



STUDENT NEWS *from the OST Program*

Race to Space Competition

Upward on onwards goes students from the Bethlehem Center in the Out of School Time Program Teen Leadership Cooperative. On February 8, three students, **Preston Hower**, **Abiola Sunmola**, and **Jorgiana Washington**, were accompanied by Teen Coordinator Justin Higgins from the program to compete in the 4H inaugural Race to Space competition. The competition was hosted by North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in Greensboro, North Carolina. NC A&T is a Historical Black College and University of which distinguished astronaut Ronald McNair was a graduate. Their engineering program hosted the first of many to have students be creative in engineering problem solving. This time, students were tasked with creating a machine that would dig, plant a seed and water itself. Among them, **Preston Hower** was selected to attend Space Camp. While all our students won't be going to Space Camp this time around, they are well on their way to going beyond what was possible before competing. Thanks to Avondale member **Dr. Jim Bowen** for lending your support in their preparation. We look forward to participating in future 4-H opportunities.

Teen Cuisine Program

In January, 8th grader **Jorgiana Washington** was accepted to the Healthy Habits Cooking Mentorship Program. She went to NC Agricultural & Technical State University to participate in Teen Cuisine and the NC Food Challenge. Upon returning, she has continued mentorship in cooking. Her hometown challenge is to teach 100 participants about healthy eating in her community. The Charlotte community will be better because of her leadership.

4H Summer Leaders in Training

10th grader **Endee McClain** has been accepted into the 4H Summer Leaders in Training (LIT) Program. She will have the opportunity to build skills in several areas. These areas include, but are not limited to, Animal Science; Citizenship & Civic Education; Communication & Expressive Arts; Family & Consumer Science; Environmental Science; and Healthy Lifestyle. She will experience these with much more! We are proud of her and her accomplishments to come.

- "Student News" shared by OST Teen Coordinator **Justin Higgins, MDiv**