We welcome you as our partner in helping young people succeed in life!

Your investment today can save a young life

It costs about $3,000 a year to provide a child with the experience of being part of a winning team. Compare that to the fact that it costs about $35,000-$60,000 a year to maintain a young person in Cook County Juvenile Detention Center.

Providing quality youth programs may be expensive, but a lack of opportunities is even more so!

South Shore Drill Team & Performing Arts Ensemble

7218 S. South Chicago Ave. • Chicago, IL 60619 • Ph: (773) 752-7830 • Fax: (773) 752-7457
Website: www.southshoredrillteam.org • Email: ssdtchicago@gmail.com

SOUTH SHORE DRILL TEAM

Igniting Performance & Promise!

“By partnering with South Shore Drill Team, companies can link their name with an exciting performance group that garners great respect in the African American community.”
Don Jackson, Chairman & CEO
Central City Productions, Inc., Chicago, IL

“South Shore Drill Team is one of the most influential youth organizations in Chicago.”
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The Story of South Shore Drill Team
Starting with a handful of neighborhood kids in 1980, South Shore Drill Team has grown to serve more than 300 young people ages 9-21 annually. Members must be students in good standing, and the organization has outstanding success in helping them graduate from high school and go on to college.

With its high-energy performances, the team entertains crowds at more than 100 events each year. The team performs nationally, electrifying audiences with its precision drills and wide range of dance. Corporate sponsors enhance marketing with an exciting group that garners great respect and offers high visibility. By collaborating with South Shore Drill Team, companies and event organizers demonstrate their commitment to helping young people succeed in life.

Mission
South Shore Drill Team uses performing arts to engage inner-city youth throughout their critical teenage years, mitigate the dangers of gangs, drugs, violence & premature parenthood, and guide members towards completing their education and becoming responsible citizens.

Membership
The Team serves 300 young men and women annually, from ages 9 to 21.

Programs
In addition to choreographing performances and teaching a wide range of dance, the team offers the following programs: Education Support, Employment Services, corporate sponsors, foundation grants, and individual donors provide funding. Revenues also come from performance fees and fundraisers. Rehearsal space is provided by the Gary Comer Youth Center. Home of the South Shore Drill Team built by the Lands’ End founder who grew up in the neighborhood.

Tax Status
South Shore Drill Team & Performing Arts Ensemble is a nonprofit organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Awards and Honors
South Shore Drill Team performs at more than 100 events annually with a combined live audience of over 3 million people and millions more via television.

• 2013 Presidential Inaugural Parade, one of 24 groups selected from 2,800 applications
• Marched and performed in Macy’s 2013 Thanksgiving Day Parade, New York
• Winners of the country’s third largest parade, the Bud Billiken, for over 25 years
• 2011 Winter Guard International World Champions
• Performed for First Lady Michelle Obama & Guests at NATO event May, 2012
• Ambassadors for McDonald’s HBCU Football Classics (Indianapolis, Atlanta, & Orlando)
• Opened Magnificent Mile Lights Festival televised nationally 2009-2014
• Traveled to Africa with Sister Cities to tour Morocco in 2005
• Performed half-time shows for Chicago Bulls & Orlando Magic
• Appeared in movie Ferris Bueller’s Day Off!
• Featured in Kentucky Derby Parade and Indy 500
... and other credits too numerous to mention! See www.southshoredrillteam.org for more information.

35 Years of Transforming Lives
The mission of South Shore Drill Team goes far beyond entertainment. Former Chicago Public School teacher Arthur Robertson founded the group to use the power of performing arts to combat negative influences and the team’s primary focus remains on education. Opportunities to travel and perform are strong motivating factors for young people to work hard in school. Staff members monitor grades, and the team provides tutoring for those who struggle in school. Older members teach younger children and serve as role models. The team surrounds members with caring adults who guide them into becoming responsible citizens.

Although many of our youth attend schools where the dropout rate is as high as 55%, the team sees 99% of its members graduate high school and go on to college or technical school. Alumni members include many teachers, police officers, business managers, entrepreneurs, and medical professionals.

Funding
After School Matters, the Chicago Department of Family & Support Services, corporate sponsors, foundation grants, and individual donors provide funding. Revenues also come from performance fees and fundraisers. Rehearsal space is provided by the Gary Comer Youth Center. Home of the South Shore Drill Team built by the Lands’ End founder who grew up in the neighborhood.

Sponsorship Opportunities
Alignment with South Shore Drill Team offers a way to reach an urban market and a younger demographic. Possible partnerships include special events, new product introduction, and television commercials. With its custom-designed uniforms and precision drills, South Shore Drill Team sets the standard for parade entertainment. The team marched in the Presidential Inaugural Parade and Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York in 2013, and regularly performs at dozens of other high-profile events.

Sponsorships are available for individual events or year-round, and recognition includes displaying corporate logos on the team’s banner, uniforms, flags, and sound system.

“The impressive talents of South Shore Drill Team truly captured the spirit of the occasion, and delighted our European guests. Thank you for helping us set the tone for the NATO event.”
First Lady Michelle Obama