



# What to do?

## Youth Resource Directory for Out-of-School Activities

**FOREST PARK, OAK PARK AND RIVER FOREST**

---

Compiled by the Youth Resource Directory Committee  
Funded by Township Youth Services of Oak Park and River Forest  
Community Education Council and Anthony T. Calderone, Mayor of Forest Park  
First Edition, 2003; Revised 2009

# What to do?

# contents

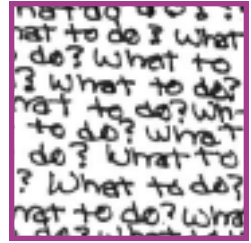
introduction . . . . .	1
arts . . . . .	3
sports . . . . .	7
school programs . . . . .	10
park programs . . . . .	11
library programs . . . . .	13
other programs . . . . .	14
arts listing by activity type . . . . .	16
acknowledgments . . . . .	18
feedback form . . . . .	19

The information provided herein is as given to the committee or as found in publications or on websites. The information may change without notice. There is no guarantee of accuracy. The Youth Resource Directory Committee is not endorsing or rating in any way the organizations or activities referred to nor is this directory intended to be comprehensive.

For more copies, call (708) 445-2727.

Copyright Oak Park Township, 2003. Reprint with permission only.

# introduction



The Youth Resource Directory is a starting point for parents, guardians and youth in Forest Park, Oak Park and River Forest seeking out-of-school activities for youth, approximately 9 to 16 years of age.

## listings

The organizations listed are located in one of the three communities or are regional resources, for example, Brookfield Zoo. They are grouped in six categories: arts, sports, school programs, park programs, library programs and other programs. Each organization offers activities for youth, but you will need to check for cost, supervision and other important considerations. Being listed is not an endorsement by the committee.

## use

Scan the listings for organizations that offer the type of activity that interests you. If you have an arts activity already in mind, consult the arts listing by activity type - theater, literary, visual, etc. - toward the end of the directory. Find out more details by consulting the website or inquiring by phone. You should check for:

1. Eligibility of youth by age and community
2. Fees and availability of financial assistance, such as scholarships or a sliding scale of cost based on ability to pay
3. Amount of supervision/instruction provided for particular activities and the provider(s)' qualifications
4. Expectation of parent or guardian to provide transportation, participation or supervision involving own or other youth
5. Accessibility and accommodation, if youth has a disability
6. Names and phone numbers of parents or guardians of youth of similar age who are past participants
7. Printed materials and schedules that can be mailed or accessed on the web.

## **financial assistance**

Township Youth Services, Oak Park and River Forest, provides need-based, limited financial assistance through its Financial Assistance Scholarship Program. Call (708) 445-2727 for more information.

## **transportation**

Kiddie Kab, Inc. is a children's transportation service for Forest Park, Oak Park and River Forest and other local areas. The company provides transportation to daycare centers, schools, doctor's appointments and activities. A contract is necessary. For information call (708) 848-9126 or (708) 386-6344 (leave message).

PACE, the West Suburban Division of the RTA, provides bus service for Forest Park, Oak Park and River Forest and surrounding suburbs on a daily basis. For information call (847) 364-PACE. TDD is (847) 364-5093. Website is [www.pacebus.com](http://www.pacebus.com).

## **other sources**

Many religious organizations offer fine programming for members of this age group. If you are interested in these programs, contact the religious institution of your choice. Consult a community directory, the phone directory yellow pages or the denominational website and proceed to investigate as you would any other organization.

Friends may know of informal groups that are reliable sources of supervised activities. Learn about the sponsors and know who the key people are who organize and run the activity. Check for all the relevant points in the list under "use" above.

# arts



## **Academy of Movement and Music**

605 Lake St., Oak Park 60302  
(708) 848-2329 [www.dorishumphrey.org](http://www.dorishumphrey.org)  
Classes in classical ballet and dance.

## **American Music World**

7655 Roosevelt Rd., Forest Park 60130  
(708) 771-1890 [americanmusicworld@aol.com](mailto:americanmusicworld@aol.com)  
Piano and organ lessons.

## **Bead In Hand**

145 Harrison St., Oak Park 60304  
(708) 848-1761 [www.beadinhand.com](http://www.beadinhand.com)  
Classes and parties specializing in bead work.

## **Cappelli Institute of Music**

212 S. Marion St. Ste. 16, Oak Park 60302  
(708) 445-8460 [www.cappellimusic.com](http://www.cappellimusic.com)  
Private lessons in piano, guitar, violin, cello, voice, flute, and harp.

## **Circle Theater**

7300 Madison St., Forest Park 60130  
(708) 771-3299 [www.circle-theater.org](http://www.circle-theater.org)  
Emerging Young Artists Program, theatrical productions for young actors ages 10-18.

## **Communication Arts Speech and Theatre (CAST)**

Percy Julian Middle School, P.O. Box 2163, Oak Park 60303  
(708) 524-7848  
Full theatrical productions: onstage, backstage, script writing.  
Summer arts camp with dance, creative exploration, games and outdoor fun.

## *arts continued*

### **Concordia University Young Actors' Workshop**

7400 Augusta St., P.O. Box 15N, River Forest 60305

(708) 488-4106 [www.curf.edu](http://www.curf.edu)

A program teaching acting and all aspects of theater production.

### **Danza Viva Dance Studio**

46 W. Lake St., Oak Park 60302

(708) 386-8681 [www.danza-viva.com](http://www.danza-viva.com)

A variety of dance classes.

### **Dorolyn Academy of Music**

411 South Blvd., Oak Park 60302

(708) 383-7888

Group and private lessons for musical instruments and voice.

### **Elysse School of Dance**

1120 Chicago Ave., Oak Park 60302

(708) 386-1833

Classes in ballet, jazz, and tap.

### **Gasse School of Music**

7641 Polk St., Forest Park 60130

(708) 488-8117

Violin, cello, guitar and piano lessons.

### **Guitar Fun Inc**

400 Lake St., Oak Park 60302

(708) 848-5222

Private guitar lessons.

### **Kagan and Gaines Music Co., Inc**

7655 W. Roosevelt Rd., Forest Park 60130

(708) 771-2152

Lessons for all musical instruments.

### **Language and Music School**

150 N. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park 60301

(708) 524-3340 [www.lmschool.com](http://www.lmschool.com)

Lessons in 12 languages and all musical instruments.

## *arts continued*

### **Oak Park and River Forest Children's Chorus**

P.O. Box 2082, Oak Park 60303  
(708) 383-1971 [www.oprf.com/oprfcc](http://www.oprf.com/oprfcc)  
Community children's choir for ages 8-18.

### **Oak Park Art League**

720 Chicago Ave., Oak Park 60302  
(708) 386-9853  
Wide range of art classes.

### **Open Door Theatre**

P.O. Box 3547, Oak Park 60303  
(708) 383-0566  
Summer theatre camp.

### **Overtones**

1105 Westgate St., Oak Park 60301  
(708) 848-7752 [www.downtownoakpark.com/shops/overtone.html](http://www.downtownoakpark.com/shops/overtone.html)  
Private music lessons for keyboard and piano.

### **Panda Dance Studios**

1003 Garfield St., Oak Park 60304  
(708) 386-0743  
Classes in tap, tumbling, jazz, pointe,  
and ballet.

### **Schola Choir at Grace Episcopal Church**

924 Lake St., Oak Park 60301  
(708) 383-0917  
[graceop@enteract.com](mailto:graceop@enteract.com)  
Community children's choir and  
madrigal group for ages 8-14.

### **Steckman Studio of Music**

829 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park 60304  
(708) 524-1954  
[www.steckman-studio.org](http://www.steckman-studio.org)  
Group and private lessons for most  
musical instruments and voice.



*arts continued*

**Summer Arts Program - B.R.A.V.O.**

Gwendolyn Brooks Middle School, 325 S. Kenilworth Ave., Oak Park 60302

(708) 524-5621

Classes in film, improvisation, acting and stage craft, culminating in a musical production.

**Terra Incognito Studio and Gallery**

246 Chicago Ave., Oak Park 60302

(708) 383-6228 [www.terraincognitostudio.com](http://www.terraincognitostudio.com)

Pottery classes in hand building and wheel throwing.

**Village Players**

1006 W. Madison, Oak Park 60302

(708) 524-1892 [www.village-players.org](http://www.village-players.org)

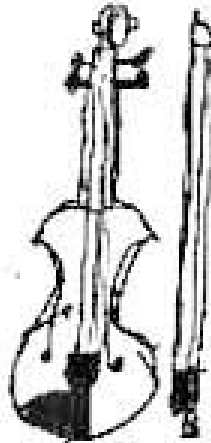
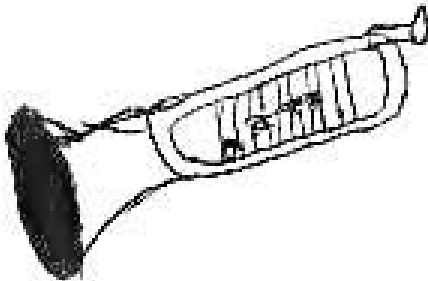
Year round theater program including two 4-week summer sessions.

**Violin and Viola Studio of Michael Hining**

325 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park 60302

(708) 383-2025

Suzuki and traditional classes, group lessons, note reading, and theory.



# sports



## **AYSO (American Youth Soccer)**

(708) 802-2976

Boys and girls soccer program for 1st through 12th grades.

## **Concordia University Pool**

7400 Augusta St., River Forest 60305

(708) 209-3118 [www.curf.edu](http://www.curf.edu)

Swimming lessons. Competitive swim club. Pool rental.

## **Dominican University Sports Camps**

7900 W. Division, River Forest 60305

(708) 524-6518 [www.dom.edu](http://www.dom.edu)

Sports programs in summer and during school breaks.

## **Forest Park Aquatic Center**

7501 Harrison St., Forest Park 60130

(708) 366-7500 [www.lincollnet.net](http://www.lincollnet.net)

Summer swimming lessons and camp program.

## **Forest Park Little League**

c/o Park District of Forest Park, 7501 Harrison St.,

Forest Park 60130

(708) 366-5654

Baseball April-July. Soccer in spring and fall.

## **Master Sh Yu Martial Arts Asso., Inc.**

6701 W. North Ave., Oak Park 60304

(708) 383-3456 [www.master-sh-yu.com](http://www.master-sh-yu.com)

Beginning to advanced martial arts classes.

## **Miura Dojo's World Karate Do**

1143 W. Garfield St., Oak Park 60304

(708) 524-1127 [www.shihanmmiura@mac.com](mailto:www.shihanmmiura@mac.com)

Youth and family karate classes.

## *sports continued*

### **Oak Park Athletic Club**

1135 N. Harlem Ave., Oak Park 60302  
(708) 848-5200 [www.oakparkathleticclub.com](http://www.oakparkathleticclub.com)  
Racquetball lessons and personal fitness training.

### **Oak Park Tennis Club**

544 Bonnie Brae Pl., River Forest 60305  
(708) 366-9652 [www.oakparktennis.com](http://www.oakparktennis.com)  
Summer group and private tennis lessons.

### **Oak Park Youth Baseball/Softball**

941 Garfield St., Oak Park 60304  
(708) 848-8799  
Baseball and softball up to age twelve.

### **River Forest Rapids Soccer Club**

P.O. Box 5025, River Forest 60305  
(708) 366-6660 [www.rfrapids.org](http://www.rfrapids.org)  
Competitive team play.

### **River Forest Tennis Club**

615 Lathrop Ave., River Forest 60305  
(708) 771-7780  
Summer group and private tennis and swim lessons.

### **River Forest Youth Baseball/Softball**

P.O. Box 5225, River Forest 60305  
(708) 366-4045  
Baseball and softball for youth in any River Forest School.

### **River Forest Youth Soccer**

P.O. Box 5276, River Forest 60305  
(708) 802-2113 [www.rfsoccer.org](http://www.rfsoccer.org)  
Spring and fall recreational and instructional soccer program.

### **Team Millennium**

Fenwick High School, 505 W. Washington Blvd., Oak Park 60302  
(708) 366-2460  
Year round competitive swimming using Fenwick and Rehm pools.

## *sports continued*

### **Tennis & Fitness Center of Oak Park**

301 Lake St., Oak Park 60302

(708) 386-2175

Tennis lessons, exercise health instruction, strength and conditioning, pilates, yoga and raquetball.

### **The Oak Park Swimmers (TOPS)**

255 S. Marion St., Oak Park 60302

(708) 383-0159 [www.topswimming.org](http://www.topswimming.org)

Year round competitive swimming program at the YMCA pool.

### **Tri-Star Gymnastics**

7751 W. Van Buren St., Forest Park 60130

(708) 771-7827 [tsgym@aol.com](mailto:tsgym@aol.com)

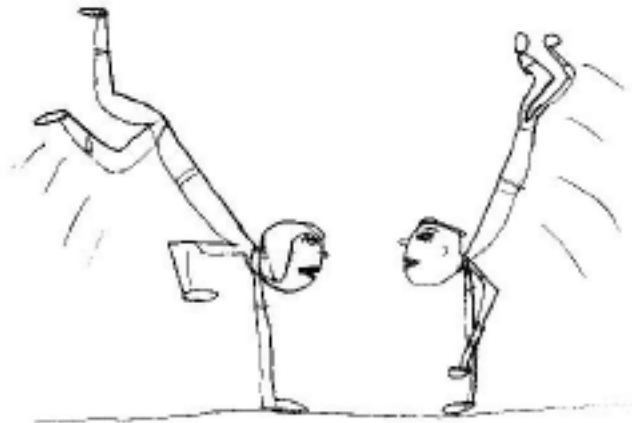
Team and recreational gymnastics classes.

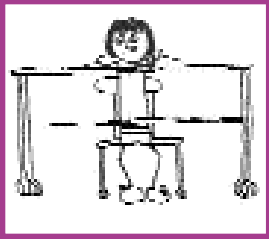
### **Victory Martial Arts Academy**

1005 Madison St., Oak Park 60302

(708) 524-1553 [www.info@vita1jkd.com](http://www.info@vita1jkd.com)

Classes in various martial arts.





# school programs

## **Oak Park District 97 School Daze**

970 Madison St., Oak Park 60302

(708) 524-3021 [www.op97.org](http://www.op97.org)

Summer school enrichment programs.

## **OPRF High School Summer School Programs**

201 N. Scoville Ave., Oak Park 60302

(708) 434-3276 [www.oprfhs.org](http://www.oprfhs.org)

Huskie Sports Camps in 20 different sports, swimming lessons.

Summer musical and academic courses for entering freshman.

## **River Forest School District 90**

7776 Lake St., River Forest 60305

(708) 771-8282 [www.district90.org](http://www.district90.org)

Summer school enrichment programs.

## **Triton College Children's Programming**

2000 N. Fifth Ave., River Grove 60171

(708) 456-0300 [www.triton.edu](http://www.triton.edu)

Educational, musical, and athletic courses.

# park programs



## **Cheney Mansion**

220 N. Euclid Ave., Oak Park 60302  
(708) 383-2612 [www.cheneymansion.com](http://www.cheneymansion.com)  
Classes to learn how to cook and enjoy it.

## **Gymnastics Center**

218 W. Madison St., Oak Park 60302  
(708) 383-0218 [www.oakparkparks.com](http://www.oakparkparks.com)  
Gymnastic lessons and activities.

## **Oak Park Conservatory**

615 Garfield St., Oak Park 60302  
(708) 386-4700 [www.oakparkparks.com](http://www.oakparkparks.com)  
Summer programs for 6th-8th graders on plants and the natural environment. Junior Naturalist Camp.

## **Park District of Forest Park**

7501 Harrison St., Forest Park 60130  
(708) 366-7500 [www.lincollnet.net/forestpark](http://www.lincollnet.net/forestpark)  
A variety of classes involving education, athletics, and music.  
Summer day camp.

## **Park District of Oak Park**

218 Madison St., Oak Park 60302  
(708) 725-2000 [www.oakparkparks.com](http://www.oakparkparks.com)  
A variety of indoor and outdoor sports and activities at central and neighborhood centers. Teen Center at Stevenson Park Tuesday-Thursday 3:30-6:30 pm, Friday 3:30-8 pm, Saturday 2-8 pm.

## **Rehm Pool and Park**

515 Garfield St., Oak Park 60304  
(708) 848-2929 [www.oakparkparks.com](http://www.oakparkparks.com)  
Summer open swim and lessons.

## *park programs continued*

### **Ridgeland Common**

415 W. Lake St., Oak Park 60302

(708) 848-9661 [www.oakparkparks.com](http://www.oakparkparks.com)

Ice hockey and skating October-March. Summer open swim and lessons.

### **River Forest Park District**

401 Thatcher Ave., River Forest 60305

(708) 366-6660 [www.rfpd.com](http://www.rfpd.com)

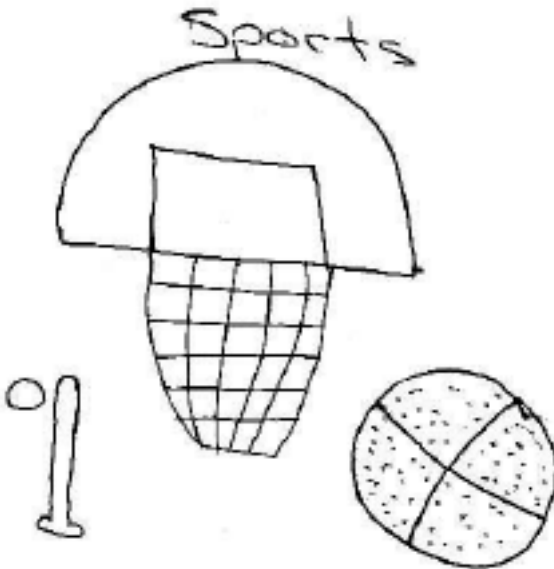
Educational and athletic classes.

### **West Suburban Special Recreation Association**

2915 Maple St., Franklin Park 60131

(847) 455-2100 [www.wssra.net](http://www.wssra.net)

Park districts provide social, athletic, art and excursion programs for youth receiving special education services in school.



# library programs



## **Forest Park Public Library**

7555 Jackson Blvd., Forest Park 60130

(708) 366-7171 [www.forestparklibrary.lib.il.us](http://www.forestparklibrary.lib.il.us)

Chess, crafts, and Blast 2 (a variety of activities). Summer Reading and other programs.

## **Oak Park Public Library (Main Branch)**

215 Harlem Ave. (temporary), Forest Park 60130

834 Lake St., Oak Park 60301

(708) 383-8200 [www.oppl.org](http://www.oppl.org)

After-Hours Teen Coffeeshouse - open mic, poetry, etc. Volunteer for Teen Administrative Council to guide library, produce journal, run the Coffeeshouse. Book discussion groups and more.

## **Dole Branch (Oak Park Public Library)**

255 Augusta St., Oak Park 60302

(708) 386-9032 [www.oppl.org](http://www.oppl.org)

See Main Branch above and go to website for Calendar of Events.

## **Maze Branch (Oak Park Public Library)**

845 S. Gunderson Ave., Oak Park 60304

(708) 386-4751 [www.oppl.org](http://www.oppl.org)

See Main Branch above and go to website for Calendar of Events.

## **River Forest Public Library**

735 Lathrop Ave., River Forest 60305

(708) 366-5205 [www.riverforestlib.org](http://www.riverforestlib.org)

A variety of activities including book clubs, movie nights and Teen Advisory Board.



## other programs

### **Howard Mohr Community Center of Forest Park**

7640 Jackson Blvd., Forest Park 60130

(708) 771-7737 [www.forestpark.net/comm/ctr.html](http://www.forestpark.net/comm/ctr.html)

Summer day care to age 11 plus a variety of events and activities including Tye Dye, Beach Blanket, and Young Gourmets.

### **River Forest Community Center**

8020 Madison St., River Forest 60305

(708) 771-6159 [www.riverforest.org/RFCC](http://www.riverforest.org/RFCC)

After school activities for River Forest students only.

### **Boy Scouts of America, Des Plaines Valley Council**

811 W. Hillgrove Ave., LaGrange 60525

(708) 354-1111 [www.bsa-dpvc.org](http://www.bsa-dpvc.org)

Sports, arts, academic, and recreational programs for boys 11-18.

### **Brookfield Zoo**

3300 Golf Rd., Brookfield 60513

(708) 485-2200 [www.brookfieldzoo.org](http://www.brookfieldzoo.org)

A variety of educational programs about animals and several camps for youth and families.

### **Camp Fire USA Metropolitan Chicago Council**

203 N. Wabash Ave., Suite #1518, Chicago 60601

(312) 263-6218 [www.campfirechicago.org](http://www.campfirechicago.org)

Programs involving adult mentors, positive social experiences, and self reliance classes.

### **Forest Park Police Department**

517 Des Plaines Ave., Forest Park 60130

(708) 366-2425 [www.forestpark.net](http://www.forestpark.net)

Summer Peer Programs and Climb with a Cop (rockclimbing).

## *other programs continued*

### **Oak Park Police Explorers Post**

Village Hall, 123 Madison St., Oak Park 60302  
(708) 386-3800

Learn about police work and participate in recreational activities.

### **Girl Scouts-Illinois Crossroads Council**

6930 W. Roosevelt Rd., Oak Park 60304  
(708) 386-1872 [www.ilcrossroads.org](http://www.ilcrossroads.org)

Sports, arts, academic, and recreational programs. Camp experiences and field trips throughout the year.

### **Oak Park Society of Model (Railroad) Engineers**

Dole Library Basement, 255 Augusta Blvd., Oak Park 60302  
(708) 562-3206 [www.hjkranz.com/opsme.htm](http://www.hjkranz.com/opsme.htm)

Youth 12 and older are welcome to attend with a sponsor.

### **Oak Park YMCA**

255 S. Marion St., Oak Park 60302  
(708) 383-5200 [www.opymca.org](http://www.opymca.org)

Y-kids after school program -homework help, games, and arts and crafts. Also offers martial arts, swimming, and sports.

### **River Forest Junior Police Academy**

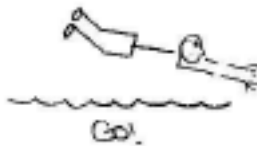
400 Park Ave, River Forest 60305  
(708) 366-7125

Learn about police work and participate in recreational activities.

### **The Volunteer Center**

820 Ontario St., Oak Park 60302  
(708) 386-3393 [www.oprfvolunteercenter.org](http://www.oprfvolunteercenter.org)

Volunteer activities for ages 10 and above. Youth Connect mentoring program.



## arts listings by activity type

### theater

Circle Theater  
Communication Arts Speech and Theatre (CAST)  
Concordia University Young Actors' Workshop  
Open Door Theatre  
Summer Arts Program - B.R.A.V.O.  
Village Players  
OPRF High School Summer School Programs

### literary arts

Oak Park District 97 School Daze  
OPRF High School Summer School Programs  
River Forest School District 90  
Triton College Children's Programming  
Forest Park Public Library  
Oak Park Public Library  
Dole Branch (Oak Park Public Library)  
Maze Branch (Oak Park Public Library)  
River Forest Public Library

### visual arts

Oak Park District 97 School Daze  
River Forest School District 90  
Oak Park Public Library  
Bead In Hand  
Oak Park Art League  
West Suburban Special Recreation Association  
Brookfield Zoo

### crafts

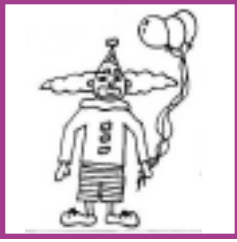
River Forest School District 90  
Bead In Hand  
West Suburban Special Recreation Association  
Brookfield Zoo  
Forest Park Public Library  
Terra Incognito Studio and Gallery  
Cheney Mansion  
Boy Scouts of America, Des Plaines Valley Council  
Camp Fire USA Metropolitan Chicago Council  
Girl Scouts-Illinois Crossroads Council  
Oak Park Society of Model (Railroad) Engineers  
Oak Park YMCA  
River Forest Community Center

## music

Oak Park District 97 School Daze  
Triton College Children's Programming  
American Music World  
Cappelli Institute of Music  
Communication Arts Speech and Theatre (CAST)  
Dorolyn Academy of Music  
Gasse School of Music  
Kagan and Gaines Music Co., Inc  
Language and Music School  
Oak Park and River Forest Children's Chorus  
Open Door Theatre  
Overtones  
Schola Choir at Grace Episcopal Church  
Steckman Studio of Music  
Summer Arts Program - B.R.A.V.O.  
Violin and Viola Studio of Michael Hining  
Park District of Forest Park

## dance

Communication Arts Speech and Theatre (CAST)  
Summer Arts Program - B.R.A.V.O.  
Park District of Forest Park  
Academy of Movement and Music  
Danza Viva Dance Studio  
Elysse School of Dance  
Panda Dance Studios



# acknowledgments

The Youth Resource Directory Committee grew out of efforts by The Volunteer Center in Oak Park to encourage collaboration among the individuals, organizations and communities of Forest Park, Oak Park and River Forest to improve and promote human services. Representatives from each community and an intern from Dominican University researched and created the directory. Names and organizations are listed below.

## committee and support

Ann Pepper, Convener of directory committee,  
OPRF Township Youth Committee  
David Boulanger, Oak Park Township Supervisor  
Elizabeth Lippitt, Executive Director, Infant Welfare Clinic  
Beverly Thompson, Director, Forest Park Community Center  
Susan Hanes, Director, River Forest Library  
Amy Richardt, Day Care Social Services Coordinator,  
Hephzibah Children's Association  
Sarah Kern, Hephzibah Intern from Concordia University  
Janet Eilers, Project Intern from Dominican University

Appreciation is expressed to:

John FS Williams, Director, Oak Park and River Forest  
Townships Youth Services, for consultation  
Dominican University for intern support  
Oak Park Township for intern and printing support  
The Volunteer Center for role as fiscal agent  
Ann Boyle of Ohio Street Studios for design consultation.

## feedback page - cut out to send

The committee tried to be as inclusive and accurate as possible. If you have suggestions for corrections or additional listings, please let us know. Submit your ideas to:

Middle School Youth Resource Directory  
c/o OPRF Township Youth Services  
105 S. Oak Park Avenue  
Oak Park, IL 60302

I suggest that you:

- Add the following organization:
- Change existing information for:
- Other...

Details: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_





## ARTWORK BY THE STUDENTS OF:

Julie Dylewski, Forest Park Middle School  
Sally McPartland, Roosevelt Middle School  
Chris Worley, Percy Julian Middle School

\_\_\_\_\_ Borzello, p. 12  
\_\_\_\_\_ Carrillo, p. 11  
Emily G \_\_\_\_\_, p. 5  
Kristin Kwakwa, cover, p. 13, 18  
\_\_\_\_\_ Popova, p. 3, 7  
\_\_\_\_\_ Rice, p. 1  
\_\_\_\_\_ Trage, p. 10  
\_\_\_\_\_ Salmon, p. 15  
Cristina Vincent, p. 9  
\_\_\_\_\_ Washington, p. 21  
\_\_\_\_\_ Watts, p. 14  
Tim Wetzel, p. 6