



- ****DYCD Calendar and Events:** January 8, IT breakfast for staff credentialing recognition; January 26, volunteer for HOPE 2009
- ****Spotlight News:** Commissioner Mullgrav receives Sesame Street Flyer International award; DYCD call-takers participate in NYC Financial Empowerment phone bank
- ****Program Updates:** NYC Ladders for Leaders breakfast held at Microsoft; A professional development opportunity is hosted by Bloomberg L.P. for DYCD-funded RHY transitional residents; ICC meets to discuss youth risk survey; Sponsored by Metlife, DYCD hold 4th Annual Skate Day at the Pond at Bryant Park
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DYCD CALENDAR AND EVENTS

** **January 8**—the DYCD Information Technology Department will hold a Recognition Breakfast to acknowledge and celebrate IT staff members who have received advanced credentials in their field in the past year.

** **January 26**— Join DYCD staff and volunteer for HOPE 2009. This year's Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) will help to evaluate the effectiveness of new strategies implemented to overcoming street homelessness in New York City. In addition, HOPE will help develop more appropriate housing resources for the most vulnerable New Yorkers living without shelter. Volunteers should commit to assisting overnight from 10:30 PM until 4:00 AM. Follow the link for online registration and volunteer orientation: <http://www.nyc.gov/dhs> .

SPOTLIGHT NEWS

****Sesame Flyers Honors DYCD Commissioner at 25th Anniversary Gala Celebration**

On December 13, Commissioner Jeanne B. Mullgrav, along with Governor David A. Paterson and Deputy Mayor Dennis M. Walcott, were honored as Sesame Flyers International celebrated 25 years of service as one of Brooklyn's most prominent community-based organizations. Sesame Flyers, a contractor with DYCD since 1996; currently provide programming in the following areas: Out-of-School Time, Beacon Community Centers, Neighborhood Development Area, In-School Youth and the Summer Youth Employment Program.

****DYCD Participates in "Your Money Helpline" to Provide Timely Financial Advice to New Yorkers**

From December 15 – 19, DYCD Youth Connect and other DYCD staff took part in a week-long phone-a-thon initiative launched by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and the Department of Consumer Affairs Office of Financial Empowerment, in partnership with the City University of New York and the New York Daily News. The goal was to share money management information and refer New Yorkers to free and low-cost financial education services. Information and referrals about debt and credit management, budgeting, mortgage foreclosure, retirement, insurance, taxes and other financial issues were available in English and Spanish. Close to 8,000 New Yorkers called the helpline.

PROGRAM UPDATES

****Microsoft Hosts Informational Breakfast for NYC Ladders for Leaders Program**

On December 15, DYCD and the Mayor's Commission on Women's Issues held a NYC Ladders for Leaders informational breakfast, hosted by Microsoft. Representatives from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Edelman, the Patrino Foundation, Toys 'R Us, JP Morgan Chase, Santec and Queensborough Community College, attended the

event. DYCD staff gave an overview of the Ladders for Leaders program and attendees were informed as to how they could participate in the upcoming 2009 program.

****Bloomberg L.P. Hosts Runaway and Homeless Youth Residing in DYCD Transitional Programs**

On December 16, more than 40 youth living in DYCD Transitional Independent Living (TIL) Programs were given the opportunity to tour the Bloomberg L.P. corporate headquarters, enjoy breakfast, and engage in a dialogue with Bloomberg employees. This unique professional development session provided the young people with the opportunity to share their experiences and career goals and the Bloomberg staff generously provided professional guidance, advice and support. The visit was arranged by Erana Stennett, a member of the NYC Youth Board.

**** ICC Informed on the “Youth Risk Survey” at its Quarterly Meeting**

On December 16, 40 members of the Interagency Coordinating Council on Youth and community-based organizations listened to a presentation on youth risk issues delivered by Dr. Philip M. Alberti, from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Dr. Alberti detailed the prevalence of high-risk behaviors, such as drug and alcohol abuse and sexual activity, among New York City youth. In addition, the Behavioral Challenges Sub-Committee gave a brief overview of their soon to be released report on afterschool services for youth with emotional and behavioral issues.

****DYCD 4th Annual Skate Day Held at the Pond at Bryant Park**

On December 30, more than 250 participants in the DYCD Out-of-School Time, Beacon Community Center and TeenACTION programs took to the ice with Metlife mascot Snoopy and the Peanuts Gang for Skate Day at the Pond at Bryant Park. Commissioner Mullgrav thanked Debbie Krauthem and Beth Hirshhorn, of Metlife for sponsoring the event. Metlife's generous donation included rink time, skate rentals, hot chocolate and cookies, hats and goodie bags. Skate Day provides the opportunity for young people to learn or improve their ice skating skills. It is also a timely reminder that DYCD's afterschool programs operate after school, throughout the summer, and during school holidays and reassures working parents that their children will be cared for in a safe, enriching environment.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

****FOR YOUTH****

The mission of the **Captain Planet Foundation** is to fund and support hands-on, environmental projects for children and youths. The foundation also works to encourage innovative programs that empower children and youth around the world to work individually and collectively to solve environmental problems in their neighborhoods and communities. Through environmental education, the Captain Planet Foundation believes that children can achieve a better understanding and appreciation for the world in which they live. In order to be considered for funding, proposals must promote understanding of environmental issues, focus on hands-on involvement and involve children and young adults. Proposals must also include adult supervision and commit to follow-up communication with the Foundation, specific requirements are explained once the grant has been awarded. All applicant organizations or sponsoring agencies must be exempt from federal taxation under the Internal Revenue Code Section 501, in order to be eligible for funding. Generally the range of grants awarded by the Foundation is \$250 - \$2,500. [The application deadline is March 31, 2009. For more information, go to: http://captainplanetfoundation.org/default.aspx?pid=3&tab=apply](http://captainplanetfoundation.org/default.aspx?pid=3&tab=apply).

The *Big Read* is an initiative of the **National Endowment for the Arts** designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. The NEA presents The Big Read in partnership with the **Institute of Museum and Library Services** and in cooperation with **Arts Midwest**. The Big Read brings together partners across the country to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment. Approximately 400 organizations in communities of varying sizes across the country will be selected to participate in The Big Read from September 2009 through June 2010. The Big Read provides citizens with the opportunity to read and discuss a single book or the work of a poet within their communities. To support innovative reading programs in selected cities and towns, the initiative provides grants, comprehensive resources, and support for discussing literature. In 2007, the National Endowment for the Arts—in partnership with the Poetry Foundation—created a new component of The Big Read called American Literary Landmarks that celebrated three of the nation's historic poetry sites: the Emily Dickinson Museum, Robinson Jeffers's Tor House, and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's Wayside Inn. The Big Read programming in 2009–2010 expands reading choices beyond books to include these three poets and their works. The application

deadline is February 3, 2009. For complete information on the egrant, guidelines, or to apply online, go to: http://www.neabigread.org/application_process.php

Deadline approaching: The *Coming Up Taller Awards* program is sponsored by **The President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities** in partnership with the **Institute of Museum and Library Services** and the **National Endowment for the Arts**. The purpose of the awards is to recognize excellence in after-school and out-of-school arts and humanities programs for underserved children and youth. Finalists receive a \$10,000 award, a Coming Up Taller Awards plaque, and an invitation to attend the annual Coming Up Taller Leadership Enhancement Conference. Programs initiated by museums, libraries, performing arts organizations, universities, colleges, arts centers, community service organizations, non-profit organizations, schools, and eligible government agencies are encouraged to apply. The 2009 nomination deadline is January 30, 2009. For more information and to submit a nomination, go to: <http://www.afterschoolnetwork.org/node/6968> .

****FOR COMMUNITIES****

Bank of America's signature philanthropic program puts a premium on identifying and responding to local needs, including helping top nonprofits/charitable organizations build capacity, plan for the future, and simply operate every day:

Neighborhood Builders is a competitive award program recognizing community organizations that set themselves apart, are active visionaries, have strong leaders, and create vibrant neighborhoods. Benefits include: \$200,000 (or local market currency equivalent) for operating support to 2 nonprofit/charitable organizations; one senior executive attends two 3-day workshops on strategic thinking, business planning, leadership development, and other topics; and one emerging leader attends three 3-day workshops on developing organizational management skills, managing strategic opportunities, forging alliances, and building communities. The application period is from January 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009 (8 p.m. Eastern Time).

Local Heroes program recognizes 5 community heroes in each of 45 markets, including New York City, allowing recipients to direct contributions to qualified nonprofits/charitable organizations of their choice. Benefits include: \$5,000 (or local market currency equivalent) to a qualified nonprofit/charitable organization of the heroes' choice in each of the 45 markets, including New York City; and public ceremonies recognizing Bank of America Local Heroes in their communities. The application period is from January 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009 (8 p.m. Eastern Time).

Student Leaders program recognizes 5 exemplary high school juniors and seniors in each of 45 markets, including New York City, who are committed to making a difference today — and tomorrow. The program features: five young adults in each of the 45 markets, including New York City; a week-long Student Leadership Summit in Washington, DC (July 19 - 24, 2009) to gain valuable civic, social and business leadership skills; and an exciting 8-week paid internship program at a local nonprofit/charitable organization. The application period is from January 1, 2009 through February 20, 2009 (11:00 p.m. Eastern Time).

For more information and guidelines, go to:

http://www.bankofamerica.com/foundation/index.cfm?template=fd_grantapp .

JustDoOne.org, an online community for sustainable living, has issued a global call for personal green solutions. The Just Do One organization invites ideas for more sustainable living summarized in short YouTube-style videos. The organization will share the entries online, and the best video entry, as judged by an expert panel, will win \$5,000. Video entries may be up to three minutes in length. Entries will be accepted from January 1 to March 1, 2009. Winners will be announced April 1, 2009, in time for media coverage leading up to Earth Day:

<http://www.justdoone.org/> .

Columbia Law School Public Interest Law Foundation is offering community grants of \$1,000 to \$15,000 to non-profits providing legal services to communities in need. The Foundation's areas of focus are public interest activities, including but not limited to: reforming the criminal and civic justice systems, eradicating discrimination, expanding educational and economic opportunities, improving living standards, increasing access to judicial, legislative and administrative forums, and encouraging law students and the bar to devote greater resources to public interest legal work. Nonprofits, community-based organizations, and individuals are eligible to apply. The application deadline is January 12, 2009. For more information, go to: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/pilf> .

Talk show host and philanthropist **Jenny Jones** has announced that she will donate an additional \$1 million to continue her *Jenny's Heroes Community Grant Program*. The Jenny's Heroes program awards grants to individuals who submit the best ideas for tangible, lasting community projects. Jenny's Heroes provides grants of up to

\$25,000 each to fund projects that promise long-term community benefits. Through the fifty grant recipients so far, funds have been used to provide items and services such as library books, school computers, firefighting gear, nursing home upgrades, sports equipment, free dental services, wheelchairs, coats for children in domestic violence shelters, and a running track at a women's prison. The program's focus is primarily on smaller communities where fundraising can be difficult. There is an open deadline. For more information on Jenny's Heroes and grant guidelines, visit the program's Web site: <http://www.jennysheroes.com/> .

The **Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Investor Education Foundation**, FINRA, has launched its fifth general grant program. The foundation invites nonprofit groups and researchers to apply for funding for projects that support its mission of providing Americans with the knowledge, skills, and tools necessary for financial success. The foundation is interested in funding projects that reach and actively engage at-risk audiences such as seniors and first-time investors by offering them access to un-biased information about the markets and fundamental financial issues. Of particular interest to the foundation in 2009 are projects that focus on using behavioral finance to improve saving and investing, meeting the financial and investor education needs of underserved audiences, new marketing and distribution channels for financial and investor education, and helping Americans manage their finances in retirement. The foundation has set no minimum or maximum for the number of grants to be funded or for the amounts of the grant awards. Before submitting a full grant proposal, applicants must submit a simple three-page project concept form. Eligible applicants whose projects closely align with the foundation's priorities will be invited to submit a full grant proposal. Project concept forms will be accepted at any time during the calendar year. However, submission deadlines correspond to the announcement of grant awards in June and October of 2009. For details about grant programs and other FINRA Foundation initiatives, visit the foundation's Web site: <http://www.finrafoundation.org/>

Salud America! is a national program of the **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** that supports research on environmental and policy solutions to the epidemic of obesity among Latino children. The program also aims to develop a network of researchers whose findings will help identify the most promising obesity-prevention strategies specifically tailored for Latino communities. Findings will advance RWJF's efforts to reverse the childhood obesity epidemic by 2015. The specific objectives of this Call For Proposals are to increase the skills and experience of researchers who are working to reduce and prevent obesity among Latino children and to identify the most promising policy-relevant strategies to reduce and prevent obesity among Latino children. Investigators must propose a project in one of two general areas: 1) research that has strong potential to inform policy; or 2) the evaluation of an existing policy or program, its implementation, or its impact. Both research and evaluation proposals must focus on one topic from the detailed lists included in the full CFP. Proposals must be submitted by an educational institution or non-profit tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization and with which the proposed investigator is affiliated. Because the projects funded under this program require close collaboration with Latino communities, proposals are strongly encouraged from investigators who are of Latino descent and who have demonstrated a commitment to working with the Latino community or who can demonstrate a desire and capability to work on the issue of Latino childhood obesity. Research proposals submitted by junior investigators will be considered separately from proposals that are submitted by more experienced investigators. A maximum of twenty grants will be awarded through this single funding opportunity. Grants of up to \$75,000 each, including indirect costs, will be awarded for a period of up to twenty-four months. The submission deadline is February 6, 2009. Visit the RWJF Web site for the complete Call For Proposals: <http://www.salud-america.org/> .

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 13 – The Bronx Forum (a partnership of Hostos Community College and the Jewish Relations Council of NY/CAUSE-NY) invites professionals and community leaders to a panel discussion: *Youth and Public Safety: Keeping Our Kids Safe*. It will be held at Hostos Community College - Savoy Building, Multipurpose Room, 2nd Floor from 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon (registration at 8:30 AM). Topics to be discussed are: gangs, bullying, internet predators, domestic violence, sexual abuse and LGBT discrimination. There will be a \$20 registration fee that may be paid at the day of the event. RSVP: <http://www.communityuplink.net/safety.htm> .

January 14 – AHRC of New York City Family Education Series will present a free workshop: How to Access Appropriate Educational Services for Your Child with Autism. It will be held in the AHRC Main Office – Penthouse, 83 Maiden Lane, New York 10038 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. It is easy to become overwhelmed when you have been told your child has autism spectrum disorder. Families have to navigate a new world of doctors, educators, and service delivery systems. This workshop, presented by Christopher Trieber, LMSW, Director of AHRC's

Advocacy Services will help parents understand the array of services available. Families will be provided with the knowledge and tools needed to advocate for their child. Light refreshments will be served. They are unable to provide childcare for this session. RSVP to Donna Gifford 212-780-2713 or email: donna.gifford@ahrcnyc.org or call Jennifer Amendola 212-895-3446, or email Jennifer.emendola@ahrcnyc.org.

January 15 – The **Hunter College School of Education's Leadership Center** will sponsor an *Developing Emotional Literacy in Schools* panel to be held at Hunter College of CUNY, 68th Street and Lexington Avenue, West Building, 8th floor Faculty Dining Room from 4:30 PM – 7:00 PM. The emphasis will be on the importance of developing five key skills (recognizing, understanding, labeling, expressing, and regulating emotion to which we ascribe the acronym RULER) to enhance key outcomes, including: caring relationships, mental and physical health, positive behavior, leadership skills, and academic performance. There will be a presentation by Marc A. Brackett, Ph.D., Department of Psychology, Yale University. Educators from New York City's Community School District 75, The Roman Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of Brooklyn and Queens, and Long Island will join Dr. Brackett to share experiences with emotional literacy in their schools. Please RSVP to Dr. Janet Patti at jpatti@hunter.cuny.edu. Include name, position and contact information in your email. There is no cost for NYCASCD members. Attendees will pay a nominal fee of \$10.00. We will waive fees for those who choose to become a member. NYCASCD fees are \$30.00 for working professionals and \$20.00 for student members.

January 20 – 2009 Presidential Inauguration – Celebrate the historic inauguration of the 44th President of the United States with your community, friends, and family as Symphony Space opens its doors for free starting at 10:00 AM to the public and invites everyone in to watch the day's festivities on the big screen. It will certainly be a day to remember, so take part in a way that you won't soon forget! Pack a lunch, order in, or enjoy light snacks and beverages available for purchase at Symphony Space, 2537 Broadway @ 95th St, New York, NY 10025.

January 22 – the *Spring 2009 Mentoring Supervisor Certificate Program* starts. It is administered by **Big Brothers Big Sisters of New York City's Center for Training and Professional Development**, in conjunction with **Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service**. It is designed for youth practitioners and social service professionals to assist their organizations in developing, implementing, expanding, or improving a mentoring program. This 32-hour course combines theory and research taught by Fordham University Graduate School faculty with the best practices, standards and research of the first mentoring organization in the nation-Big Brothers Big Sisters of New York City. The MSCP sessions have been approved by the New York State NASW Continuing Education Committee. 32 CEU credits will be available to participants who are social workers. Participants choose from the 16-week Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning program. Classes are held at the Fordham University Lincoln Center Campus and BBBS of NYC, 245 Fifth Avenue, Suite 702. There is a graduation ceremony for all graduates at the end of each semester. **JPMorgan Chase Fellowship Program:** Scholarships are offered to community-based agency professionals who apply to the Mentoring Supervisor Certificate Program. While there are still fellowships available, you must act quickly! For questions about the Mentoring Supervisor Certificate Program please contact Julia Schwartz, Education and Legislation Manager, at: 212-686-2042 x108.

January 31 – *Special Camp Fair* Presented by **Resources for Children with Special Needs, Inc.** Parents and caregivers of children and teens with disabilities can plan ahead for summer with the wealth of information offered at the 24th annual free Special Camp Fair from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle, (Entrance to Fair on Columbus Ave. near W. 60th St.) NYC. For additional information, call (212) 677-4650, or go to: <http://www.resourcesnyc.org>.

RESOURCES

The **U.S. Department of Labor, Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives** and the **Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice**, in conjunction with the **Council of State Governments Justice Center**, announce the release of *Reentry Partnerships: A Guide for States & Faith-Based and Community Organization*. *Reentry Partnerships* is written for state government officials and representatives of faith-based and community organizations who want to create and sustain collaborative efforts to reduce recidivism and to help people returning to the community from prisons or jails lead productive and law-abiding lives. Project staff is in the process of developing a concise companion tool as a checklist for guide implementation and to facilitate discussions between government agencies and community-based providers to overcome barriers to coordinated reentry efforts. To download this guide please click here, go to www.dol.gov/cfbci and print copies, or order through NCJRS at www.ncjrs.gov (NCJ 224915).

Standard **HEAP** benefits are provided to assist low-income New Yorkers in paying for the cost of heating their homes. HEAP also provides emergency benefits to New Yorkers who are facing a heat or heat related energy emergency and do not have the available resources to meet the emergency. This winter season, New York's most vulnerable residents could receive as much as \$2,500 in aid to help heat their homes. A regular HEAP benefit will be available to those earning up to \$45,312 annually for a family of four up from \$43,308 last year. Last year, New York State issued \$273 million in HEAP benefits to more than 850,000 households. For further information about HEAP, including how to apply, please call OTDA's toll-free hotline at 1-800-342-3009 or visit the HEAP Web site: <http://www.otda.state.ny.us/main/heap/> . To find out if you are potentially eligible for HEAP assistance visit: www.myBenefits.ny.gov.

The **Census Bureau** will hire thousands of people around the nation to conduct the 2010 Census. The New York Region will open various temporary Early Local Census Offices (ELCOs) in down state New York and Northern New Jersey in late 2008. Hiring will begin in the fall of 2008 and early 2009. However, the majority of temporary Local Census Offices (LCOs) will open in late 2009 with peak hiring taking place in the spring of 2010. [Census](#)

[2010: Early Local Census Office Location & Position List](#)  [Census 2010: Early Regional Census Center Location & Position List](#) .

Join the **Crown Heights Community Mediation Center's Leadership Training Institute**. Strengthen your leadership skills with trainings on coalition building, community organizing, media strategies, fundraising, event planning, and networking. Meet and work with other leaders in Crown Heights. Collaborate with Institute members to plan a community-wide event. Applications are now available. For more information, contact: The Crown Heights mediation Center, 256 Kingston Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11213, 718-773-6886, or email: mspevack@crowheights.org .

Seedco Policy Center has released *From Work First to Worker Mobility: A Critical Review of Career Advancement Strategies*, which analyses career ladder programs for low-wage workers with Seedco's EarnMore program. To access it, go to: <http://www.seedco.org> .

This month **ACCESS NYC** is pleased to report that they have awarded all 545 ACCESS NYC terminals to organizations throughout the 5 boroughs! They look forward to working with their new partners to make their usage a success. This month they also highlight the various food and nutritional programs available on ACCESS NYC. There is an online application available for the School Meals program. This application will be available throughout the school year and can be used as students move into the school system and/or as families' financial situations change. Beginning in January, staff can attend hands-on training sessions on the ACCESS NYC terminals the 3rd Thursday of each month at 4 Metrotech Center in Brooklyn. To participate in one of these sessions please email accessnyc@hhsconnect.nyc.gov .

MDRC has produced *Helping Public Housing Residents Find and Keep Jobs*, which contains practical advice on implementing the Jobs-Plus Community Revitalization Initiative for Public Housing Families. To obtain the report, go to: <http://www.mdrc.org> .

Although many factors influence whether a child or adolescent is at risk for obesity, marketing has an especially powerful impact on the foods and beverages we consume, a new research brief from the **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** finds. Released as part of RWJF's *Health Eating Research* program, [Food and Beverage Marketing to Children and Adolescents: What Changes Are Needed to Promote Healthy Eating Habits? \(12 pages, PDF\)](#) <http://www.rwjf.org/files/research/20081103herfoodmarketing.pdf> notes that 98 percent of food advertisements viewed by children and 89 percent of advertisements viewed by adolescents were for products that were high in fat, sugar, or sodium. The brief also describes national regulations to protect youth from deceptive marketing practices and outlines the moves that some food and beverage companies have made to offer healthier options.

Current health services for adolescents are fragmented and poorly designed to meet the needs of the nation's adolescents, a new report from the **National Research Council and Institute for Medicine** finds. Sponsored by **Atlantic Philanthropies**, the report, *Adolescent Health Services: Missing Opportunities* (summary brief, 4 pages, PDF), finds that while most U.S. adolescents are healthy, many engage in risky behaviors, develop unhealthy habits, and have physical and mental conditions that can jeopardize their immediate and future health. Indeed, some young people, particularly those who are uninsured or underinsured, have little or no access to mainstream primary care services but rely instead on "safety net" settings such as hospitals and community centers for their care. Adolescents are in the age group most likely to rely on emergency departments for routine health care. Many adolescents experience gaps in care, and most do not have access to specialty services in substance abuse

treatment and mental, sexual, and oral health. The report recommends that federal and state agencies, foundations, and insurers work together to develop a healthcare system that fosters coordination between primary and specialty care providers. Such a system should include opportunities for adolescents to receive primary care services through safety-net settings such as hospitals and community health centers. The report's authors also urge policy makers to develop strategies that ensure all adolescents have comprehensive, continuous health insurance coverage. Go to: http://www.bocyf.org/ahc_brief.pdf to access the brief.

More foundations report increased non-monetary support to bolster the effectiveness of nonprofit organizations, using such means as convenings to share ideas and practices, training and technical assistance and strategic communications. This report by the **Center for Effective Philanthropy** addresses the effectiveness of such non-grant support and finds, among other things, that providing only a few types of assistance tends to be less effective than providing more comprehensive help. Accompanying the report's analysis and survey findings are three case studies of foundations that the authors say exemplify efforts for providing such non-grant assistance: the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving; Winter Park Health Foundation; and The Wallace Foundation. To access the report, go to: <http://www.wallacefoundation.org/Pages/default.aspx> .

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

The **Point Foundation**, a scholarship-granting organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans-gender students of merit, has announced the opening of its 2009 application season. Students who will be enrolled in undergraduate or graduate programs for the 2009-10 school year are eligible to apply for the multiyear scholarships. The scholarship program's selection criteria include academic excellence, leadership skills, community involvement, and financial need. Particular attention is paid to students who have lost the financial and social support of their families and/or communities as a result of revealing their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. On average, a *Point Scholarship* awards \$13,200 in direct financial support, in addition to leadership training and mentoring. The average amount of annual support devoted to each scholar is between \$26,000 and \$31,000. In return, Point Scholars agree to maintain a high level of academic performance and to give back to the LGBT community through the completion of an individual community service project each year. In addition, scholars are matched with mentors from the professional world who lend their expertise and career guidance and serve as role models. The scholarship application deadline is February 9, 2009. For further information and application guidelines, visit the Point Foundation Web site: <http://pointfoundation.org/> .

Civic Ventures recognizes people over 60 who are taking on society's biggest challenges. The *Purpose Prize* awards individuals who are channeling their creativity and talent to address critical social problems at the local, regional, national or international level. Nominees should have passion and experience to discover new opportunities, create new programs, and make lasting change. Winners may work in public, private, nonprofit, or for-profit organizations devoted to tackling the hardest challenges of our time: Homelessness, social justice and human rights, violence, poverty and hunger, health, education and the environment. Five awards of \$100,000 and five awards of \$50,000 will be given. The deadline to submit nominations is March 9, 2009. For further information, go to: <http://www.purposeprize.org/index.cfm> .

Columbia Business School's Executive Education Division has announced that, working with scholars from Cambridge University, it will host the *Ariane de Rothschild Fellows Program: Dialogue & Social Entrepreneurship*, in the summer of 2009. The program, now accepting applications, aims to develop a net-work of social entrepreneurs with an interest in fostering a culture of mutual respect and dialogue among Jewish and Muslim communities. Participants will complete an activity-driven social entrepreneurship curriculum, receive training in cross-cultural dialogue and leadership, and gain exposure to state-of-the-art scholarship. The program will take place July 13-24, 2009, on the Columbia University campus. Participation is by application only. "Social entrepreneurs" -- those who aim to effect positive social impact through innovative market-based solutions to urgent social problems -- from all sectors are encouraged to apply. Entrepreneurs should have already created their organization and be engaged in the early stages of development (one to four years), and must demonstrate an interest in fostering dialogue among Jewish and Muslim communities. Eligible participants must reside in the United States, United Kingdom, and/or France, or operate their venture from these countries. All travel expenses and accommodations will be provided by the Edmond de Rothschild Foundation. The application deadline is January 30, 2009. For more information about the program, visit the Columbia Web site: <http://www.gsb/columbia.edu/execed> .

The **Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute** (CHCI) – the nation's premier Hispanic educational and youth leadership development organization – is seeking applications for its nationally acclaimed programs: 1) *Graduate & Young Professionals Fellowship Program* (application deadline is February 13, 2009;) 2) *Public Policy Fellowship Program* (application deadline is February 13, 2009;) and the 3) *Scholarship Program* (application deadline is April 16, 2009.) This information is also available at <http://www.chci.org> .