

Merrimack Valley YMCA's 12th Annual Walter

Photos: Dan Halloran, Executive Director, Lawrence YMCA

Young basketball players from around the Merrimack Valley had the chance to show off their best skills in teamwork and fair play as they faced off against teams from other towns in the 12th Annual Walter Kimball Classic Youth Basketball League (YBL) Jamboree at the Lawrence YMCA on Saturday, March 3, 2018.

Merrimack Valley YMCA YBL teams in the Pre-K/Kindergarten and 1st/2nd Grade divisions from the Lawrence, Methuen and Andover/North Andover branches competed in the event. The YMCA holds it every year in honor of Walter "Kim" Kimball, who was one of the founding fathers of YBL.

Winners were chosen by their coaches based on their sportsmanship and teamwork throughout the season, as well as their display of the four core values of the YMCA, which include caring, honesty, respect and

responsibility. Merrimack Valley Chief Operating Officer Frank Kenneally says the Walter Kimball Sportsmanship Award represents what YBL is all about.

"The Kimball Classic is YBL in its purist form," he said. "It's not about who had the most baskets or which team won the game. It's about promoting sportsmanship, health and fitness and having fun."

Walter Kimball started YBL in the early 1970s and worked for the Merrimack Valley YMCA for 37 years. During that time, he was responsible for starting numerous programs for children, teens and adults – teaching literally thousands of children how to swim, play basketball and stay physically fit.

Sponsors of this year's Kimball Classic included Lawrence General Hospital, the Barry Kara Foundation, and PrimeTime Sports.



Kimball Classic Promotes Sportsmanship



MCC Hosts Two Free Showings of 'Screenagers' Documentary

Middlesex Community College will host two showings of the documentary film "Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age," at 8:15 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Monday, April 2, in the Bedford Campus Center, 591 Springs Road. This event is free and open to the public with reservations. Please call 781-280-3633 to RSVP.

"Screenagers" is based on sound educational and psychological research, and it investigates the phenomenon of digital technology and how it is affecting our society," explained English Professor Denise Marchionda, who is showing the film to her "English Composition" classes.

"Most students do not realize they are addicted to their phones," she added. "Face-to-face conversation is becoming a lost art! I have to actively and intentionally teach my students how to talk to each other. Cell phones and mobile devices are changing our society, our brains, and how we interact - or not - with each other."

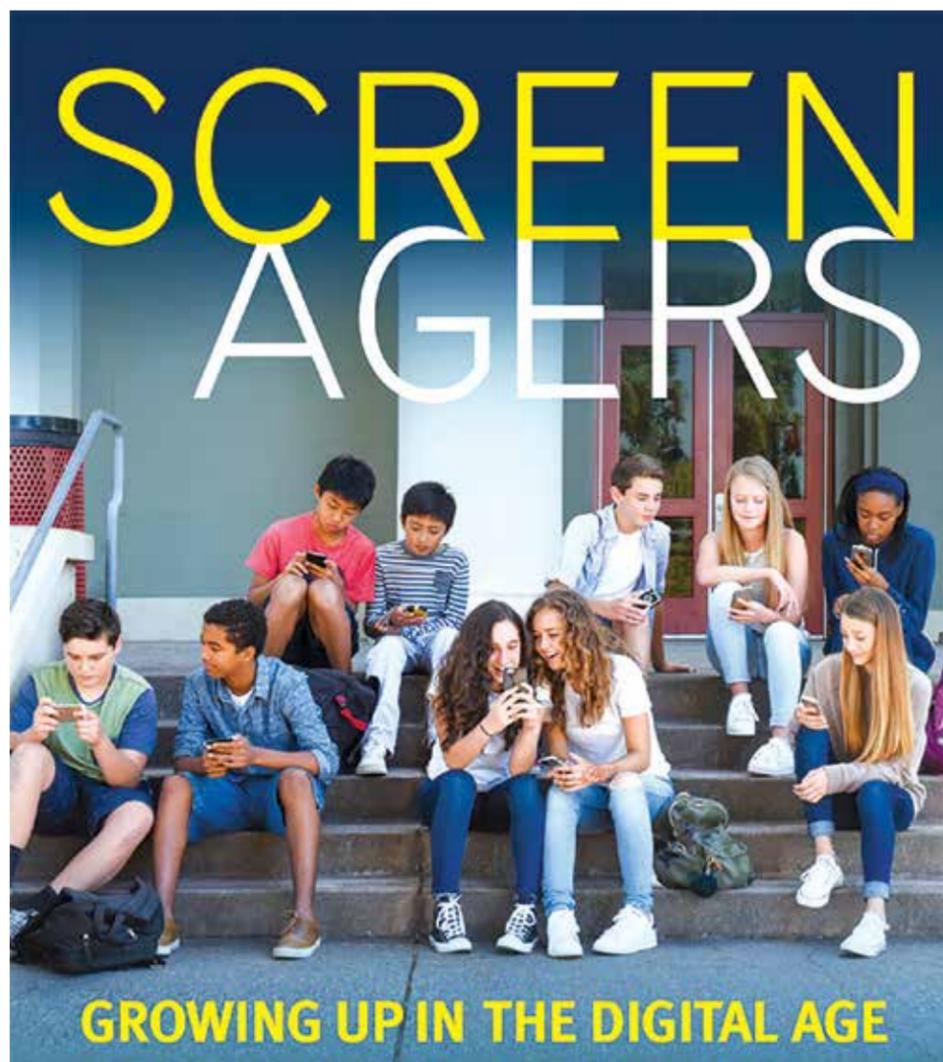
Physician and filmmaker Delaney Ruston noticed that her own children were often glued to their phones and computers, and learned that the average kid spends 6.5 hours a day looking at screens. She wondered about the impact of all this time

and about the friction occurring in homes and schools around negotiating screen time.

In "Screenagers" (<https://www.screenagersmovie.com/>), as with her award-winning documentaries on mental health, Delaney takes a deeply personal approach as she probes into the vulnerable corners of family life (including her own), to explore struggles over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction.

For more information, or to reserve a seat to see "Screenagers," contact Kirsten Morrow in MCC's Office of Student Engagement at morrowk@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3633. (Doors open at 8 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., and screenings start promptly at 8:15 a.m. and 12:45 p.m.)

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