



Stone Soup Leadership Institute's
Story of the Week: Darell Hammond
KaBooM!
Ashley's Big Plans
Week of August 11 - 17, 2024

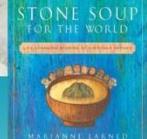


A man with short grey hair, wearing a purple polo shirt with a KaBooM! logo, stands in front of a playground structure with red and yellow metal railings. He is smiling at the camera.

ASHLEY'S BIG PLANS

"We know when children have a place to play they live healthier, happier lives."

Darell Hammond
KaBooM!
Bethesda, Maryland



The book cover for "STONE SOUP FOR THE WORLD" by Marianne Larkin. It features a blue background with a yellow illustration of a bowl of soup and a spoon.



The KaBooM! logo, which is a circular emblem with a stylized sun or star in the center, surrounded by the words "STONE SOUP" and "for the World".

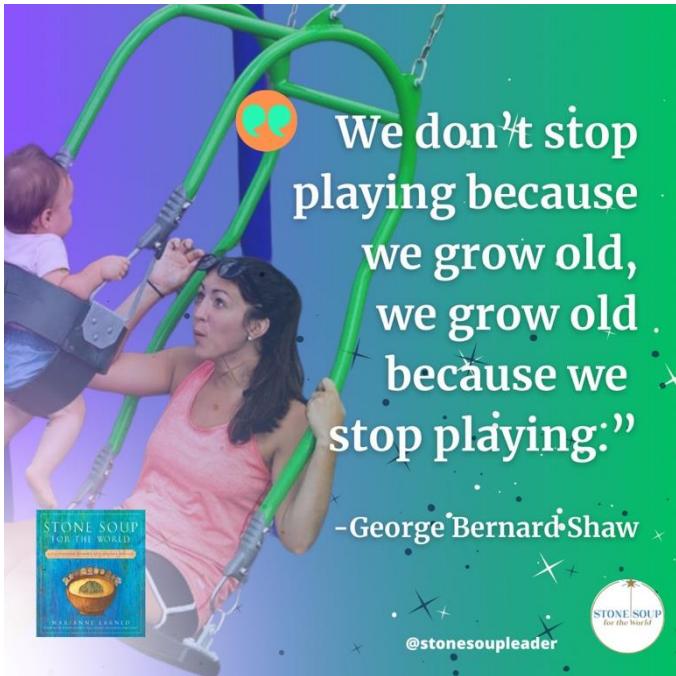
@stonesoupleader

Sunday August 11: Story: Darell Hammond

READ how Darell Hammond gathered 100 volunteers and raised \$40,000 to rid a vacant lot of the drugs, gangs and violence so children would have a safe place to play.

This is the inspiring story of how seven-year-old Ashley and her friends joined with Darell in rallying support from their parents, local companies and churches to build the first KaBooM! playground - and how they kept each other's spirit up until their dream came true.

<https://stonesoupleadership.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/story-ashleys-big-plans.pdf>



Monday: August 12: Darell Hammond

88% of teachers say children are more engaged in learning outdoors. Research shows children who play outside can have improved attention and concentration in the classroom. Active outdoor play increases blood flow to the brain, which can help with tasks that involve executive functions.

<https://outdoorclassroomday.com/resource/muddy-hands-report/>

Hero Report

Darell Hammond
KaBooM!
Bethesda, Maryland

A video still of a man in a purple shirt speaking into a microphone. He is standing in front of a blue background with small white stars. The KaBooM! logo is visible in the bottom left corner of the video frame.

Tuesday: August 13: Darell Hammond: Hero Report

WATCH this short video of Darell Hammond sharing his epiphany of why he dedicated his life to making play available to children who had "no place to play."

He had read about how two young children suffocated in a car on a hot summer day in southeast Washington, DC. He realized that the children had nowhere to play; so they climbed into an abandoned car. Having grown up in a group home, Darell felt a kinship with these

children. With a sense of injustice, his life's mission came into focus.

Hammond "turned a mission into a movement" by engaging people to join with him – and freely sharing tools and expertise through online social networks to enable others to construct more than 1,600 do-it-yourself playgrounds.

Link: <https://youtu.be/sFs6bt-mxbQ>



Wednesday: Honor Roll: KaBooM!

KABOOM! is the national nonprofit that works to end play space inequity for good.

KABOOM! unites with communities and diverse partners to build playspaces in places where they know from data that access has been historically denied. Together, they work to ensure every playspace reflects the unique needs, desires, cultures, and strengths of the community. Their work will continue until every child has high-quality places to play, grow, and thrive.

Since its inception it has improved or built over 17,000 playspaces, served over 12 million kids and engaged over 1.5 million volunteers.

<https://kaboom.org/the-25-in-5-initiative-to-end-playspace-inequity/>

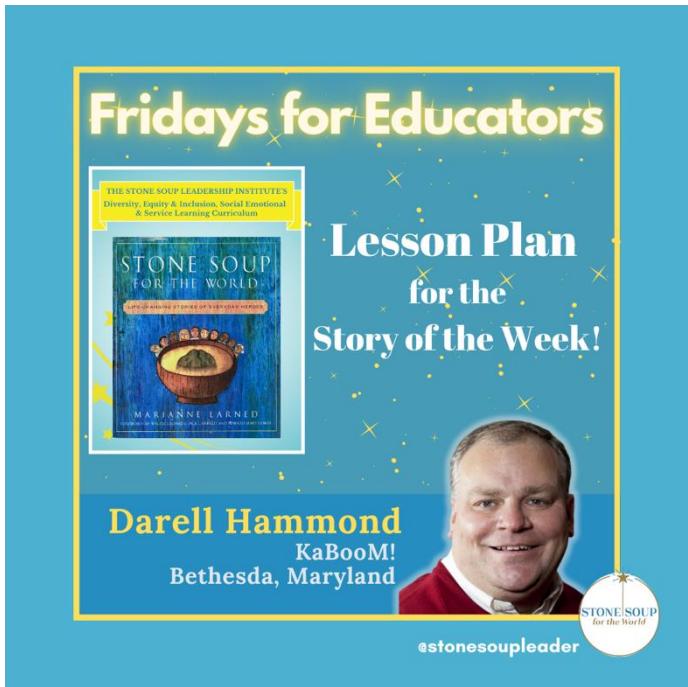


Thursday: August 15: Institute Thursday: KaBooM!

KABOOM! Invites everyone to volunteer for a Build Day where we come together and see an empty space become a place of magic for kids to enjoy.

Volunteer opportunities are available for all skill levels. Learn about how YOU can volunteer:

<https://kaboom.org/become-a-partner/volunteering-with-kaboom/>



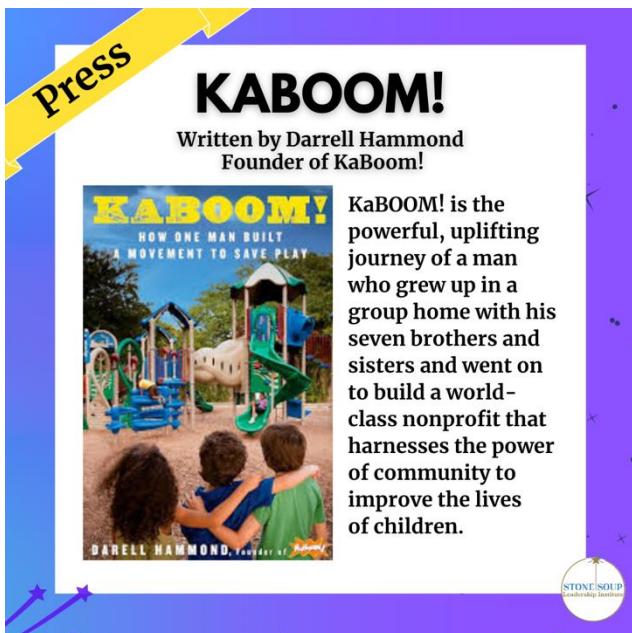
Friday: August 16: Lesson Plan: Darell Hammond

EDUCATORS use this FREE Lesson plan to show your students how people can get together to build playgrounds for all children – maybe even in your community!

Help your students learn about the values of creative resourcefulness, initiative, perseverance, faith, the power of prayer, social emotional learning.

How might you and your students pitch in and help create a project in your community?

Link: <https://stonesoupleadership.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/lesson-plan-ashleys-big-plans.pdf>



Saturday: August 17: Press: Darell Hammond

This is the story of a man with a vision, a man who believes that play is the best natural resource in a creative economy and that kids need more of it. Play is not a luxury but a necessity for their lives.

<https://www.amazon.com/KaBOOM-Built-Movement-Save-Play/dp/1605290750>

<https://www.eatlearnplay.org/news/strategic-launch>

