



LOVE OF THE GAME



CAMPAIGN TO BUILD & EXPAND IMPACT

25 plus years of public tennis initiatives, beginning with one person's **LOVE OF THE GAME**



In 1993, Tennis Association for Memphis Youth (TAMY), a non-profit founded by Stephen Lang, held its first community summer tennis camp at Bellevue Tennis Center in South Memphis. TAMY became known for its commitment to bringing tennis to kids who might not ordinarily be exposed to the sport.

In 2001, as Director of Leftwich Tennis Center and TAMY, Lang envisioned a new concept for public tennis in Memphis. Under his proposal the City's tennis centers would operate under one umbrella as a community non-profit, with an emphasis on youth development. In 2002, TAMY merged with the non-profit All Kids With Aspirations (AKWA) to form Tennis Memphis.

As Founder and Executive Director of Tennis Memphis, Stephen Lang knows first hand the life-changing positive impact that tennis can have on a young person. He began playing tennis at age 11, when his family moved to an apartment complex with tennis courts. Tennis playing neighbors noticed his love of the game and helped him get involved in local tournaments. Earning a scholarship to train at the Racquet Club of Memphis, Stephen was propelled to a top 10 National USTA ranking in the Boy's 18s.

He played collegiate tennis at the University of Arkansas and University of Memphis and professionally on the USTA Satellite Tour. In 2006, he was the youngest person ever inducted into the Tennessee Tennis Hall of Fame.

He has spent his teaching and coaching career in public tennis in Memphis. Now, more than ever, Lang sees the incredible benefits of growing up in tennis and has dedicated his professional life to sharing it with the youth of our city.





OUR MISSION:

To build a better community and enhance lives through tennis and education.

Tennis Memphis has been the leader, supporter and advocate for public tennis in Memphis since 2002. We are a non-profit organization that manages all public tennis facilities for the City of Memphis. Our vision is for all Memphians regardless of geographic location or socioeconomic status to have access to high-quality tennis programming at vibrant, active neighborhood tennis centers.

A special focus of Tennis Memphis is on under-resourced youths ages 4-18 considered at risk. We develop specific programs to address their unique needs focusing on tennis as well as educational programs and character building. Our annual fund-raising activities ensure that no youth is ever turned away due to an inability to pay.

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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150 USTA
adult/senior
league teams

62,000
adult/senior
patrons utilize
tennis centers
annually

GET INVOLVED IN THE GAME

Tennis Memphis brings together players of all levels and ages to enjoy the sport of tennis.

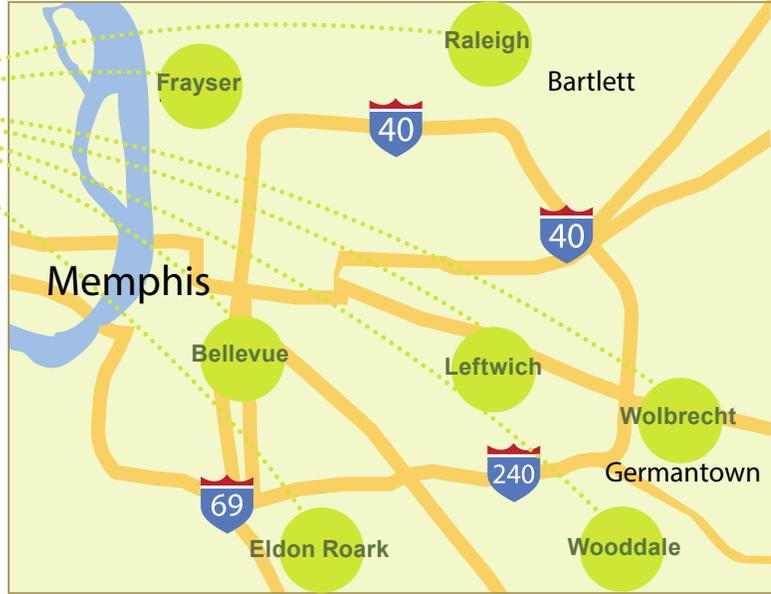
We offer multiple opportunities to play, improve your game and compete:

- Court reservations and rentals on 12 Indoor courts across 4 centers and 50 newly renovated outdoor courts across 7 centers.
- Adult clinics & lessons offered by certified tennis professionals for all levels.
- USTA League matches and team practices year around.
- Senior League offers discounted play for senior adults at Eldon Roark.
- Mixers and special events.

6,000
adult/senior
players



Tennis Memphis has established a team of managers, teaching professionals, desk and maintenance staff to provide supervision, programs and services at these facilities.



Managing seven tennis centers throughout the city

Over nearly 20 years, Tennis Memphis has established a successful track record of managing Memphis' public tennis centers while offering comprehensive programs, lessons and clinics for youth, adults, and seniors for the benefit of the public. Tennis Memphis has implemented standardized operations and tailored programming to meet the needs of the community, serving a diverse population. Four of the facilities are operated year-round, while three are open seasonally.



TIME TO EXPAND

Leftwich Tennis Center

Tennis Memphis is excited to partner with University of Memphis, the City of Memphis, and private donors to expand the current facility at Leftwich from a 12 court (4 indoor, 8 outdoor) facility to a 36 court (12 indoor, 24 outdoor) state of the art facility, a first-class experience for both recreational and tournament players.

With the closing of the Racquet Club of Memphis in 2019, the tennis community lost a large tennis facility that was the home of the University of Memphis Tennis teams, hosted area high school tennis programs and had a robust Junior Development program. This closing directly impacted Leftwich Tennis Center as the demand for its courts increased significantly due to its proximity to the former Club and University.

The Memphis tennis community has responded with a group of local community leaders who have been working with Tennis Memphis, the City, and University to redefine Leftwich.

The new Leftwich will be the home of Memphis Tiger Tennis and the transformative, community-building work of Tennis Memphis expanding resources, participation, and programming. This expansion will impact the greater Memphis area by affording new opportunities to reach under-served youth, grow the sport and bring together the tennis playing public in new and exciting ways.

Central hub of operations and office headquarters for Tennis Memphis with a dedicated staff for operations and programming for Leftwich.





12
indoor
courts

24
outdoor courts

The new Leftwich center will provide:

Venue for local, state, regional and national tournaments/ events, drawing players from across the U.S. to Memphis.

Home of the nationally ranked University of Memphis Men's and Women's tennis teams.

Expanded Adult League Play - Memphis area USTA League ranks first in TN in number of league participants, with approximately 3,000 players.

Ability to serve more children and bring new players to the sport through the expansion of NJTL, Summer Tennis Camps & Outreach.

Dedicated youth training and workout facility for Academy and Junior Development players.

Education classroom for Tennis and Tutoring students and study hall for home-schooled Academy Plus student athletes.

Increase partnerships with local private schools while continuing to provide practice and match play for Shelby County Schools.



**CAMPS
CLINICS
LIFESKILLS
AFTERSCHOOL
DEVELOPEMENT
MENTORSHIP
COMMUNITY
PLAY**

HOW WE DO IT: ENGAGING UNDER-RESOURCED YOUTH ACROSS OUR CITY

Developing strong character in our youth plays a vital role in building a better community. Tennis builds character through the discipline it takes to gain skills and the sportsmanship it requires. Tennis Memphis instills this in our youth in the following ways:

Educational Development

- Tennis and Tutoring (TnT) provides neighborhood students homework help, tennis instruction and mentorship, transportation from school to the tennis center and an after school snack.
- Engaged Tennis Directors and Coaches mentor students and build relationships with parents providing guidance and motivation for students to succeed on and off the court.
- National Junior Tennis and Learning (NJTL) curricula provides academic enrichment, life skills and character building lessons and activities.
- NJTL Essay Contest, a widely acclaimed educational tool, encourages participants to write essays answering a thought provoking question requiring research and analysis.

Tennis Development

- The GreatBase Tennis curriculum provides fact-based instruction and a pathway for player development utilizing online education courses for students, parents and coaches.

- The Junior Development program offers tennis instruction and training afterschool for youth players of all levels, from age 4 to 18.
- Academy after-school and Academy PLUS home school programs offer high intensity training programs that facilitate athletes to maximize their potential in pursuit of playing collegiate tennis and beyond.

Community Development

- Summer Tennis camps offer six weeks of tennis instruction including exercise, education, drills and competitions at public tennis facilities, community centers and parks.
- Play Tennis, Memphis! is a multi-faceted public awareness campaign aimed at increasing participation by highlighting City tennis facilities, the benefits of tennis and available programming by offering a community wide free play day and free clinics throughout the year.
- Tennis Memphis partners with the Memphis Tennis Association, Shelby County Schools, USTA, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Memphis and the City of Memphis Parks Services.



HITTING THE SWEET SPOT

Successful multi-faceted tennis operations propel Memphis youth towards a successful future



50 plus College Tennis Scholarship students received training and development through Tennis Memphis and it's facilities

350 Junior Development participants annually

40-50 USTA State, Sectional, and Nationally ranked junior players

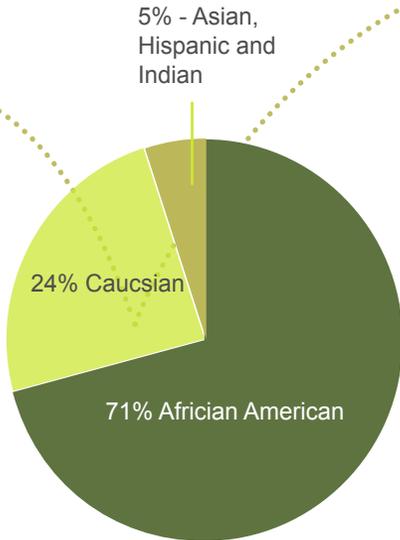


1,200 Summer Tennis Campers annually

Tennis Memphis offers Summer Camp employment instructor opportunities to Junior Development participants and alum

3,300 youth served annually through Tennis Memphis programs

80% program participants attend at reduced rates or for free and/or receive financial assistance



Breakdown of NJTL Youth Participants



4-7 local tournaments annually

15 USTA Sectional and State Junior and Adult Championships hosted



300 hours of TnT educational hours annually

Tennis Memphis provides hundreds of hours of free court time to junior players, Shelby County Schools tennis teams, and reduced court time for community non-profits

Provides donated tennis racquets, apparel and equipment to local students

**DELIVERING
DIVERSITY
OPPORTUNITY
INSTRUCTION
MENTORSHIP
INSPIRATION**



Tennis Memphis awarded 4-Star Chapter Status



National Junior Tennis & Learning Network

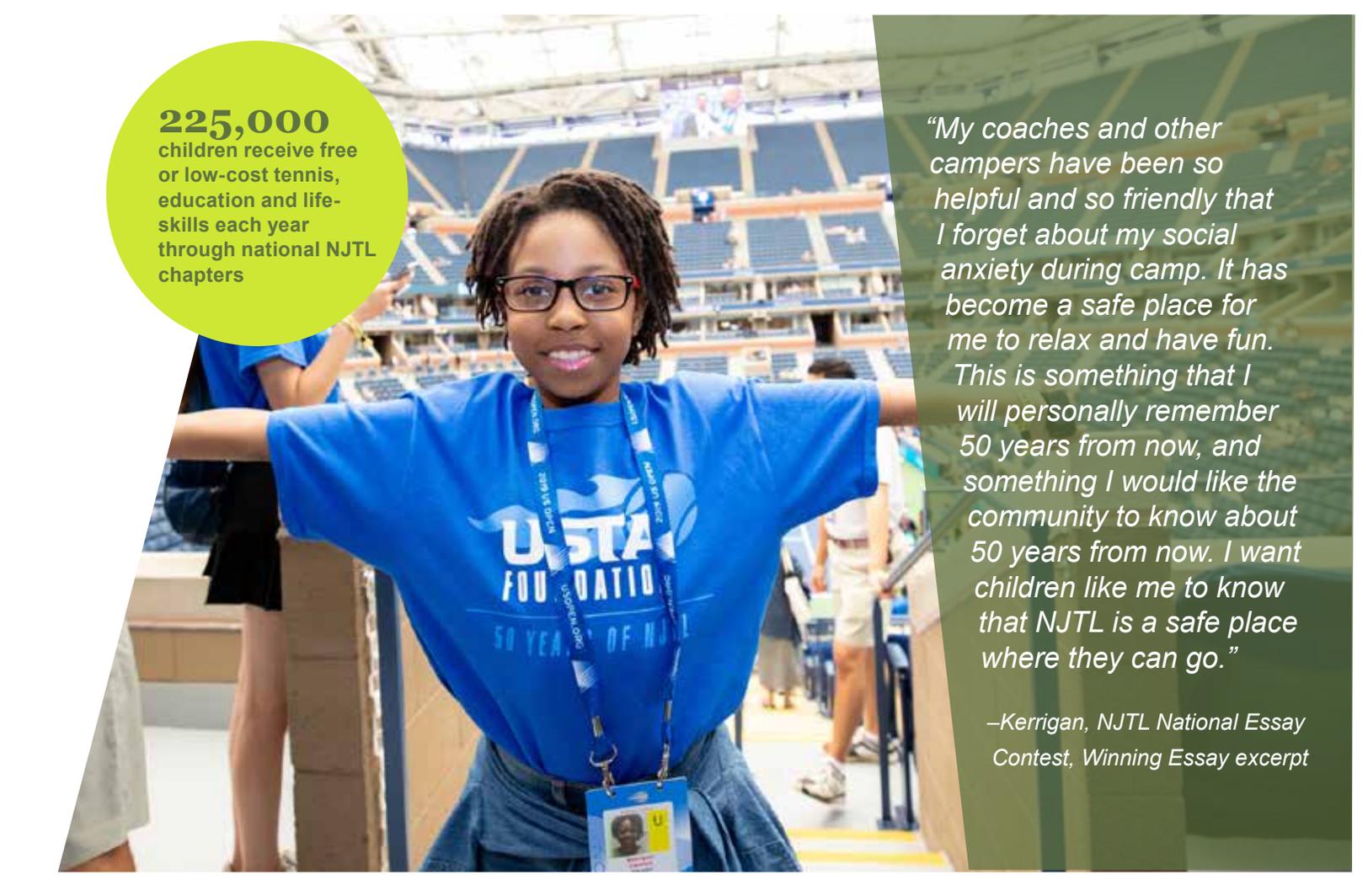
Tennis Memphis is proud to be a part of the USTA Foundation's NJTL, a nationwide group of more than 350 non-profit youth development organizations. NJTL was co-founded by legendary tennis icon Arthur Ashe, whose life serves as an inspiration for our youth because of his commitment to social justice, humanitarian issues and serving others. This partnership provides grant funding and resources that support our chapter through youth development and programming.

This relationship has yielded tremendous opportunities for our organization and participants in the following ways:

- Tennis Memphis has the distinction of being one of only 35 chapters nationwide to have a 4-Star Chapter, the highest designation for outstanding chapters within the NJTL network.
- Tennis Memphis is one of only 18 chapters nationwide to have a USTA Excellence Team, providing additional competitive training, tournaments and resources to local players who otherwise would not have these opportunities.
- Twelve (12) Tennis Memphis students have won the NJTL Essay Contest receiving all expenses paid trips to the US Open and ATP tour events.
- Tennis Memphis was Awarded 2006 USTA TN Educational Merit Award for NJTL Summer Tennis Camps.



SERVING UP DREAMS

A young girl with short dark hair and glasses is smiling and posing with her arms outstretched. She is wearing a bright blue t-shirt with the USTA logo and the text "USTA FOUNDATION" and "50 YEARS OF NATIONAL JUVENILE TENNIS LEAGUE". She also has a lanyard with a badge around her neck. The background shows a large stadium with blue seats and a tennis court in the distance.

225,000

children receive free or low-cost tennis, education and life-skills each year through national NJTL chapters

“My coaches and other campers have been so helpful and so friendly that I forget about my social anxiety during camp. It has become a safe place for me to relax and have fun. This is something that I will personally remember 50 years from now, and something I would like the community to know about 50 years from now. I want children like me to know that NJTL is a safe place where they can go.”

—Kerrigan, NJTL National Essay Contest, Winning Essay excerpt



Tennis Memphis Alumni : Jordan Smith

Everything that I have accomplished in tennis and in my coaching career can be attributed to the foundation that I received within the Tennis Memphis program. Stephen Lang and his staff provided the care and the resources that helped pave the way for my success on and off the court. What began as a summer camp activity to avoid practicing the piano turned into me finding one of the greatest passions in my life. This passion that started on the courts of Bellevue and Leftwich gave me the opportunity to travel and compete across the country. It helped me receive a college tennis scholarship and it's what fueled me to coach as a career. Because tennis isn't a sport that would normally attract many kids living in Memphis around Bellevue Tennis Center, I'm always reminded that you can find opportunities to affect others in any area.

Thankfully, Stephen and Tennis Memphis had the vision to provide skills to inner city youths. These skills go beyond simply hitting a ball over the net. It helped me establish discipline, time management, confidence, planning, communication, and developing relationships. I will always be incredibly grateful to Stephen Lang and Tennis Memphis for what it has provided others and myself.

—Jordan Smith, Head Coach Women's Tennis
Kansas State University



**“FROM WHAT
WE GET,
WE CAN MAKE
A LIVING;
WHAT WE GIVE,
HOWEVER,
MAKES A LIFE.”**

— ARTHUR ASHE





WE NEED YOU!

To maintain our current programs and to reach even more under-resourced youth, we depend on financial and volunteer support from the community.

There is great excitement around the future of Tennis Memphis with the facility expansion of Leftwich to continue the work of changing lives and making the community stronger. Currently 80% of our youth pay a reduced rate or attend for free. ***You can help ensure that no child is turned away.***

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:



Donate to Tennis Memphis

Donations: www.tennismemphis.org/donate
or 1645 Ridgeway Rd, Memphis, TN 38119

Sponsorships: Annual Fundraising Gala:
Melinda Hoehn, mhoehn@tennismemphis.org

Corporate Contributions & Philanthropic Gifts:

Stephen Lang, Executive Director,
slang@tennismemphis.org

Gwin Scott, Board Fundraising Chair,
gwin.scott@gmail.com



Donate to the New Leftwich Tennis Center

Leftwich Building Campaign:

Stephen Lang, slang@tennismemphis.org

To make your gift through the
University of Memphis Foundation [click here.](#)

To learn more about the project and
see renderings of this new facility, [go here.](#)

To learn more about naming opportunities, email
Mike Humes at mike.humes@memphistn.gov.

IN OUR PARTICIPANTS' WORDS



Trey Strobel, Stanford University Men's Tennis Team

"My introduction to tennis came on the courts of Tennis Memphis. Stephen and the team provided world class instruction that laid the foundation for my success in the sport. More importantly, as someone who grew up playing multiple sports, the Junior Development Program and summer camps were fun. Tennis quickly became my favorite sport and where I formed some of my closest friendships. Beyond just the technical

skills that I developed in the program, I also learned a lot about tactics and how to compete – skills that have served me well to this day. Thank you to Stephen and Tennis Memphis for playing such a significant role in my development and success both on and off the court."



Parent Testimonial by Robyn Cook, Mother of Faith

At the age of 5, Faith started development under Coach Chip at Bellevue Tennis Center. I don't know why, but I felt in my heart that tennis was the sport for Faith. We have kept Faith in the Junior program for 3 years and it has helped her to develop to the competitive level. The program has not only made Faith better as an athlete, but has encouraged her to excel in her studies by providing after school tutoring sessions.

With the help of Coach Chip and Coach Jon, Faith has won 2 USTA Junior Tournaments and placed second in another. As a parent, it is very important for me to ensure that Faith is doing something that she loves. I always ask her what is it that she wants to achieve in playing tennis. Always, her answer is "Mom I want to be the Champion." I am so thankful for Tennis

Memphis for providing such a diversified program with many opportunities to help her get closer to her goal.



Parent and Board Chairwoman of Tennis Memphis Testimonial by Roopan Sandhu, Mother of Noor and Zoravar

Tennis Memphis has been a second home to my kids for 5 years now. Their coaches have helped shape not only their game, but have instilled values like strong work ethic, respect for their peers who come from different backgrounds, and working as a team to get better each day. The mission of the organization is to take tennis to the grass root levels. There is room for everyone to grow, and I am so proud to be part of this organization.

Sam Maxwell age 14, NJTL Essay Winner Junior Development Student

"Tennis Memphis camps attract a large variety of races including Indian-Americans, African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, Asian-Americans, and White Americans. Through tennis, I have already become more comfortable conversing with people of other races and have changed the way I view those who don't look like me."