

# WHAT'S AT THE CAT



## AGRICULTURE ADDS GROWTH TO CONNCAT

ConnCAT has partnered with local community organization Love Fed New Haven [Love Fed Initiative] to offer an agriculture component to the after-school and summer programs. Students are working with Dishoun Harris, affectionately called Farmer D and are learning about potting, transplanting, and soil testing. Love Fed New Haven helps our neighbors grow their own food at home and cultivate a growing community that actively works towards practicing food sovereignty. Love Fed New Haven also supports personal wellness and environmental health

through land stewardship, agricultural education and training, and culinary education.

## VOYAGING ACROSS THE ATLANTIC TO AFRICA



After-school program participant and rising eighth grader Tiana Gibbs had the amazing opportunity to travel to Nairobi, Kenya back in June with her mom Whitney (Medical Billing and Coding graduate) to report on orphan elephants.

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## STUDENT HIGHLIGHT STACEY BROOKS

Graduating this September with Medical Billing and Coding Cohort VI is Stacey Brooks. Brooks has overcome many obstacles during her time as a ConnCAT student stating that there were times she wanted to give up. With dedication and commitment Stacey successfully completed her externship where she is currently employed as a billing specialist. Stacey has been inspired to move deeper into healthcare and possibly pursue an education in optometry.



# FUNDRAISING EFFORTS INVITES WINERY TO CONNCAT

## CONNCAT'S SUMMER MOVE FROM HARLEM TO MOTOWN

ConnCAT's summer program has spent the last five years studying the Harlem Renaissance era. This year students have left Duke Ellington and Cab Calloway behind for Frankie Lymon and The Supremes. The theme for Summer 2018 took our students back to the early 1960's in Detroit, Michigan. Students learned all about the music, technology and artistry of that time. Through dance, music, art and science, students showcased all of what they learned this summer culminating their experience with a spectacular summer showcase.



## COMMENCEMENT 2018

This month ConnCAT will be graduating its largest group yet, with thirty-five graduates. Program graduates include Culinary Arts Academy Cohort III, Medical Billing & Coding Cohort VI, Phlebotomy Technician Cohorts XII and XIII and Hamden High School Cohort I. Graduation will be on Saturday, September 22nd at 11:00 am.



To support fundraising efforts, ConnCAT has invited The Withers Winery Founder, Andrew Tow, to ConnCAT for an evening of wine tasting. Founded in 2013, The Withers Winery produces eight wines of style and distinction. Although they have appeared on the wine scene only recently, their wines are already highly acclaimed by wine critics and publications, including the Wall Street Journal, Wine Spectator, Vinous Media, The Pinot File, Wine Enthusiast, Burghound, and Wine & Spirits, all of which lavished praise on the budding winery. Many top restaurants, including a number of Michelin starred and/or Wine Spectator Grand Award winners, now feature The Withers on their wine lists. Generous donations have been made by several companies including Key Bank, Petra Construction Corporation, RJ Development + Advisors, Svigals & Partners, Sysco, and The Star Supply Company. This event will be a wonderful opportunity to sample and purchase critically acclaimed wines and to learn more about the Culinary Arts Academy at ConnCAT.