

# Damon Keith ballfield ends athletic renovation at S.A.Y. center

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(Photo: Jessica J. Trevino/Detroit Free Press)

Civil rights legend and U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Damon Keith was on hand Tuesday for a ceremony naming a new baseball field at Lipke Park in his honor. [Full Screen](#)

The ballfield was funded by the nonprofit charity S.A.Y. Detroit, an affiliate of Ilitch Charities, and the Baseball Tomorrow Fund, in honor of Judge Damon Keith. The fund is supported by the Detroit League Baseball and the Major League Baseball Players Association.

“There is no greater game than baseball, and giving Detroit youth a chance to play it is only fitting. And there is no greater Detroit legacy to honor than that of Judge Damon Keith, who will serve not only as name of this new field but as inspiration to the young minds and bodies that play on it,” said S.A.Y. Detroit Founder and Free Press columnist Mitch Albom.

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The Hon. Damon J. Keith Baseball Field completes the renovation of athletic facilities at S.A.Y. Play Center, joining Matthew Stafford's football field and the Detroit Pistons' basketball court.

Located on 14.2 acres in the Osborn school district, the S.A.Y. Play Center at Lipke Park takes a unique approach to Motivational Learning, offering top flight, state-of-the-art athletic facilities, arts and science programs, and access to professional athletes — but only if participants (students ages 8-18) commit to earning at least a 3.0 grade point average and study for at least an hour each day in the 7,000 square-foot digital learning center within the campus.

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