



The

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

JUNE 2016

Dear Residents and Stakeholders:

Summer is fast approaching and we are excited to bring the East Orange community a host of special programs and enriching activities to keep you and your family active and engaged all season long! As a parent of young children, I am especially aware of how quality out-of-school programming helps prevent the summer learning loss or "brain drain" that occurs when children are not engaged in learning. Our Department of Recreation & Cultural Affairs has worked very hard to provide schoolchildren of all ages with safe, affordable and nurturing options to keep them busy and prepped for school in September.

The City of East Orange, under the leadership of our dedicated TEAM E.O. staff, offers six different summer camps, tennis, baseball and track clinics, a summer basketball league and a new introductory junior golf program offered through a partnership with the First Tee of Essex County. The First Tee Program, which will be held at our newly-renovated East Orange Golf Course in Short Hills, will run every Wednesday from July 6- August 17 at 2pm-3pm. Participants will meet at the Recreation Center and be transported to the golf course to learn the fundamentals of golf taught by a PGA First Tee Certified Coach.

While the First Tee Program teaches basic golf skills, the real value of this program comes from the life skills and character building that is developed in young players. To learn more about First Tee, summer camps and other programs, please call the Department of Recreation & Cultural affairs at 973.414.4141 or email teameo@eastorange-nj.gov.

There also will be a number of special events this summer, starting on Sat, June 4 with our 2nd Annual East Orange MACFest featuring a host of live performances, the Montclair Art Museum Art Truck, a Pop Up Art Gallery, a Kids Korner and over 50 vendors from throughout the Tri-State area. During the festival, we will also be presenting an award to Kyemah McEntyre, East Orange's youngest trendsetter who is taking the fashion world by storm!

Other signature events include:

House Music in the Park Summer Series 6-8pm

- June 17 at Oval Park
- July 1 at Memorial Park
- July 15 at Elmwood Park
- July 29 at Haire Park
- Aug 12 at Columbian Park

Independence Day Celebration: July 4

Robeson Stadium at 5:30pm featuring special performances by Naughty by Nature and DJ Lil' Man

Mayor's Annual Cookout: August 27

Soverel Park at 12-5pm

I look forward to seeing you this summer! Together, we are working toward making East Orange a destination city!

Mayor Lester E. Taylor III