## THE NEW TOWN PRESS

## Young Rembrandts 'Draws' on the Impact It Has Made in South Jersey with "It's in the Bag" Art Supplies Donation Event

January 4, 2017



GLOUCESTER COUNTY — The first 30 years provided communities coast-to-coast with opportunities for enriched childhood development unlike ever before. Now, the dawn of 30 additional years, and more, have arrived and Young Rembrandts is energizing South Jersey to join in celebrating the past, present and future of the art education program.

Young Rembrandts "To honor Young Rembrandts students, families and communities of days gone by and for decades to come, we're hosting a celebratory 'It's in the Bag' event that includes collecting art supplies to donate to nearby community programs that can benefit from them in various community activities and programs," said Robin Steward, owner of Young Rembrandts serving South Jersey.

"We're extremely excited about our future and our ability to make a positive impact on kids for generations to come. The next 30 years will go beyond 'In the Bag' and we hope we can continue to make a drastic impact on our community."

Young Rembrandts is commemorating this milestone by giving back to South Jersey with a free drawing event where students (kindergarten – 6<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to donate art supplies to benefit Family Promise, on Jan. 13 from 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. at the Mullica Hill branch of the Gloucester County Library System. Family Promise is a non-profit organization that helps families experiencing homelessness attain sustainable independence, Students will be drawing on brown paper bags and then filling them with the art supplies such as colored pencils, crayons, markers and sketch paper. Although art supply donations are encouraged, they are not required for entry. Families should register with the library at https://www.gcls.org/calendar/childrens-programs.

The "It's in the Bag" event is part of a six-month celebration in which Young Rembrandts of South Jersey will be giving back to the community through a collection of local partnerships and outreach programs.

"We're completely dedicated to providing our students with the skills they need to succeed academically and in countless other areas of their life outside of their typical classroom setting," said Steward.

"With 'It's in the Bag,' we're looking forward to giving back to the community that has embraced Young Rembrandts over the years and become such an integral part of the lesson we teach our students. This donation is just one way we're saying thank you to our community and really showing our dedication to continuing a strong, meaningful relationship with the community."

Young Rembrandts offers art and drawing classes based in the belief that when foundational art skills are taught to preschoolers and elementary students, there is a strong correlation between that involvement in the arts and academic performance.

All of Young Rembrandts' franchisees share a common desire to enrich the lives of children. Through franchising with Young Rembrandts, business-minded entrepreneurs are able to grow their own business while serving the community.

"Our ultimate goal at Young Rembrandts is to give kids the tools they need to succeed in school and in life, and to be a strong partner in the communities we serve," said Bette Fetter, CEO and founder of Young Rembrandts. "Our 30<sup>th</sup>Anniversary is an excellent opportunity for Robin to show our gratitude to children and families in South Jersey."

For more information on the "In the Bag" event, contact Robin Steward at (856) 264-9003 or robin.steward@youngrembrandts.com.

For more information about the 30 Year Anniversary celebration campaign and to register children for drawing lessons, please visit the Young Rembrandts website: www.youngrembrandts.com.