

Changing lives through mentorship, engagement and education.



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2019-2020**



## Letter From Our Founder



Dear Donors, Supporters and Members,

It is with the utmost respect that I welcome you to another year of making a difference, one young man and woman at a time. Our organization continues to be blessed with an ever-increasing number of supporters who give generously of their time and resources. Our community of donors, mentors, instructors and volunteers have helped our East End Boys Club members create a path to fulfilment, and self-growth through their participation in the many programs we offer throughout the year. We are reaching more at-risk youth than ever before and teaching them the value of staying in school, staying free of drugs and gangs and looking towards a future filled with new promises and attainable dreams.

We look back at the last year with amazement at the many achievements that transpired from the hard work and commitment of our members and supporters. There is so much to be grateful for, from an impressive growth in donations, to expanding our reach to new secondary schools in Vancouver and Delta, to the successes that our members have had in the greater community and on a national and international level. Others are learning critical life skills, setting personal goals, striving to be better students and persons of good character. Regardless of their level of development each EEBC member is honoured for their personal journey.

Looking ahead to this summer, we are once again expanding the number of summer camps with a greater variety of arts, sports and self-building endeavours. Later in the year, we are planning several major productions to showcase our students' theatrical and video expertise, providing ongoing group therapy and bringing a multitude of speakers to educate and inspire. We are also excited that more and more of our graduates are choosing to pursue college, university, and trade school education, all paid for by the generosity of our always willing donors. We are actively involved in getting more bursaries and more apprenticeship opportunities as we help lay the foundation for our young men and women to transition to adulthood.

In closing, I extend a heartfelt appreciation to all of you, who in your own unique way, make the East End Boys Club possible. Your commitment and unending generosity are truly making a difference in the lives of so many in our community and for that I am eternally grateful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Jim Crescenzo'.

Jim Crescenzo

Founder and Executive Director





# EAST END BOYS CLUB

## Annual Report 2019-2020



If you wish to support the EEBC with your time as a volunteer, mentor or speaker please contact us.

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Website: [www.eeboysclub.com](http://www.eeboysclub.com)

If you wish to support the EEBC with a donation, please make your cheque payable to:

ARTS IN ACTION SOCIETY

MEMO: EAST END BOYS CLUB

The ARTS IN ACTION charity number is: 131543886 RR0001

Our address is: 2147 Knightswood Place, Burnaby, B.C. V5A 4B9.



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The EEBC utilizes multi-disciplinary programming to help build healthy, active, well-rounded young people. A focus on challenging and encouraging members to take risks and embrace new opportunity gives our young people the tools they need to live happy, successful lives.





# WHAT IS THE EAST END BOYS CLUB?

## MISSION

The East End Boys Club and Girls Group works with marginalized youth from the ages of 13 to young adult. Our goal is to provide life-skills training, socio-emotional support, career guidance and the opportunity to pursue higher education. The East End Boys Club works with school and local communities to provide:

Weekly leadership classes  
Job entry programs  
Academic support  
Counselling support  
Post-secondary scholarships  
Health and wellness  
Arts programs  
Athletic programs  
Live events  
Summer camps

## VALUES

- Stay in school.
- Stay free of drugs and gangs.
- Be a person of good character.

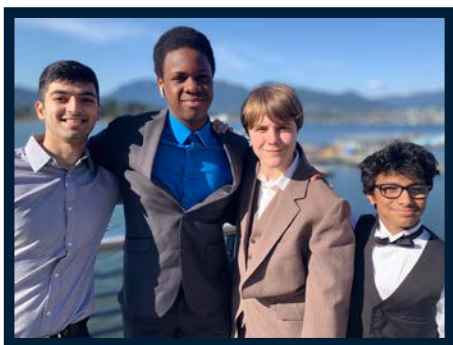




# PROGRAM STRUCTURE

## BECOMING A MEMBER

- EEBC mentors meet with school counsellors identify and select members
- EEBC members have the option to enrol in the Boys Club class, an on-timetable course worth four credits towards graduation.
- EEBC members attend meetings every Wednesday and second Thursday from 3:15PM - 6:15PM.
- EEBC members meet with school counsellors and EEBC mentors on-to-one, three times per school year to discuss strengths and challenges relating to their academic performance, as well as their social and emotional well-being.



*I had an accent and it didn't matter that I had a strong accent. The mentors in the boys taught me how to embrace it, and realize it was part of whom I am. The club is a big part of my life. I'm grateful.*

*- Richard, Grade 9*

# BOYS CLUB MEETINGS



## GUEST SPEAKERS

All Boys Club members are enrolled in the Boys Club, an “on timetable course,” worth four credits. The classes are held during the school day and “meetings” are held every Wednesday and second Thursday from 3:15PM - 6:15PM. The Boys Club course follows the Boys Club curriculum and features guest speakers and mentors from various communities. Wednesday meetings are reserved for guest speakers. Boys Club speakers are men and women from all walks of life

who have overcome adversity and who speak about the power of one’s integrity and character as vehicles for change. A question and answer forum follows each presentation. Thursday meetings typically focus on instruction and workshops on an array of topics that help build life skills and self-confidence.





# VANCOUVER CANUCKS®



## LESSONS IN THE LOCKER ROOM

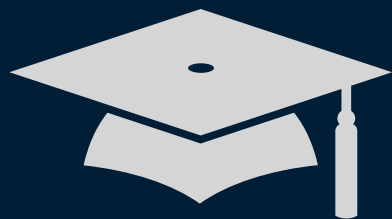
In 2019, EEBC continued their “Lessons in the Locker Room” series. These interactive presentations teach EEBC members important life lessons from individuals who have earned a key position in a professional sports organization. EEBC members are encouraged to participate in discussions and to share their own ideas about overcoming challenges.

## ROGERS ARENA EVENTS

Through the support of Mr. Aquilini and the Vancouver Canucks organization, EEBC organized a number of social events for Boys Club members and mentors in 2019. The hockey games and concerts were a real highlight for all our young men and women as many do not have the financial means to attend live sporting events in Vancouver. It also provides a platform for our mentors and donors to network and establish relationships with members outside of a formal school setting. Mr. Aquilini is a long-time supporter of the Boys Club and as a graduate of Templeton Secondary, he has a special kinship to these young men from his old neighbourhood. Thank you Mr. Aquilini and the Vancouver Canucks organization for all the amazing support! Go Canucks Go!



# ACADEMICS



**In 2019,**  
EEBC members had a

**100%**

**graduation rate!**

## PERSONAL BEST

The EEBC works closely with school educators, counsellors and admin to ensure each member is receiving the academic support they need to achieve their personal best. Members are required to attend class, stay in school and are encouraged to explore their passions both inside and outside the classroom. The EEBC works closely with many local organizations to ensure members have a wide range of opportunities for life after high school. This includes post-secondary scholarships, work experiences, apprenticeships and much more.

## TUITION BURSARIES

Education doesn't end after secondary school and money should not be a barrier for pursuing post-secondary studies. Our generous partners and donors provided bursaries and work experience opportunities to members interested in exploring post-secondary options. This year, our students attended programs at VFS, Langara, VCC, UBC, Concordia, Capilano, BCIT, St. Mark's College and many more.



## FIELDS OF STUDY

- Social Sciences
- Nautical Sciences
- Acting
- Animation and VFX
- Film Production
- Electrical Engineering





# IN 2019

# 11

members attended a post-secondary institution on scholarship.

## EDUCATIONAL THERAPY

Educational Therapy is an evidence-based, multi-disciplinary, therapeutic approach for supporting students with Learning Disabilities and other neurological challenges. EEBC mentor and educational therapist, Tina Crescenzo worked with members on an array of skills which made it possible for them to complete their graduation requirements.

## TRADES SAMPLER

Hosted at John Oliver Secondary, the Trades Sampler program was a three-week intensive program that introduced EEBC members to a range of trades skills, including working in a body shop, engine maintenance, carpentry, framing, house building and electronics. Through this experience the young men participating in this program had the opportunity to see what a career in trades looks like and how their own skills can be fostered and developed through “hands-on” learning opportunities. Students that successfully completed the expectations for this program received four credits that will count towards meeting graduation requirements.



## UNION APPRENTICESHIP

The EEBC was instrumental in organizing a partnership with the Vancouver School Board and the Ironworkers Union. This program trains high school students for trade jobs so that upon graduation, they can streamline an apprenticeship with the IWU Local 97.





# ARTS

## THEATRE & FILM

EEBC members were involved with extra curricular theatre performances and student film productions as part of their skills development. This involvement connected members to their school community and engaged them in an artistic endeavour that was shared publicly. This year, the five showcase performances were an important way to give members clear objectives and measurable outcomes. Members chose to participate in a select area of study and worked closely with trained professionals through the entire production process. Members had the freedom to explore set design and construction, film production, lighting design, costume making, editing, acting, advertising, fundraising, script writing, stage managing and so much more!

## SHAKESPEARE CAMP

EEBC worked over 8 weeks with theatre teacher and director Mike Stack to perform a 50-minute adaptation of King Henry V. Members from the Boys Club and Girls Group discovered the timelessness and relevance of Shakespeare's characters by collectively creating the adaptation and fully staging the performance before an audience of friends, parents, mentors and donors.

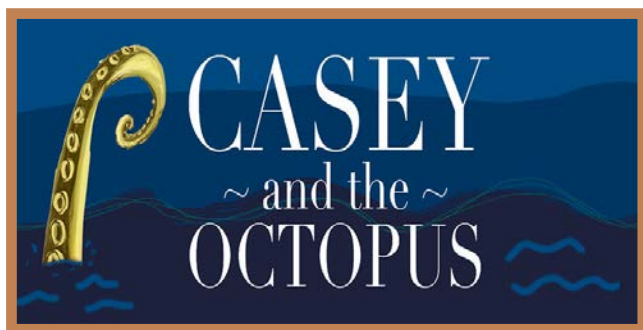


## YOUNG MOVIEMAKERS

The EEBC worked in partnership with the award-winning Young Movie makers film programs to create a series of short films over the course of a five day summer program. Members worked collaboratively to write, shoot, act and edit films that were later screened for family, friends and the community.







## CASEY AND THE OCTOPUS

In January 2020, the EEBC was thrilled to get involved with the Danny Virtue Foundation to help tell the story of EEBC member and mentor Casey Wright. Members from the EEBC worked with theatre professionals to produce a one-week run of "Casey and the Octopus," the inspirational one man show starring Casey.



"Casey and the Octopus" is inspired by the real-life journey of Casey Wright and his family. Now 19 years old, Casey has undergone 12 different surgeries, beaten cancer, survived a stroke and an aneurysm - and maintained an infectious sense of humour and optimism

throughout. Casey is a champion for children battling illness. He puts his energy into raising awareness and funds for families like his.

Through a series of monologues and animations, Casey and the Octopus uses multimedia storytelling techniques to share the story of how Casey and his loved ones fought for his health, taking the good with the bad; how he used his experiences to educate and give back to his community; and how he overcame his greatest challenges by holding on to hope and love. Due to popular demand, the show will be remounted in Spring 2020.



# Dream Big in NYC!

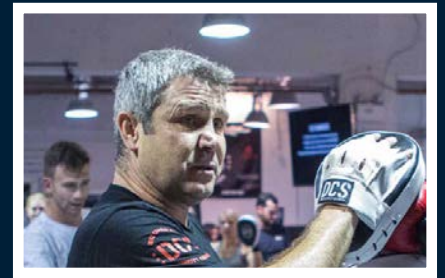
This past October, five young filmmakers from Templeton Secondary School traveled to New York City to see their films screen in Times Square as part of the All American High School Film Festival - the largest youth film festival in the world! The students participate in the Afterschool Film Program at Templeton in collaboration with the East End Boys Club and Girls Group.



"For each and every one of us East Vancouver has been our home since birth. We've grown up watching our neighborhood really evolve. I think we owe it to ourselves and our community to share the stories we see and experience living here in Vancouver. Going to New York was such an important trip because it gave us a chance to share who we are and represent our community at Templeton that we all love so much!"

-Ro Jerome Cran, Temp grad 2019, currently attending CAPU MOPA

# HEALTH & WELLNESS



## **NORTH BURNABY BOXING CLUB**

EEBC mentor and former Olympian and IBO Super Welterweight Boxing World Champion Manny Sobral continues to offer professional boxing training to interested boys at the North Burnaby Boxing Club. Manny's work and training teaches commitment, work ethic and having a positive, championship mindset.

## **MEAL PLANNING**

Nutrition makes a huge impact on performance, both physical and mentally. EEBC members received food at events and are offered a number of classes and workshops on how to build healthy meal plans. Through summer camp programs in 2019, members were given tools on how to prepare and cook food, shop for groceries and what to consider when maintaining a healthy, well-balanced diet.

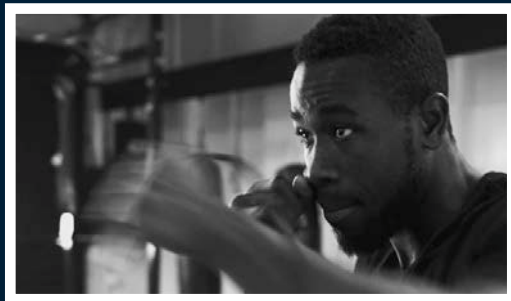
## **BASKETBALL SKILLS CAMP**

Preparations are being made for EEBC mentors Jon Mubanda and Chris Mackay to run a series of skills camps for EEBC members interested in basketball!



### **SAMUEL “KING” MOSES**

The EEBC continues to support alumni in their athletic careers including sponsoring former member and BC Champion Samuel “King” Moses in his quest to represent Canada at the Olympic Games. After barely missing the cut, Sam now has his sights set on turning pro!



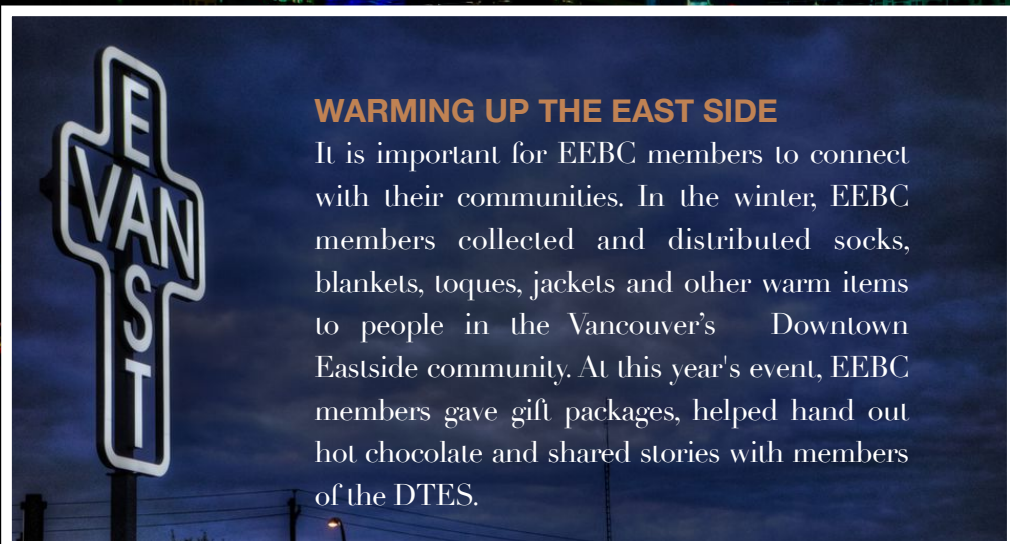
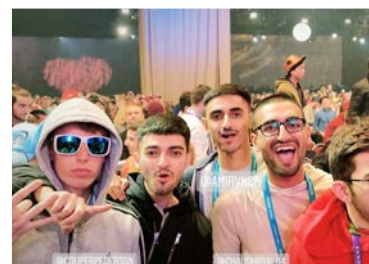
### **TYSON PAPALIA**

EEBC supports mentor Tyson Papalia in his quest for gold. Tyson recently won the BC Boxing Championships and has his sights set on bigger goals. Way to go Tyson!



## **TONY ROBBINS: DATE WITH DESTINY**

With the help of mentor Ryan Yada, EEBC sponsored a group of alumni and mentors to attend a week-long leadership training with motivational speaker Tony Robbins in Miami, Florida! The event was a life changing experience for our young mentors who have been using the skills learned to better themselves and fellow EEBC members and mentors.



### **WARMING UP THE EAST SIDE**

It is important for EEBC members to connect with their communities. In the winter, EEBC members collected and distributed socks, blankets, toques, jackets and other warm items to people in the Vancouver's Downtown Eastside community. At this year's event, EEBC members gave gift packages, helped hand out hot chocolate and shared stories with members of the DTES.

# LIFESKILLS



## CAMP CHOICE

Forty of our EEBC members attended Camp Choice, a week long leadership program hosted at the beautiful Zajac Ranch in Mission, B.C. The focus of this camp was to educate our teens about leadership, respect, teamwork, responsibility and courage. During the camp our members took part in exercises and lectures that have been adapted from courses used in leadership training seminars and personal development classes. The group built self-esteem, developed confidence and learned skill sets to overcome adversity and embrace new, positive personal concepts and ideas.

## RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Every year, EEBC members meet with guest speakers to discuss what it means to be a person of good character. The EEBC arranges guests to speak on a number of issues including respect for others, love, relationships, sex and the ever-changing role of young people in society.

## MEDICAL AND DENTAL

Although medical needs are covered through the MSP, many boys don't have a family physician that they see regularly. In these cases, we have established a relationship with medical staff at the Reach Clinic who are ready to help our boys when the need arises. For students who require dental care, we have a donor who is committed to providing financial support on an as-needed basis.

**In Canada, only  
1 in 5 children  
who need mental  
health services  
receive them.**

*Youth Mental Health Canada*





BRITISH COLUMBIA

## *Leadership Prayer Breakfast*

### LEADERSHIP PRAYER BREAKFAST

Congratulations to EEBC founder Jim Crescenzo for being invited to be the keynote speaker at the BC Leadership Prayer Breakfast. Thank you to BC Premier Mr. John Horgan, Vancouver Mayor Mr. Kennedy Stewart and all those involved. Mr. Crescenzo gave a heartwarming and inspiring speech about the East End Boys Club and all the amazing work being done by our young men and women.



### KASHIF CHAUDRY

After years of hard work, the EEBC is happy to announce that alumni and mentor Kashif Chaudry has been sworn in as a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Congratulations Kashif!



# THANK YOU!

The East End Boys Club acknowledges with deep gratitude the numerous men and women who donate and support us. Many have provided generous financial support; others have given endlessly of their time and expertise so that collectively we have changed lives and lifted up so many youth to achieve the kind of success which would otherwise be beyond their means. The genuine passion and energy that everyone demonstrates is truly exemplary of a community of people who believe in making a difference and levelling the playing field for those less fortunate.

A profound thank-you to each and every individual who has touched us in this way.





# OUR PRINCIPAL DONORS

**Mr. Francesco Aquilini and the Vancouver Canucks Organization**

**Mr. Paolo Aquilini and Canucks for Kids Fund**

**Mr. Jim Bosa and North Shore Studios**

**Mr. Jason Bosa**

**Mr. Ryan Bosa**

**Mr. Frank Giustra**

**Mrs. Judy Hager**

**Mr. Tommy Humphreys**

**Mr. John Mackay**

**Mr. Chris Mackay**

**Mr. Brian Paes-Braga and Quiet Cove Foundation**

**Mr. Andy Szocs**

**Mr. Kyle Washington and the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation**

**Mr. Timothy Young and the Young Family Foundation**



## OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

- Arriva Ristorante
- Arts in Action and Ms. Claudine Pommier
- Boffo Properties
- Cannoli King
- City in Focus
- Confratellanza Italo- Canadese
- Corpus Christi College, UBC
- Daniele and Stefanie Tamburrino and D&S Developments Inc.
- Dr. Andrew Seal and Mrs. Hilde Seal
- Dr. Peter Meehan and Ms. Anne Marie Meehan
- Dr. Rainer J. Zindler
- Ducati Richmond
- Federico's Supper Club
- Fibre Corin Mouldings
- Fratelli Bakery
- Grace Choi Events
- ILWU Service Committee
- International Longshore & Warehouse Union Local 500
- Italian Chamber of Commerce
- Kalena Shoes
- La Grotta del Formaggio
- Marcello's Pizzeria
- Milani Plumbing
- Mr. Allan M. Lim
- Mr. Bruno Benedet and Bosa Foods
- Mr. Daniele and Mrs. Stefanie Tamburrino
- Mr. David Sidoo
- Mr. Edward and Mrs. Mary Gacek
- Mr. Fraser Ballantyne
- Mr. Gino Muoio
- Mr. Graeme Zucko and Ms. Arlin Zucko
- Mr. John Skender and Cougar Canyon Ventures
- Mr. Kenley Tamoto and Arbutus West Agency / Fundamental Power Solutions
- Mr. Kevin D. Halicki
- Mr. Kevin Torvik
- Mr. Leigh Curyer and NEXGEN Energy Ltd.
- Mr. Manny Sobral and the North Burnaby Boxing Club
- Mr. Michael Cuccione
- Mr. Michael Moody and R. Dunn Enterprises Ltd.
- Mr. Nat Veltri and Inform Brokerage Inc.
- Mr. Peter and Maria Katsionis
- Mr. Peter Bull
- Mr. Peter Leitch
- Mr. Peter Read
- Mr. Raza Mirani
- Mr. Richard Gacek
- Mr. Sal Audia
- Mr. Sal Mobilio
- Mr. Sandy and Mrs. Gabriella Moscone
- Mr. Tom and Ms. Karen Cooper
- Mr. Tyler Federal and SJF Investments
- Mr. Wayne Deans and Deans Knight Capital Management Ltd.
- Mrs. Ann Halicki
- Mrs. Mary Gowan
- Ms. Carla Bergman and Purple Thistle Institute
- Ms. Cathy Lavery and Mr. Rick Richardson
- Ms. Diane Smith
- Ms. Maxine Tamoto
- Ms. Michelle Chui and Mr. Dave Gardiner
- Onni Group
- Raymond James Canada Foundation and Mr. Rusty Goepel
- RE/MAX
- St. Mark's College, UBC
- Stile Brands
- Telus Corporation
- Templeton Secondary School and the Vancouver School Board
- Vancouver Folk Festival
- Vancouver Police Department
- Via Tevere

## OUR INVALUABLE HELPERS

- Administration, Custodial and Office Staff at Templeton Secondary School
- Mrs. Dale Deluca
- Ms. Penny Engleman
- Mrs. Adelina Garcea
- Ms. Cathy Lavery
- Lega Feminile Confratellanza Ms.
- Jo-Ann Nykilchuk
- Ms. Tara Schmit
- Ms. Amy Vine



# GUEST SPEAKERS

- Mr. Bruce Allan
- Mr. Francesco Aquilini
- Mr. Matt Kennedy
- Mr. Sal Audia
- Mr. Paolo Aquilini
- Mr. Peter Soils
- Mr. Arjan Bhullar
- Mr. Darren Dissegna
- Mr. Joseph Keats
- Mr. Frank Guistra
- Mr. Pat Holmes
- Mr. Tony Trieu
- Mr. Peter Katsionis
- Mr. Jose Lopez
- Mr. Darren Jacklin
- Mr. Jon Mubanda
- Mr. Dzin Nguyen
- Mr. Gino Muoio
- Mr. Michael Olajide
- Mr. Tyson Papalia
- Mr. James Buonassisi
- Mr. John Patricelli
- Mr. Tony Pep
- Mr. Ronnie Islas
- Mr. Michael Karl Richards
- Mr. Bob Rock
- Mr. Marcus Davies
- Mr. Harjit Sajjan
- Mr. John Skender
- Mr. Ryan Rodney
- Mr. Kenley Tamoto
- Mr. John Teti
- Mr. Mark Unger
- Mr. Danny Virtue
- Mr. Michael Tilton
- Mr. Steve Ziff
- Mr. Manny Sobral
- Mr. Tim Young
- Mr. Jagdeep Manjat
- Mr. Wally Opal
- Mr. Jake Virtanen
- Mr. Jesse Forster
- Mr. Keith Watt
- Mr. Phil Moore
- Mr. Kevin Torvik
- Mr. Wolfgang Klassen
- Mr. Damian Wilman
- Mr. David Robinson
- Mr. Greg Kortia
- Mr. Tod Ritchie
- Mr. Chris Haddock
- Mr. Tom Grant
- Mr. Emilio Salaturro
- Mr. Rodney DeCroo
- Mr. Tom Cooper
- Mr. Michael Fera
- Mr. Jerry Trimble
- Mr. Dylan Playfair
- Mr. James Hutson
- Mr. Frank Bohl
- Mr. Peter Grasso
- Mr. Phil Granger
- Mr. Todd Conner
- Mr. David Katsionis