
Hubert ‘Dickey’ Ballentine & Martin L. Mathews

Mathews-Dickey Boys’ and Girls’ Club

By M. Karen Hubbard

LESSON DESCRIPTION

In this lesson, students will explore the concept of non-profit organization (not for profit organization) as they explore the contributions of entrepreneurs Hubert ‘Dickey’ Ballentine and Martin L. Mathews in developing the Mathews-Dickey Boys’ and Girls’ Club.

ECONOMIC CONCEPTS

- entrepreneur
- non-profit (not for profit) organization

RELATED CONCEPTS

- reading comprehension
- math computation
- map reading

MATERIALS

- One copy of “Hubert ‘Dickey’ Ballentine and Martin L. Mathews” reading for each student
- One copy of Activity 1 – “Entrepreneurs Non-Profit Service Ideas” for each student

TIME

- 45 minutes

PROCEDURE

1. Explain that an “entrepreneur” is someone who thinks of a service or good that someone would like to use. An entrepreneur takes a risk that people will not like the service or good, and that all of the time, effort, and money he or she has spent to provide the service or good will have been for nothing.
2. Distribute the story of Hubert ‘Dickey’ Ballentine and Martin L. Mathews, and explain that the students are going to read about entrepreneurs who

saw problems and introduced services to help remedy them. Instruct the students to read the story and underline the services provided by the Mathews-Dickey Boys' and Girls' Club.

3. When the reading is completed, help students define any words with which they are unfamiliar. Ask the following questions:
 - When and where was Hubert 'Dickey' Ballentine born? (He was born on June 18, 1911 in Sardis, Mississippi.) Ask the students to look on a United States map to find the state of Mississippi and notice its distance from St. Louis, Missouri– Sardis may be too small to locate on the map.
 - How old was Mr. Ballentine when he moved to St. Louis? (1927-1911 = 16 years old)
 - For whom did he work and for how long? (United States Postal Service for 24 years)
 - When and where was Martin L. Mathews born? (Neelyville, Missouri on February 17, 1925) If you have a Missouri map in the classroom with small city names, ask the students to locate Neelyville, Missouri.
 - Even though they did not know each other at the time, how old was Mr. Ballentine when Mr. Mathews was born? (1925-1911 = 14 years old)
 - Where do you think they met? (Coaching neighborhood baseball teams.)
 - What concern did they both have? (A desire to keep young men on the fields and off of the streets.)
 - What does this concern mean? (They wanted to have the young men play baseball on the ball field and stay out of the trouble that they could get into if they were on the streets.)
 - When and where was the Mathews-Dickey Boys' Club founded? (They co-founded the club in 1960 under a shade tree in St. Louis' Handy Park.)
4. Distribute the "Entrepreneur Non-Profit Service Ideas" Activity sheet. Tell the students to match the program that the club started with the purpose of the program and write the correct letter in the blank. They may use the reading to help them. Then, the students are to answer the questions. Go over the activity sheet with the students when they are finished.
5. Remind the students that Mathews and Ballentine received awards and recognition for their ability and work with youth. Ask:
 - What are some of the awards and recognition that these two gentlemen received?
(Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame, Humanities Award, 1982
Presidential Citizen's Award, 1991 Certificate of Appreciation for

MVP - program to stop gang activity, and Directors Community Leadership Award)

- Do you think they started the Mathews-Dickey Boys' and Girls' Club to get awards? (No)
- Do you think it was nice for them to get awards and recognition? (Yes, made them feel appreciated, good publicity, people would notice that they had good programs and maybe donate money or volunteer, etc.)

CLOSURE

1. Tell the students to remember that Martin L. Mathews and Hubert 'Dickey' Ballentine saw problems and tried to find ways to solve them by starting the Mathews-Dickey Boys' and Girls' Club. They did not start the Club to earn profit/money. They did not start the Club to be famous. They started the Club to help young people.
2. Teacher could invite an entrepreneur from the community to discuss their risk and benefits of starting a business.

NAME: _____

ENTREPRENEURS NON-PROFIT SERVICE IDEAS

Directions: Write the letter of the Purpose that best corresponds to each Program Name.

	Program Name	Purpose
_____ 1.	Mathews-Dickey Boys' & Girls' Club	a. Alternative school for suspended youth to get GED
_____ 2.	Earn and Learn Program	b. Stop gang activity by doing structured activities
_____ 3.	Summer Day Camp	c. A chance for young men and women to play baseball
_____ 4.	Tri-A Program	d. Keep youth off streets
_____ 5.	Girls' Program	e. Personal development, cultural arts, education, athletics
_____ 6.	Stamp Out Illiteracy Through Learning Program	f. Computer training
_____ 7.	Motivation Vocation Preparation (MVP)	g. Train junior coaches, umpires, commissioners
_____ 8.	Computer Literacy Instruction Program (CLIP)	h. Individualized tutoring in math, reading, and language arts
_____ 9.	Reviving Baseball in the Inner City	i. Give young women career-readiness training
_____ 10.	The Sky is the Limit	j. Give youth a place to go while parents work

A. Where did the ideas of the services come from? _____

B. How are the resources for the services paid for? _____

C. How did Mathews and Ballentine earn an income to support themselves and their families?

D. Why didn't they earn money from the Club? _____

NAME: _____

ENTREPRENEURS NON-PROFIT SERVICE IDEAS

Directions: Write the letter of the Purpose that best corresponds to each Program Name.

	Program Name	Purpose
d.	1. Matthews-Dickey Boys' & Girls' Club	a. Alternative school for suspended youth to get GED
g.	2. Earn and Learn Program	b. Stop gang activity by doing structured activities
j.	3. Summer Day Camp	c. A chance for young men and women to play baseball
a.	4. Tri-A Program	d. Keep youth off streets
e.	5. Girls' Program	e. Personal development, cultural arts, education, athletics
h.	6. Stamp Out Illiteracy Through Learning Program	f. Computer training
b.	7. Motivation Vocation Preparation (MVP)	g. Train junior coaches, umpires, commissioners
f.	8. Computer Literacy Instruction Program (CLIP)	h. Individualized tutoring in math, reading, and language arts
c.	9. Reviving Baseball in the Inner City	i. Give young women career-readiness training
i.	10. The Sky is the Limit	j. Give youth a place to go while parents work

A. Where did the ideas of the services come from?

Ideas grew from their original concern for trying to keep youth off the street and find ways to help them.

B. How are the resources for the services paid for?

Donations and matching gifts made by different people, organizations, and corporations.

C. How did Mathews and Ballentine earn an income to support themselves and their families?

They did not get money from the Club. Ballentine was a U.S. Postal Service mail handler and Mathews was a manager for a company.

D. Why didn't they earn money from the Club?

The Club was a non-profit which means the donations they received went into running the youth programs.

Hubert ‘Dickey’ Ballentine & Martin L. Mathews Mathews-Dickey Boys’ and Girls’ Club

By M. Karen Hubbard

Hubert ‘Dickey’ Ballentine was born on June 18, 1911, in Sardis, Mississippi. In 1927, he moved to St. Louis where he married Rose May Grimes. They had four children. For 24 years, Ballentine served as a United States Postal Service mail handler.

Martin L. Mathews was born in Neelyville, Missouri, on February 17, 1925. Mathews and his family moved from Poplar Bluff, Missouri, to St. Louis, Missouri, where he met his wife, the late Barbara Albright. They had five daughters and Mathews served as a manager at the Burkart Randall Division of Textron, Inc.

Mathews and Ballentine coached neighborhood baseball teams. They were discussing a similar concern: a desire to keep young men on the fields and off of the streets. In 1960, under a shade tree in St. Louis’ Handy Park, they co-founded the Mathews’ Dickey Boys’ Club.

In 1961, the first special event, the Annual Awards Banquet, was held. It began in a neighbor’s basement and has expanded to very popular St. Louis hotels with well known people serving as master of ceremonies. Today, more than 1,000 young people receive trophies for their sports participation. The achievements of alumni/corporate volunteers are also recognized at this event.

The Earn and Learn Program was founded in 1968 with the assistance of a grant from Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc. This program trains junior coaches, umpires and commissioners and lets youth earn spending money. It is also the beginning of the Summer Day Camp Program which gave youth a place to go so their parents can continue to work.

Both Mathews and Ballentine were outstanding athletes. In 1974, Mathews was inducted into the Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame. In 1975, he received the Humanities Award from the St. Louis Globe Democrat (a former St. Louis newspaper). Ballentine was inducted into the Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame with a semi-pro career stretching from 1928-1954. He played in six all-star games and had a lifetime batting average of .350.

Former St. Louis Globe Democrat Publisher G. Duncan Bauman enlisted the involvement of August A. Busch III, then chairman and CEO of Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc., and Charles F. Knight, then chairman and CEO of Emerson Electric Company, to co-chair a multi-million dollar building fund to build a new home for Mathews-Dickey Boys’ Club at Kingshighway and Highway 70 in St. Louis.

In 1982, President Ronald Reagan declared the Club a model for the country and dedicated the new youth facility. He presented Mathews and Ballentine with the nation’s highest honor, the Presidential Citizens Award, for their lifetime achievements.

In 1984, the TRI-A Program opened at the club as an alternative school for suspended youth. This program receives national recognition for its success rate in assisting youth to return to school for graduation and/or obtain the GED (General Educational Development – process of earning equivalent of high school diploma).

The Girls' Program began in 1986 with the support and direction of board member Charles 'Big Charlie' Ruprecht and advisor N. Evelyn Williams. Today, the Program serves more than 5,000 young women in the areas of personal development, cultural arts, education and athletics.

'Stamp Out Illiteracy Through Learning Program' was introduced in 1989. It provides individualized tutoring to youth needing help in math, reading, and language arts and works with the St. Louis Public Schools and other area districts.

In 1991, a city-wide Motivation Vocation Preparation (MVP) begins as a program to stop gang activity by encouraging youth to do extracurricular, structured activities promoting self-esteem, goal development and achievement. The U.S. Department of Justice's Drug Enforcement Administration awarded Mathews with a Certificate of Appreciation.

To help build up the existing Tutorial Program, a Computer Literacy Instruction Program (CLIP) was started in 1992. Students received computer training from volunteer instructors with computer expertise.

In that same year, the Reviving Baseball in the Inner Cities (RBI) Program was started to give thousands of young men and women a chance to play baseball. The RBI Program was endorsed by Major League Baseball and supported by the St. Louis Cardinals LP (Cardinal Care) along with other corporations in the area.

'The Sky is the Limit' was established to give young women career-readiness training and mentorship opportunities in 1995. Since it began, more than 2,000 women have experienced the program.

In January of 2000, co-founder Hubert 'Dickey' Ballentine died at the age of 88.

At a Board of Directors Meeting, a motion was made to change the Club's name to Mathews-Dickey Boys' & Girls' Club. The motion was voted on, passed unanimously, and announced to the public on April 10, 2001 that the name was officially changed.

In 2002, the Club became a non-profit, 501(c)3 United Way health and human service agency providing educational, sports, and cultural programs for more than 40,000 young men and women each year. (501(c)3 of the tax code means that the Club does not have to pay federal corporate income tax and donors may deduct contributions from their income tax.) The Mathews-Dickey Boys' & Girls' Club is supported through many donations and matching gifts made by different people, organizations, and corporations