



# ED FUNDAMENTALS

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## NEWS

FALL 2006

A Newsletter from the Philadelphia Education Fund

[www.philaedfund.org](http://www.philaedfund.org)

## Math & Science Coalition Releases Strategic Plan

The Philadelphia Math & Science Coalition partners have outlined their goals in a three-year strategic plan that was recently released to the public. The plan builds upon the Coalition's mission to continuously enhance the quality of math and science teaching in Philadelphia public schools, and to see our youth excel in both subject areas.

Philadelphia students need to graduate from high school positioned to succeed in post-secondary education if they are to compete successfully in an increasingly global workforce that requires 21st century math and science knowledge and problem solving skills.

The Philadelphia Education Fund convened the Math & Science Coalition in 2005 as a partnership among businesses, universities, the School District of Philadelphia and other organizations. The Philadelphia Math & Science Strategic Plan can be viewed at [www.philaedfund.org](http://www.philaedfund.org).

For more information contact Carol S. Fixman at 215-665-1400 x3313 or [cfixman@philaedfund.org](mailto:cfixman@philaedfund.org).



*Philadelphia students as young scientists.*

### Math & Science Partner Organizations

Arkema	GlaxoSmithKline
AstraZeneca	IBM Corporation
Ben Franklin Technology	Lockheed Martin Corporation
Partners of Southeastern PA	Phila. Federation of Teachers
Chemical Heritage Foundation	Quaker Chemical Corporation
Del. Valley Grantmakers	Rohm & Haas Company
Del. Valley Industrial Resource Ctr.	School District of Philadelphia
Drexel University	Temple University
E.I Dupont De Nemours & Co.	The Boeing Co.
Ford Motor Co.	University of Pennsylvania
Franklin Institute	Univ. of the Sciences in Phila.
General Electric	Philadelphia Education Fund

## Communities Push for Progress on New High Schools

The Philadelphia Education Fund led members of the West Philadelphia community as they testified at the School Reform Commission (SRC) meeting on August 9, 2006 to ask that the District move forward with selecting a site for a new West Philadelphia High School. Final determination for the location of the school site is still pending. The following week, the SRC gave the go-ahead for another part of the Ed Fund's Small Schools Project,

authorizing the District to negotiate with a developer to create a new Kensington High School.

Both projects are part of the Ed Fund's continued goal of creating small high schools and developing local leadership to collaborate with the District on school design.

For more information, contact Tia Keitt, 215-665-1400 x3337, [tkeitt@philaedfund.org](mailto:tkeitt@philaedfund.org).

**Don't forget to RSVP to the Eddys 2006 by October 17, 2006!**

# Eddys 2006 Celebrating the Stars of Public Education

Jill Scott, GlaxoSmithKline, Eagles Youth Partnership and Kappa Alpha Psi



*Grammy Award Winner Jill Scott is a graduate of the Philadelphia High School for Girls.*

The Philadelphia Education Fund has announced the recipients of the second annual Eddy Awards to be honored during a celebration on October 24, 2006 at WHYY.

The Star Alumnus Eddy is being given to Grammy Award Winner Jill Scott. Ms. Scott, born and raised in North Philadelphia, is a graduate of Thomas M. Pierce Elementary School, Albert M. Greenfield School and Philadelphia High School for Girls. She is also the founder of the Blues Babe Foundation, which provides financial support and mentoring for students in Philadelphia, Camden and the Delaware Valley.

Receiving the Star Business Commitment to Education Eddy is GlaxoSmithKline for its continued support of education programs in under-served communities. The Star Commitment to Education Eddy will honor the Eagles Youth Partnership, an organization founded in 1995 by the Philadelphia Eagles Football Club to tackle education and health issues faced by the region's youth. The Star Community Commitment to Education Eddy will be presented to the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Philadelphia Alumni Chapter, for its dedication to mentoring African-American young men. A surprise Rising Star Award will be given to a promising Philadelphia Scholar.

The star-studded event will include live interviews by WHYY's Tracey Matisak. *For more information about tickets or tables, please contact Jenifer Trachtman at 215-665-1400 ext 3309, [jtrachtman@philaedfund.org](mailto:jtrachtman@philaedfund.org) or visit [www.philaedfund.org/eddys2006](http://www.philaedfund.org/eddys2006).*

## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The Philadelphia Education Fund is set to celebrate another year with our annual 2006 Eddy Awards. This promises to be an exciting event at WHYY, so please RSVP by October 17 to ensure your seat.

This edition of *Ed Fundamentals* includes updates on initiatives that continue to improve educational opportunities for our public school students. The Philadelphia Math & Science Coalition and the Small Schools Project are making strides in engaging the community so that that all children have access to the education they deserve.

The Middle Grades Matter Campaign kicks off its fourth year in partnership with the School District of Philadelphia, with in-school interventions based on dropout prevention research conducted by the Ed Fund and Johns Hopkins University. And the Ed Fund continues to partner with the District and area universities to "grow our own teachers" through the Student Teacher Pipeline Project. The Philadelphia Scholars program will award a milestone \$1 million in Last Dollar Scholarships this year to public high school graduates whom the College Access Program has prepared for post-secondary education.

Your continued generosity helps make our work possible. Thank you for supporting Philadelphia area children!

*Carol S. Fixman*

*Carol S. Fixman, Executive Director*

## Scholars Program Hosts Two Summer Events

The Philadelphia Education Fund's Philadelphia Scholars Program honored its recent college graduates at the annual Celebration of Scholars on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. In 2005-2006, the Ed Fund awarded \$800,000 in Last Dollar Scholarships to 285 students.



The event, which was held at the National Constitution Center, featured a keynote address from Timeka Ford, a Philadelphia Scholars Alumna who now serves as the Assistant Principal of the School District of Philadelphia's Young Women's Leadership School at Rhodes. Ford is one of more than 1,300 Philadelphia students who have received Last Dollar Scholarships since its inception in 1990. The program also included remarks from A. Morris Williams, Jr., Chair of the Advisory Committee; and John C. Bogle, Chair of the National Constitution Center's Board of Trustees.



*Top Photo (L-R): John Wildemore, John Neff, John C. Bogle.*

The Scholars Program also hosted an event for 65 returning Scholars on July 26<sup>th</sup>. Working with College Access staff, Philadelphia Scholars Alumnus Jermaine Bromell brought together National Sales Network volunteers to speak with Scholars about professionalism in the work place. Students attending learned about the importance of self-presentation, networking, interviewing and resume writing. The "Professionalism 101" Course is part of our ongoing efforts to prepare Philadelphia Scholars for future success.

*Bottom Photo: Carol S. Fixman, A. Morris Williams and Helen Cunningham featured with current Philadelphia Scholars and Scholars Alums including Nyra Aguilera-Lugo, Irvin Clark, Timeka Ford, Alicia Parker, Monshell Reyes and Aura Townsend.*

## Ed Fund Plans *MARCH MADNESS* Basketball Tournament

The Philadelphia Education Fund will host a benefit basketball tournament in March 2007 at the Palestra and Hutchinson Gym at the University of Penn. The "NCAA Style" bracket tournament will raise funds for the Philadelphia Scholars Program. To participate, a roster of at least seven players is recommended and the minimum entry fee per team is \$1,500. Teams are welcome to donate as much as they are able. We guarantee a minimum of two games per team, including one game on the Palestra floor. Deadline for entry is December 20, 2006.

For more information contact Jenifer Trachtman:  
215-665-1400 x3309, [jtrachtman@philaedfund.org](mailto:jtrachtman@philaedfund.org)

## Scholars Advisory Committee

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## Student Teacher Pipeline News



**The Student Teacher Pipeline Project** hosted filmmaker Ben Herold on August 23<sup>rd</sup> during its summer professional development series. Mr. Herold's documentary, *First Person*, features six students from the School District of Philadelphia. Student teachers spoke with these students about their social and academic lives to better prepare them to enter the classroom in September. On October 27<sup>th</sup>, the Ed Fund will host these student teachers, along with hundreds of others, at our Student Teacher Welcome Celebration. *For more information about the Pipeline, contact Allie Mulvihill: 215-665-1400 x3310 or [amulvihill@philaedfund.org](mailto:amulvihill@philaedfund.org).*

## Tax Credits Available to Businesses Contributing to College Access Program

The Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program awards tax credits to businesses that make contributions to educational organizations, including the Ed Fund's College Access Program.

College Access serves 11,000 Philadelphia residents each year with the goal of enhancing academic preparedness for college. With your support through EITC, College Access coordinators will continue to enhance the District's curriculum through its in-school and community-based centers that offer preparation for college.

*For more information about how your business can contribute to College Access and receive a tax-credit, contact Jenifer Trachtman, 215-665-1400 ext 3309 or [jtrachtman@philaedfund.org](mailto:jtrachtman@philaedfund.org).*

## Philadelphia Education Fund

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