



Mission: Possible



By the time our students are halfway through high school, we have already introduced them to various college options, taken them on visits to college campuses, and taught them the importance of finding a "best fit" college. But the most important step in educating our students about college comes during their junior and senior years: the Horizons for Youth College Boot Camp.

Our students recently completed this intensive, three-day camp at Loyola University. At College Boot Camp, we provide our students with several guest speakers, detailed instructions on the college application process and applying for financial aid, lessons about budgeting for college, assistance with writing their college statements, and one-on-one workshops about identifying "best fit" schools.

We are proud of our students for all of their hard work at this year's camp! While they still have plenty of work to complete before they ultimately step on a college campus, our students are undoubtedly better prepared to find the schools that best suit their needs after participating in our College Boot Camp.

Back to School Picnic!



Spread the Word to Win Chicago Blackhawks Tickets!



As we near the end of our "100 Volunteers in 100 Days" campaign, we're still looking for more great mentors and tutors--so we've come up with another exciting prize for those who help spread the word!

Simply Like our [Facebook page](#) and Share our [current post](#) to earn the chance to win...

2 100-level tickets to a Chicago Blackhawks home game this season!

Each time you share our post, you will earn an entry into our drawing. We will announce our winner on Wednesday, September 3.

One of our mentors was the big winner in last month's raffle, and this time it could be you!

Help us spread the word while earning a chance to watch the Blackhawks in action in incredible 100-level seats!

Sent to School in Style!

Summer vacation feels like it comes and goes far too quickly, but there's always one reason to look forward to the end of the season: our annual Back to School Picnic! A beautiful, sunny Saturday set the scene for our celebration of the start of another fantastic school year.

Our families, volunteers, and staff members joined together at Harold Washington Park for an afternoon of fun while welcoming our many newcomers--and welcoming back some familiar faces! With a DJ, several organized and impromptu games and contests, lunch, and great company, it's no surprise our picnic continues to be one of the highlights of the year.

Thanks to everyone who came out to this year's event to kick off a new school year and celebrate 25 amazing years of the Horizons for Youth community!

25th Anniversary Celebration



Horizons for Youth is turning 25 next year!

As we prepare to celebrate our 25th Anniversary in 2015, we invite friends of Horizons for Youth to join us in the preparation.

After a quarter-century of changing the lives of Chicago-area students, we are planning a celebration spanning the entire 2015-16 school year. We are seeking help with several aspects of the planning, including the following: marketing, fundraising opportunities, and planning events, such as a summer kick-off outing, a dinner for past board members, an alumni happy hour, and a service day.

If you are interested in being involved, please contact Meghan Colgan at meghan@horizons-for-youth.org. Thank you!



For the second consecutive year, OMI Industries has given our soon-to-be college freshmen an amazing graduation gift: a \$500 shopping spree to Bed, Bath, and Beyond to set them up for their first dorm rooms!

The help goes beyond a simple gift card. Our students were also paired with at least one personal helper from OMI that made sure that each student picked up all of the necessary items for his or her dorm room--and some fun ones too!

Preparing for school and arriving on campus is an incredible experience for any first-year college student. This generous shopping spree allows our students and their families to enjoy the process as much as possible by alleviating the stress of having to purchase even the most basic dorm room necessities.

Thanks again to OMI Industries for believing in our students, and good luck to our college-bound Horizons for Youth alumni!

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Scholarship. Mentoring. Community.

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