternoon. Sometimes we play racquetball and basketball at Lund; then grab dinner at the Caf. We also like to play video games and cook tacos at my apartment. In addition, we participate in the monthly activities

when we can. Last month I had the opportunity to teach Matt how to ice skate - it was a blast! He was able to get a hang of it very quickly. I am very lucky to have a little partner who is as much fun as Matt."

**AWESOME WORK GUYS! KEEP IT UP!**  
**Remember to nominate any BPLP pair!**  
Send nominations to  
[manders3@gac.edu](mailto:manders3@gac.edu)

## Meet our new Latino coordinator...

"My name is Jorge Munoz. I am a sophomore at Gustavus, probably majoring in Psychology and French. I am the new BPLP Latino Coordinator and I am excited to be a part of the program.

I am originally from Mexico City, Mexico, have been living in Minnesota for about 10 years, and I am fluent in Spanish and English. My interests include playing soccer, listening to music, and hanging out with friends. I

am excited to get to know everyone and get involved."

