

***THE DELAWARE VALLEY MINORITY
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT CONSORTIUM***



**2010-11
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE**

***“BE HEARD!
VOICE, QUESTIONS, ANSWERS,
KNOWLEDGE, POWER”***

December 3, 2010



**University of Pennsylvania
Sheraton University City Hotel
Philadelphia, PA**

**2010-11
FALL HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
PROGRAM**

**8:15-8:45 REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
Lower Lobby**

**9:00-9:15 WELCOME
Ben Franklin Ballroom 2-3-4-5**

Dr. Robert L. Jarvis, Director of the Delaware Valley Minority Student Achievement Consortium
Penn Center for Educational Leadership Graduate School of Education
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA

**9:15-10:00 KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Ben Franklin Ballroom 2-3-4-5**

Introduction
Dr. Robert L. Jarvis
University of Pennsylvania

***“BE HEARD!
VOICE, QUESTIONS, ANSWERS, KNOWLEDGE, POWER”***



**Mr. Carlos Ojeda, President and CEO
CoolSpeak
Pottsgrove, PA**

Carlos has been called one of the most dynamic speakers under thirty in America today and the remarkable journey of his life began in the streets of Newark, New Jersey and later to Reading, Pennsylvania where his immigrant parents saw opportunities for themselves and for their first generation Puerto Rican children.

Growing up for Carlos proved to be a difficult task, especially in school. Not understanding his social, economic and cultural background, many of his high school teachers told him he would never amount to anything. One teacher once called him, "the greatest piece of garbage he had ever seen." Yet his drive, passion and dreams led him to overcome those obstacles and pursue a career of life-long learning and educational success, being the first person in his family to graduate from college with honors. His experiences have led him to always remind young people to, "never, ever, ever let anyone tell you who you are or what you will become. That's your destiny to fulfill, no one else's."

Carlo's obsession with living life completely and passionately is only rivaled by his desire to share his message. Because of this he has become a published writer, poet and speaker. He lives his life according to the saying, "life is not measured by the breaths that you take, but rather by the moments in life that take your breath away." And adds to it by proclaiming, "it doesn't matter how long you live, it matters what you do while you live."

It is his belief that human progress comes through the determined efforts to promote education, social activism and entrepreneurship in our youths. According to him, "every second that you live, every breath that you take, is a second and a breath that you have to turn it all around." He sees now as the time to transform the youth into leaders of today, not tomorrow.

Carlos received his bachelor's degree in Business Management with a Minor in Marketing and a Minor in Law from Bloomsburg University, and his Master's in Business Administration with a focus in business development, entrepreneurship and organization development from Kutztown University.

10:05-11:25 MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS

1. "SCHOOL OR EDUCATION: THE CHOICE IN YOURS!"

PRESENTER: Mr. Edgar Mitchell, Assessment Coordinator, Eastern University Charter School and Co-Founder, B.E.S.T. (Building Educational Success Together) Academics
Philadelphia, PA

ROOM: Chestnut

SESSION DESCRIPTION: Many believe that getting a good education is the true purpose for going school. In fact, it is the law which provides the grounds of the formal education system in the United States. The benefit of earning a diploma or degree provides an individual with society's recognition which states that with such achievements, a person is able to follow directions and complete a task; traits desired by every employer from the small business to large corporate organizations. In this workshop, "SCHOOL OR EDUCATION: The Choice is Yours," Mr. Mitchell speaks to each participant about the importance of what it really takes for someone to be successful in life referring to a term he has coined in the acronym: B.U.I.L.D. -- an educationally-centered lifestyle. The goal of this session to empower each student with insights of how one must maximize every experience in life as a tool for moving one step closer towards their passions and ultimately to a place where notion of merely "going to school" ends and the boundless road of education begins.

2. "NO BOYS ALLOWED: UNDERSTANDING THE CHALLENGES OF BEING A YOUNG WOMAN OF COLOR IN HIGH SCHOOL"

PRESENTER: Dr. Crystal Lucky, Associate Professor of English, Africana Studies and Women Studies
Villanova University
Villanova, PA

ROOM: William Penn 1

SESSION DESCRIPTION: Today, the media messages aimed at girls and young women are mixed. You can be and do anything you want! The sky is the limit for women to achieve! But there seem to be many models from which to choose for examples. It is not uncommon for young women to wonder if they should try to be like Michelle Obama or Beyonce, Oprah or Sanaa Lathan.

Is it possible for young women of color to be smart, strong, sexy and responsible all at the same time? In this session, we will talk about all these questions and the challenges of knowing the best choices to make to achieve success.

3. “CODE SWITCHING OR KEEPING IT REAL? A CONVERSATION ON STANDARD ENGLISH VS ETHNIC SLANG AND HOW IT MAY AFFECT YOU”

PRESENTERS: Mrs. Andrea Lawful-Trainer, Educational Consultant and Parent
Mrs. Robyn Tucker, Parent
Abington, PA

ROOM: Ben Franklin 1

SESSION DESCRIPTION: This workshop is designed to be a spirited conversation between the youth and the two facilitators on the merits/ consequences of speaking in a manner that may be misconstrued as negative or “trash” talking. When is it appropriate? Are you losing your identity if you “Code Switch?” The presenters are parents of teenagers who sit on both sides of the spectrum and will keep you laughing while giving you food for thought on why first impressions are often lasting ones. Come and discuss with these adults how you can remain true to yourself and keep your identity in an increasingly competitive school environment without being perceived as offensive.

4. “DISCOVERING YOUR PURPOSE AND PASSION”

PRESENTERS: Mr. Omar Barlow and Mrs. Jeneen Barlow
Barlow Enterprises: *Work. Love. Live. BE More Excellent*
Cheltenham, PA

ROOM: University 1

SESSION DESCRIPTION: Many have defined success in terms of money, possessions, prestige, and status. Yet, while in desperate pursuit of these things many still find themselves dissatisfied and discontent. Meanwhile, others experience internal frustration because they fall into the trap of “constant activity” in an effort to survive or find happiness. Instead of attempting to live in accordance with these false ideas of success and in silent frustration, people need to commit to discover and fulfill their life’s purpose.

The greatest men and women are very clear about their purpose. They know that their lives are extremely significant. Knowing it, they intentionally seek to uniquely express their passions, gifts, and talents. The discovery of their reason for existence enables them to transcend countless barriers to success. This process equips you to acquire the keys to discovering your purpose. You will learn why the fulfillment of purpose is the ultimate measure of success. Once you learn these essential principles, your entire perspective will change, and so will your life!!!

5. “MY CONFIDENCE + (MY CHOICES) – MY HATERS = MY SUCCESS: WHAT I NEED TO KNOW TO SUCCEED.”

PRESENTER: Dr. Chuck Williams, Assistant Clinical Professor of Education
Drexel University
Philadelphia, PA

ROOM: Fairmount 2

SESSION DESCRIPTION: In this session we will explore and discuss issues of bullying and self-esteem. The popular conception of minority achievement will also be explored, using President Barack Obama and rapper T. I. as two different models of achievement. We will also view a few popular music videos to determine what types of messages are being presented and/or reinforced, and the impact they have on how you think about your own success, in the classroom and in life. Youth will also have an opportunity to share their successes, with the hopes of inspiring their peers.

6. “I AM...A SUPER HERO”

PRESENTER: Mr. Joey Negron
CoolSpeak
Reading, PA

ROOM: University 2

SESSION DESCRIPTION: This workshop will bring out the “SUPER POWER” in those of you who respect what super heroes such as Batman or Wonder Woman stand for. This workshop is tailor-made to inspire you to “Step Up” instead of “Backing Down” while facing today’s societal challenges. You will “rally” together as one to battle various negative problems that are ongoing in our society such as hate crime, abuse, discrimination, school drop outs, teen pregnancy, and gang violence. This empowering workshop will help you develop a positive self-identity of who you are and what “Super Powers” you have that could shine a light upon the dark side of life in our country today.

**11:30-12:15 LUNCH AND STUDENT MIX AND MINGLE
Ben Franklin Ballroom 2-3-4-5**

**12:15- 1:45 “LET GO THE HATE 2 ELEVATE”
SPECIAL SESSION WITH CARLOS OJEDA AND
ERNESTO MEJIA**

Ben Franklin Ballroom 2-3-4-5



Carlos Ojeda, Jr.



Ernesto Mejia

1:45- 2:00 WORLD CAFÉ WRAPUP- FINAL REFLECTIONS

2:00 BUSES DEPART

Special thanks to Mrs. Andrea Wilson-Harvey and Mrs. Carla Coleman- Lower Merion School District, Ms. Yanell Holiday- Cherry Hill Public Schools, Kim Jackson- Upper Merion School District and Ms. Nichole Mitchell- Norristown Area School District for their leadership in organizing this event with support of many dedicated teachers, counselors and school administrators from our other Delaware Valley Minority Student Achievement Consortium school districts.

***2010-11 Delaware Valley Minority Student Achievement Consortium Member
School Districts, County Intermediate Units and State Education Association***

Abington School District
Amy Sichel, Superintendent
Abington, PA

Allentown Area School District
Jerry Zahorchak, Superintendent
Allentown, PA

Bensalem Township School District
William Gretzula, Superintendent
Bensalem, PA

Brandywine School District NJ
Mark Holodick, Superintendent
Claymont, DE

Burlington Co. Institute of Technology
Delores Szymanski, Superintendent
Westhampton,, NJ

Cheltenham School District
Darlene Davis, Superintendent
Elkins Park, PA

Cherry Hill Public Schools
David Campbell, Superintendent
Cherry Hill, NJ

Chester County IU # 24
Joe O'Brien, Executive Director
Downingtown, PA

Downingtown Area School District
Lawrence Mussoline, Superintendent
Downingtown, PA

Easton Area School District
Susan McGinley, Superintendent
Easton, PA

Hatboro-Horsham School District
Curtis Griffin, Superintendent
Horsham, PA

Kennett Consolidated School District
Barry Tomasetti, Superintendent
Kennett Square, PA

Lindenwold Public Schools
Geraldine Carroll, Superintendent
Lindenwold, NJ

Lenape Regional School District
Emily Capella, Superintendent
Shamong, NJ

Lower Merion School District
Christopher McGinley, Superintendent
Ardmore, PA

Methacton School District
Tim Quinn, Superintendent
Eagleville, PA

Montgomery County IU #23
Jerry Shiveley, Executive Director
Norristown, PA

Norristown Area School District
Janet Samuels, Superintendent
Norristown, PA

North Penn School District
Curtis Dietrich, Superintendent
Lansdale, PA

Pennsylvania State Education Association
James Testerman, President
Michael Crossey, President-Elect
Jerry Oleksiak, Treasurer
Linda Cook, Southeastern Region President
James Sando, Mideastern Region President
Harrisburg, PA

Perkiomen Valley School District
Cliff Rogers, Superintendent
Collegeville, PA

Rancocas Valley Regional HS District
Mike Moskalski, Superintendent
Mt. Holly, NJ

Rose Tree Media School District
Denise Kerr, Superintendent
Media, PA

Springfield School District
Jim Capalupo, Superintendent
Springfield, PA

Southeast Delco School District
Stephen Butz, Superintendent
Folcroft, PA

Upper Dublin School District
Michael Pladus, Superintendent
Maple Glen, PA

Upper Merion School District
Melissa Jamula, Superintendent
King of Prussia, PA

West Chester Area School District
Jim Scanlon, Superintendent
West Chester, PA

West Windsor-Plainsboro SD
Victoria Kniewel, Superintendent
Princeton Junction, NJ

Wissahickon School District
Judith Clark, Superintendent
Ambler, PA