



The Princeton Club of Rochester

Basil William Barrett
Junior, Fairport High School

Opportunities to create racial unity and equality should have no boundaries, and with a great leader, that harmony is achieved by leaders with limitless vision. This is Basil Barrett. The Fairport Junior champions racial equality by cultivating community-wide and beyond environments for change, awareness and understanding. He is a true leader with groundbreaking ideas and initiatives.

As Chairman of the “Demanding Racial Equality for All Mankind” (D.R.E.A.M.) Club at Fairport, Basil found a platform and springboard to develop and deliver new curriculum and programs that extend beyond the school’s walls. Basil initiated the school’s first cultural exchange program with School of the Arts in Rochester. In 2018, he founded the “Black Boys Be Kings” Project, the only young Black and Hispanic male organization run by its youth. They focus on closing the opportunity and achievement gap for Black and Hispanic students through mentorship, mental health awareness and team bonding.

Community leaders, peers and teachers reach out to Basil for strategies and suggestions for improving race relations and sensitivity at school and in the community. Mark Lincoln, lead English Teacher at Fairport says Basil embodies passion and demonstrates perseverance.

“While many of my students are sleeping until 11:00 am on a Saturday, Basil organizes mental health research on African American boys in our Rochester community--a program in which Basil collaborates with the University of Rochester Medical Center. He is committed to a vision of a world that embraces differences and social justice.”

Basil views his activism as a lifelong commitment. He hopes to expand his race relations work nationally as a public health physician and public advocate, fighting for the rights of all people.

“I will continue to work with DREAM and the Black Boys Be Kings Project on creating powerful campaigns for racial inclusivity and a restorative educational system. Social justice belongs to us all, and I will continue to make this fact a reality.”

The world is a better place with your incredible work, Basil. Bravo!