

PRESS RELEASE



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YMCA COLLEGE ACCESS STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN ARIZONA PALM TREE PROJECT



College Access Students & Dr. Wanda Taylor

On Thursday, April 8th Dr. Wanda Taylor, President/CEO of Mentoring All Americans for Leadership (MAAFL) and Tremaine Dalton, Coordinator of YMCA College Access Program, sponsored an Arizona Palm Tree Community Event at the South Mountain YMCA where six students of the Y Achievers/College Access Program planted three Arizona palm trees. The purpose of this event was to help the environment and to enhance the appearance of the South Mountain YMCA.



Maryam Oliver Admires The Tree She Has Planted

In planting the trees, the students have a chance of winning college scholarships, grants, and awards for their assistance in the project. There are three types of awards being granted are the following: Do Something Award, worth \$500; Apprentice Ecologist Initiative Award, worth \$500; the Why I Deserve This

Scholarship Award, worth \$1,000; and Frame My Future Award, worth \$1,000.



Students Planting Tree

The experts agree that there are ten reasons why we must plant trees. 1) Trees save energy and money; 2) Trees save tax dollars; 3) Trees cool our cities; 4) Trees clean our water and air; 5) Trees help community life; 6) Trees protect soil; 7) Trees provide habitat for species of many kinds; 8) Trees can pay your “carbon debt”; 9) Trees provide clean water and natural flood control; and 10) Trees are a beautiful part of our lives.

<http://www.americanforests.org/resources/10reasons/>

Maryam Oliver said, “I not only learned how to plan a tree, but it was fun working with everyone. Trees are good for the environment. We need trees for oxygen, and they play an important part in our lives.”

Stephanie Hernandez said, “Planting a tree, not only helps me, but it also helps the environment, which in the future, helps everyone and sets a good example for our younger generation.

To learn more about the Y Achievers/College Access Program, contact Sherri Moore, YMCA Coordinator at (602) 403-7831 or email her at smoore@vosymca.org.

To learn more about MAAFL, contact Dr. Wanda Taylor, President/CEO, 3513 W. Greenway Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85053, Telephone: (602) 441-5352 or (602) 332-5053; Email: drwanda@maafll.org / Website: www.maafll.org.