

# Creative Giving, for Creative Living!

The Living Rock would like to thank Jane Morrison for donating in a very creative way. Jane called up The Living Rock and offered her Shoppers Drug Mart points to spend on Evening Program products for Spa Night! The purchase ended up with a \$300 cash purchase used solely through her points! Evening Program was able to stock up on hair dye, manicure kits, nail care products and decorations such as table cloths. Some other much needed items that were purchased were ketchup, sugar, program supplies, refreshments, summer containers for smoothie making and pop for Movie Night. What a blessing!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Professional Lunch - "Lifelong Learning Week"  
**September 24, 2009 - 12-2pm**  
 Living Rock Transit Room

Soupfest VIII  
**Tuesday February 2, 2010 - 11am - 8pm**  
 Hamilton Convention Centre  
 "Stirring Up Support for Youth-at-Risk"

Living Rock's 25th Anniversary Gala  
**April 22, 2010.**  
 Carmen's Banquet Centre

If you would like to learn more, please call  
**905-528-ROCK (7625)**

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS FOR THEIR HELP AND SUPPORT AT THE LIVING ROCK.**

**YOU MAKE MORE THINGS POSSIBLE!**

### Mark Your Calendar

"Meet The Street Urban Ministry Training"  
 BOOK YOUR 2009 VIDEO OR MEET THE STREET SERVICE PROJECT 905-528-7625 x222 or x224

## HONOURARIUM / MEMORIAL

TYPE	RECEIVED FROM	HONORARIUM/MEMORIAL
Gift	June 30th John & Mary Sterne	In Memory of Dan Sterne

## Living Rock Ministries

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## YOUR RIGHTS AS A DONOR

If at anytime you would like to change the amount of mail you receive from us, please contact the Development Team at 905-528-7625 x239, and we would be happy to comply with your request.

In addition, Living Rock Ministries assures its donors that personal information is not used for commercial purposes. We do not rent, sell, trade or share our donor information. Personal information is kept confidential and is used only to mail you information about our services.

## LIVING ROCK MINISTRIES PROGRAMS & SERVICES

- youth food bank
- breakfast program
- evening meals
- positive recreation programming
- anti-racism initiative
- employment readiness training
- chaplancy
- visiting youth in custody
- urban ministry training
- addictions counseling
- health clinic and medical supports
- volunteer opportunities
- educational assessments and supports
- youth work-to-earn
- incentives
- computer resource room
- housing supports
- supports for pregnant and parenting youth
- creative art competition celebrating diversity
- self care and health promotion for young women
- gps: "new pathways for youth"



Founded 1985 905-528-7625 www.livingrock.ca

August 2009



Living Rock held its annual Rock Idol contest on Tuesday August 11th. There were 3 musicians from our very own community who graciously volunteered their time by judging the competition, Chantal Barrow, Jeremy Guther (Musicians from Trinity Road) & Christian Leon. A volunteer, Javier, helped to switch the CD's and to organize the show. Of course, it wouldn't be an Idol competition without our very own host, 'Twiggz'. There were 15 participants as well as 'just for fun' karaoke afterwards. It was a huge success. The top three winners will perform at the Arts of August Grand Finale hosted at The Pearl Company.



Andrew won first place for Most Unique Junk Art of 2009. This is an activity where youth make art out of scraps of left over art supplies, junk metal, rocks, and other decorations. Not only does this give the youth an artistic outlet, but it also helps make use out of materials that would have otherwise been thrown out. Well Done Andrew!



Twiggz - "New Orleans is Sinking"



Stephen - "Brian Wilson Dead"



Jessica (original) - "Solitude"



## Creativity Through Diversity Fashion Show

Living Rock kicked off the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Arts of August celebrations at The Globe-SISO Youth Centre with a fantastic Fashion Show! With over 50 youth models representing a vast diversity in cultural backgrounds, the fashion show was a great success. The Globe, a centre for immigrant and refugee youth, did a wonderful job of hosting this year's show and the set up was beautiful with lanterns lighting the runway. Over 215 people came to watch the youth. We were honoured when 3 youth showcased their own designs, including a dress made entirely out of duct tape. Over \$530.00 was raised for Brain Injury Services.



Back to School



Cultural Wear



Crazy Wear



Formal Wear

BoB Bratina, Ward 2 Councillor / Celebrity Model



## Director's Report



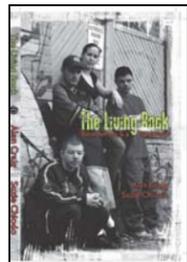
Although the summer of 2009 has been financially challenging at the Rock, I still see incredible things happening. Living Rock had a close call of almost having to close the Weekend Programming. The Hamilton Spectator wrote an article about this and with radio coverage, within a matter of days the community responded and funded the Weekend Program for a year! Although the Breakfast Program is still about \$20,000 under budget, we are very thankful to the donors who have committed and stepped forward in this. We are also very thankful to the City of Hamilton and Hamilton Food Share, for emergency funds to help Food Services through the next few months.

I am also very thankful for the two federally funded Programs, TRI-Rock, our employment program and GPS: New Pathways for Youth. We have been able to do incredible things with these grants such as work with youth in the community, including those that are incarcerated, those in other youth shelters, and also the youth in-house. With this funding we have been able to implement a very powerful program called "Why Try." (<http://www.whytry.org>) The most important part of having this funding is we have the ability to hire a number of dedicated staff that can do case management (one-on-one) with the youth. The stories that I hear from the youth and staff, about how lives are being changed are incredible. Youth are gaining employment, vision and purpose in their lives. They are also participating in exciting programs, like camping at Algonquin Park with the Hamilton Police. (Sponsored by Hamilton Police Services)

Yes there have been struggles financially. Like everyone, the economic times have had an impact on us. For example, we have had to do a number of emergency repairs on our building. In the fall, we may have to down grade some of our staffing cost, and/or cancel some excellent programs. For now, we are pressing ahead and believing for some financial miracles to see us through the harder times.

God has always sustained this ministry since it was founded in 1985. I believe He will lead us through this time. We welcome speaking opportunities and sponsorship for the Rock & Special Events.

Thank you for your prayers and your support.  
-Rev Al Craig



**2009 Book Launch**  
**of the story of The Rock**  
**Al Craig & Suzie Chiodo's**  
**writing of "The Living Rock:**  
**Between Me & A Hard Place"**  
**\$20.00 donation**

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### Can you believe the Rock is turning 25 years old?

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We are thrilled to celebrate this special occasion in the Spring of 2010 as opposed to the traditional late fall. We hope to mark all of 2010 as a celebration year crossing over all special events! The Spring Gala seems fitting as it is a time of growth, renewal and new beginnings. We have a lot to be thankful for at the Rock and it is important to take the time to celebrate all that God has accomplished through this amazing Ministry! The Gala will be held at **Carmen's Banquet Centre on April 22, 2010.**

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Silent and Live Auction, Dinner, Music, Guest Speakers and so much more!

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## 13th Annual Golf Tournament Results

The Living Rock hosted its 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at the Beverly Golf and Country Club with great success! The weather was perfect on this Thursday for golf and everyone had a great time. With the help of the golfers, Living Rock was able to raise \$26,000 which has been put towards mandated Health & Safety upgrades, office spaces and other needed renovations. The winning foursome of this year's golf tournament were Barry Hordyk, Alan Agnew, Mark Van Andel and Fred Bennink. Their names are engraved on the new golf trophy. Living Rock Ministries would like to thank the amazing Golf Committee members for all of their hard work and dedication into running this event smoothly.



Before



After



The Golf Tournament trophy was sculpted by Jordan Stone Art

*Isaiah 40:30-31 "Even youth will become exhausted, and young men will give up. But those who wait on the Lord will find new strength. They will fly high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint." (Isaiah 40: 30-31 New Living Bible)*

## SOUPFEST! SOUPFEST! SOUPFEST! SOUPFEST!



### What are YOU doing Groundhog Day?

On Tuesday February 2, 2010, Living Rock Ministries will be holding Soupfest VIII at Hamilton Convention Centre in downtown Hamilton. This event attracted over 5,000 guests last year. The atmosphere is exciting and welcoming for restaurants to present their soup; for the public to taste and judge soup; and to heighten the profile of Living Rock and Soupfest sponsors.

Do you want make a night of it? Get tickets to see the Phil Botting Band! Live from Hamilton Place right after Soupfest, Phil Botting, the CMT Karaoke Star winner from 2008, has graciously offered some proceeds from the concert to go towards Living Rock's Soupfest VIII! Go to [www.livingrock.ca](http://www.livingrock.ca) for more details!

**ALL PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT GO TO SUPPORT LIVING ROCK MINISTRIES.**

If you have any questions, would like to be a sponsor, restaurant or would like an information package, please call Kevin at 905-528-7625 x224 or email: [soupfest@livingrock.ca](mailto:soupfest@livingrock.ca)



"(Soupfest has the) best media coverage in the city, the energy is very positive... a benefit to all the restaurants and to the charity itself."

George Brown - Brownies Downtown

## Keep going, don't stop!

The Rock's Back To School Initiative has been greatly impacted by the support of Zonta International Women's Organization. The Rock has been able to support 5 girls for 5 months in maintaining their schooling programs and continuing to pursue their educational interests. Zonta and GPS have provided educational assessments and supports on site at the Rock partnered by Adult Basic Education Association. There have been some great successes!



Lexi has experienced many successes over the last two years. She has been involved with Zonta for two semesters, one as a peer mentor in adult education and one as a participant while in high school. Over two years Lexi was enrolled in high school but unable to complete any credits. However, the last two terms at St. Charles Adult Education Centre she has completed 2 credits in the first term and 14 credits in the second! She has used her money that she earned through journaling, monthly meetings and one to ones to help to increase her ability to purchase fresh food and care for her pets.

