

THE DTP CONNECTION

THE DENVER TENNIS PARK NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

GABRIEL GUILLAUME



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Welcome to the Denver Tennis Park's inaugural newsletter! The purpose of this newsletter (released six times a year) is to better connect the nearly 7,000 guests, partners, families, and community members to our work, the kids we serve, our team, and our goals. The DTP has undergone some significant changes and improvements over the past year, and we are grateful to all of you who have contributed time, resources, and ideas to our evolution.

Since our formation (three years ago this month!), the DTP has worked to advance youth development through tennis by making it accessible, fun, and contributive to opportunities. That means more than having high quality tennis programming at our facility; it also means bringing programming to communities that don't normally have access. We are now bringing programming and developing partnerships in Southwest Denver and Montbello. By this Spring and through early fall next year, we will be providing programming to more than 300 kids in these communities, supporting their Denver Public School high school teams, and teaching skills that go far beyond tennis.

We remain committed to making tennis financially accessible through scholarships and affordable programming, such as Colorado SERVES. We have 19 extraordinary youth who are able to access a wide range of developmental services at the DTP through partial and full scholarships. The DTP has provided nearly \$20,000 in scholarship support to this group - and that's only just since July 2021!

HOW YOU CAN HELP

The Denver Tennis Park is able to provide community programming, scholarships, and the SERVES program due to the financial support of donors and foundations. As we embark on what will be a comprehensive community-based program this coming spring, summer, and fall, we need your support this holiday season.

We are launching an individual giving campaign through the end of the year. Our goal is to raise \$25,000 through fifty \$500 dollar donations. For every family or individual donation your name will be displayed on a ball-plaque placed on the wall at the front desk area through 2022. Your support will help us bring the extraordinary benefits of tennis to more than 500 kids in the Denver area who normally couldn't afford it.

For more information, please call or email Gabriel Guillaume at gabriel@denvertennispark.org or 303.351.5045 ext. 101.



DTP donor wall plaque

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YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

EILEEN TRAN

Eileen Tran's tennis journey began at the age of 8, when her dad, Steve, a tennis player himself introduced Eileen and her brother David to the sport. The Legacy High School (Broomfield) senior says her favorite aspects of tennis include meeting people who share the same passion and goals as well as the intangibles the sport teaches. "Every day to day practice ingrains life lessons and teaches me the qualities of being a respectful and hardworking person, on and off the court," she reflects. Eileen first started playing at the DTP through Colorado Serves (then known as STAR Search) and has been an active player in the High School Advanced Development Program. Her tennis accolades include playing #1 singles on her high school team, 2021 5A Girls Region 3 Champion (singles), and receiving the Colorado Hall of Fame Sportsmanship and Leadership award in 2020. Off the court, Eileen has received the Academic Excellence award through her three years of high school, Writing Excellence award (2021), and competed in DECA. Eileen plans on playing college tennis while majoring in biochemistry or biomedical science and potentially pursuing a career in dentistry.



FAVORITE TENNIS PLAYER: Serena Williams
FAVORITE TENNIS SHOT: Inside out backhand
SINGLES OR DOUBLES: Doubles
FAVORITE SONG TO GET YOU READY FOR A MATCH: "I cannot listen to songs before a match - it makes me anxious!"
HOBBIES OUTSIDE OF TENNIS: Spending time with friends and family, playing piano, hiking and being outdoors, and volunteering for church

In the years we've gotten to know Eileen, we've been charmed by her bubbly personality and inspired by her work ethic and dedication. We can't wait to see all the great things she'll do next!



COACH'S SPOTLIGHT

TONY CALDWELL

Tony Caldwell has been an instructor at the Denver Tennis Park since the Spring of 2019, but has been teaching tennis and other sports for many years. As a kid, he loved sports of all kinds but felt more drawn to tennis and skiing. Through his mom and another family mentor, he became more and more interested in tennis and managed to grow his game and love for it despite being almost entirely self-taught.

In 1991, Tony moved from a Baltimore suburb to Breckenridge, CO, where he became a ski instructor. Although it wasn't always easy to find ways to play tennis in Breckenridge, he managed to keep progressing and when he moved to Denver in 2008, he was able to apply his instructor experience to the tennis court. He has worked at several tennis facilities in the Denver area, including Gates Tennis Center, Colorado Athletic Club Inverness, and the Jewish Community Center before joining the team at the Denver Tennis Park. Tony loves being an instructor for both youth and adults. His approach is to keep things simple, clear, and fun.

Tony is also a strong believer in cultivating youth development through mentorship. He knows and has experienced that it can be a struggle to try new things particularly if others aren't always welcoming. He believes that having and being a mentor can make a huge difference in ensuring that everyone has access to opportunities.

Thank you, Tony for your commitment, hard work, and leadership here at the DTP!

CELEBRATING ACCESS

Last month the Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation (CYTF) partnered with the Denver Tennis Park (DTP), the University of Denver's (DU) Women and Men's Division I tennis teams, and USTA Colorado to hold an inclusive and youth-oriented event. Hosted at the DTP, the event celebrated the CYTF's commitment to making tennis accessible to youth throughout the metro area. The event had more than 75 attendees, including more than 40 youth from diverse communities throughout Denver. Participating youth and families shared all seven indoor courts with the DU players making for a fun and energizing afternoon for everyone involved. For the DTP this represented an opportunity for us to demonstrate our gratitude for what the CYTF does to advance youth development, and to connect with a handful of other like-minded community-based organizations like the City Park Racquet Club and the Colorado Lions Youth Organization. It was an extraordinary event demonstrating a growing momentum toward making the benefits of tennis available to all youth!



DTP CALENDAR

NOV. 15 - DEC. 17: ADULT UTR DRILLS SESSION III
NOV. 22 - 28: NO YOUTH CLASSES
NOV. 29 - DEC. 5TH: LOTTERY REGISTRATION FOR
WINTER/SPRING 2022 YOUTH PROGRAMS
DEC. 13 - 19: LAST WEEK OF SESS. II YOUTH CLASSES
JAN. 3: SESS. III YOUTH CLASSES BEGIN
JAN. 3 - 28: ADULT UTR DRILLS SESSION IV

HOLIDAY HOURS

NOV. 25: CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING
NOV. 26: 8AM - 5PM
DEC. 24: 8AM - 12PM
DEC. 25: CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS
DEC. 31: 8AM - 12PM
JAN. 1: CLOSED FOR NEW YEARS DAY
JAN. 2: 8AM - 10PM

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THANK YOU

We would like to thank our current major donors who make our mission possible!

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