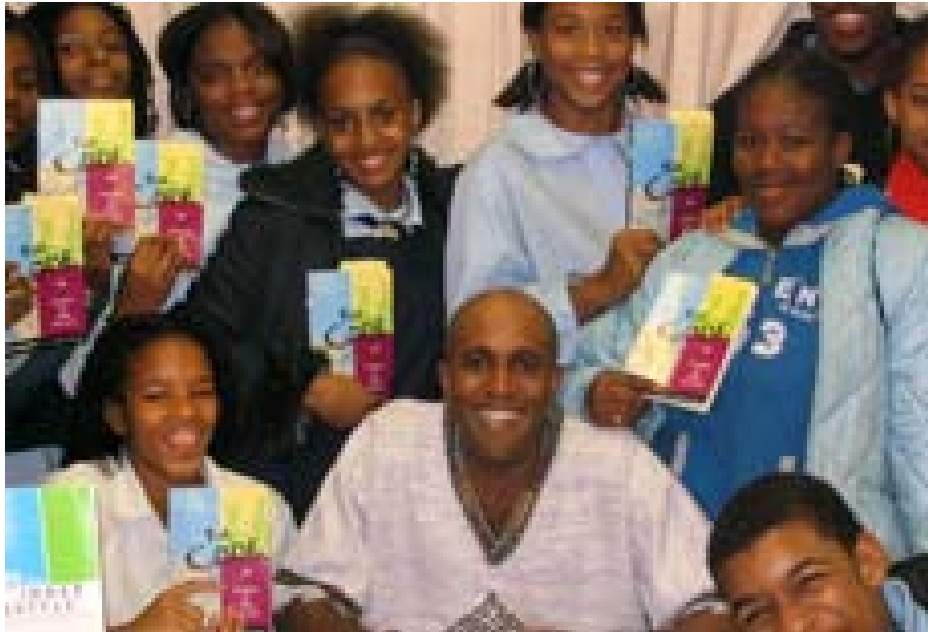


THE DELAWARE VALLEY MINORITY STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT CONSORTIUM



**SPRING 2009
MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE**

“POWER UP YOUR FUTURE”

February 6, 2009



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

SPRING 2009 DVMSAC MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE PROGRAM

8:00- 8:45 **REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL
BREAKFAST**
Lower Lobby

8:45- 9:00 **WELCOME**
Ben Franklin Ballroom 3-4-5

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

9:00- 9:55 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**
Ben Franklin Ballroom 3-4-5

*Introduction
Mrs. Alyse S. Halpin
Kennett Consolidated School District*

“UNLOCK THE POWER WITHIN YOU”



***Mr. Mawi Asgedom, Youth Educator and Author
Chicago, IL***

Mawi Asgedom has written four books that are used in thousands of classrooms across North America and spoken to over 500,000 students and educators. A nationally recognized youth educator, Mawi is the founder of Mental Karate, a training organization that challenges youth to create their own inspiring journeys.

As a child, Mawi fled a civil war in Ethiopia and survived a Sudanese refugee camp for three years. After being resettled in The United States, Mawi overcame welfare, language barriers and personal tragedy to graduate from Harvard University.

Mawi's bestselling memoir, *Of Beetles and Angels: A Boy's Remarkable Journey from a Refugee Camp to Harvard*, has been read as a one-book, one-community reading selection by hundreds of schools and communities, including the cities of Philadelphia and Green Bay. His teen-success guides, *The Code*, *Win the Inner Battle*, and *Nothing is Impossible*, have also been used in thousands of classrooms. Citing the impact of his work, The Illinois Association of Teachers of English named Mawi the 2006 Illinois Author of the Year. Many prominent media outlets have featured

Mawi including:

- The Oprah Winfrey Show, "One of the Twenty Best Shows of Oprah's Career"
- *ESSENCE*, one of "The 40 Most Inspiring African-Americans"
- *Ebony*, one of "30 Black Leaders Under 30"
- *Chicago Tribune*, *The Boston Globe*, *Harvard Magazine*

A graduate of the Kellogg School of Management, Mawi has also inspired audiences at Bank of America, Chase, Accenture, Kraft, Time Warner and other leading corporations.

10:05- 10:55 BREAKOUT SESSION 1

1. "MENTAL KARATE: THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ABOUT YOU IS THE WAY YOU THINK."

PRESENTER: Mr. Mawi Asgedom, Youth Educator and Author
Chicago, IL

ROOM: University Suite

SESSION DESCRIPTION: One does not "unlock the power within" by talking about it or reading about it. One unlocks the power within by APPLYING it. In this session, Mawi will challenge you to identify ways that you can show initiative, discipline, and courage. You will also learn how you can create new, spectacular results by harnessing the power of your mind.

2. "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, Account Manager for GMAC and Parent
Abington School District
Elkins Park, 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.

3. "LESSONS WE HAVE LEARNED: FINDING & MAKING TIME FOR SUCCESS"

PRESENTERS: High School Student Leaders
Sierra Council
Stephen Jones
Donald Peyton
Jasmine Roberts
Amelia Washington
Terrance White
Ms. Fonda Akins and Ms. Kristan Jones, Teachers
Springfield High School
Springfield School District
Springfield, PA

ROOM: Ben Franklin 2

SESSION DESCRIPTION: Student leaders from Springfield High School will come together to share the do's and don'ts of navigating the sometimes slippery slopes of high school. The panel will discuss their own successes and struggles as well as give survival tips geared toward how their middle school audience might learn from their experiences. This workshop is student-centered, and will include interactive discussion and time for questions.

4. “ETHNIC NOTIONS OF THE MIND: AFRICAN AMERICAN STEREOTYPES AND CULTURAL LEADERSHIP”

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

ROOM: William Penn Suite

SESSION DESCRIPTION: In this session, we will investigate the origins of African American stereotypes and consider their legacy in contemporary American culture. The session will ask students to think about visual and literary examples in their everyday lives and will require some reading, writing, and small group discussion. Students should come to the session with a pen or pencil.

5. “DREAMING BIG DOESN’T STOP WHEN THE DREAM ENDS”

PRESENTERS: Mr. Steven Gonzalez, Sales Manager
Mr. Khary Sharpe, Account Executive
Clear Channel Communications Media (POWER 99 FM)
Philadelphia, PA

ROOM: Chestnut

SESSION DESCRIPTION: We all have dreams...Whether you are a student in Middle School or an adult on the job, you dream about a hopeful future for yourself (As the saying goes..."If You Don't Have Good Dreams, You Have Nightmares!"). As students and as adults, most of us desire SUCCESS and ACHIEVEMENT, and hold out the hope that our work will give us the chance to realize those dreams.

Come join Mr. Gonzalez and Mr. Sharpe for an engaging session as they share their journeys toward life success and satisfaction as a Local Sales Manager, and an Account Executive for Power 99 FM, and challenge you to discover your interests, values and passions that will guide you toward your own life success. Your dreams don't have to stop once you grow up - in fact, it's your ability and passion to keep your dreams alive that will help you find the one thing in life that you will love to do.

6. “THE POWER OF THE SPOKEN WORD”

PRESENTER: Mr. Christo Johnson, Educator and Author
Lansdowne, PA

ROOM: Fairmount 2

SESSION DESCRIPTION: This workshop will focus on the perseverance of African American culture, pursuing goals, and analyzing society through the art of spoken word poetry. Mr. Johnson will perform original poetry and engage students in conversations about their power to create change. Students will be encouraged to share their poetry at this workshop.

11:00- 11:55 BREAKOUT SESSION 2

1. “MENTAL KARATE: THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ABOUT YOU IS THE WAY YOU THINK.”

PRESENTER: Mr. Mawi Asgedom, Youth Educator and Author
Chicago, IL

ROOM: University Suite

SESSION DESCRIPTION: One does not “unlock the power within” by talking about it or reading about it. One unlocks the power within by APPLYING it. In this session, Mawi will challenge you to identify ways that you can show initiative, discipline, and courage. You will also learn how you can create new, spectacular results by harnessing the power of your mind.

2. “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, Account Manager for GMAC and Parent
Abington School District
Elkins Park, 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.

3. “ETHNIC NOTIONS OF THE MIND: AFRICAN AMERICAN STEREOTYPES AND CULTURAL LEADERSHIP”

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

ROOM: William Penn Suite

SESSION DESCRIPTION: In this session, we will investigate the origins of African American stereotypes and consider their legacy in contemporary American culture. The session will ask students to think about visual and literary examples in their everyday lives and will require some reading, writing, and small group discussion. Students should come to the session with a pen or pencil.

4. “LESSONS WE HAVE LEARNED: FINDING & MAKING TIME FOR SUCCESS”

PRESENTERS: High School Student Leaders
Sierra Council
Stephen Jones
Donald Peyton
Jasmine Roberts
Amelia Washington
Terrance White
Ms. Fonda Akins and Ms. Kristan Jones, Teachers
Springfield High School
Springfield School District
Springfield, PA

ROOM: Ben Franklin 2

SESSION DESCRIPTION: Student leaders from Springfield High School will come together to share the do’s and don’ts of navigating the sometimes slippery slopes of high school. The panel will discuss their own successes and struggles as well as give survival tips geared toward how their middle school audience might learn from their experiences. This workshop is student-centered, and will include interactive discussion and time for questions.

5. “DREAMING BIG DOESN’T STOP WHEN THE DREAM ENDS”

PRESENTERS: Mr. Steven Gonzalez, Sales Manager
Mr. Khary Sharpe, Account Executive
Clear Channel Communications Media (POWER 99 FM)
Philadelphia, PA

ROOM: Chestnut

SESSION DESCRIPTION: We all have dreams...Whether you are a student in Middle School or an adult on the job, you dream about a hopeful future for yourself (As the saying goes..."If You Don't Have Good Dreams, You Have Nightmares!"). As students and as adults, most of us desire SUCCESS and ACHIEVEMENT, and hold out the hope that our work will give us the chance to realize those dreams.

Come join Mr. Gonzalez and Mr. Sharpe for an engaging session as they share their journeys toward life success and satisfaction as a Local Sales Manager, and an Account Executive for Power 99 FM, and challenge you to discover your interests, values and passions that will guide you toward your own life success. Your dreams don't have to stop once you grow up - in fact, it's your ability and passion to keep your dreams alive that will help you find the one thing in life that you will love to do.

6. "THE POWER OF THE SPOKEN WORD"

PRESENTER: Mr. Christo Johnson, Educator and Author
Lansdowne, PA

ROOM: Fairmount 2

SESSION DESCRIPTION: This workshop will focus on the perseverance of African American culture, pursuing goals, and analyzing society through the art of spoken word poetry. Mr. Johnson will perform original poetry and engage students in conversations about their power to create change. Students will be encouraged to share their poetry at this workshop.

**12:00--12:45 LUNCH, MIX AND MINGLE AND GROUP PHOTOS
Ben Franklin 3-4-5**

12:50- 1:45 BREAKOUT SESSION 3

1. "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, Account Manager for GMAC and Parent
Abington School District
Elkins Park, 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.

2. "LESSONS WE HAVE LEARNED: FINDING & MAKING TIME FOR SUCCESS"

PRESENTERS: High School Student Leaders
Sierra Council
Stephen Jones
Donald Peyton
Jasmine Roberts
Amelia Washington
Terrance White
Ms. Fonda Akins and Ms. Kristan Jones, Teachers
Springfield High School
Springfield School District
Springfield, PA

ROOM: Ben Franklin 2

SESSION DESCRIPTION: Student leaders from Springfield High School will come together to share the do's and don'ts of navigating the sometimes slippery slopes of high school. The panel will discuss their own successes and struggles as well as give survival tips geared toward how their middle school audience might learn from their experiences. This workshop is student-centered, and will include interactive discussion and time for questions.

3. “ETHNIC NOTIONS OF THE MIND: AFRICAN AMERICAN STEREOTYPES AND CULTURAL LEADERSHIP”

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

ROOM: William Penn Suite

SESSION DESCRIPTION: In this session, we will investigate the origins of African American stereotypes and consider their legacy in contemporary American culture. The session will ask students to think about visual and literary examples in their everyday lives and will require some reading, writing, and small group discussion. Students should come to the session with a pen or pencil.

4. “DREAMING BIG DOESN'T STOP WHEN THE DREAM ENDS”

PRESENTERS: Mr. Steven Gonzalez, Sales Manager
Mr. Khary Sharpe, Account Executive
Clear Channel Communications Media (POWER 99 FM)
Philadelphia, PA

ROOM: Chestnut

SESSION DESCRIPTION: We all have dreams...Whether you are a student in Middle School or an adult on the job, you dream about a hopeful future for yourself (As the saying goes..."If You Don't Have Good Dreams, You Have Nightmares!"). As students and as adults, most of us desire SUCCESS and ACHIEVEMENT, and hold out the hope that our work will give us the chance to realize those dreams.

Come join Mr. Gonzalez and Mr. Sharpe for an engaging session as they share their journeys toward life success and satisfaction as a Local Sales Manager, and an Account Executive for Power 99 FM, and challenge you to discover your interests, values and passions that will guide you toward your own life success. Your dreams don't have to stop once you grow up - in fact, it's your ability and passion to keep your dreams alive that will help you find the one thing in life that you will love to do.

5. “THE POWER OF THE SPOKEN WORD”

PRESENTER: Mr. Christo Johnson, Educator and Author
Lansdowne, PA

ROOM: Fairmount 2

SESSION DESCRIPTION: This workshop will focus on the perseverance of African American culture, pursuing goals, and analyzing society through the art of spoken word poetry. Mr. Johnson will perform original poetry and engage students in conversations about their power to create change. Students will be encouraged to share their poetry at this workshop.

6. “THE ART AND SCIENCE OF TEACHING: THINKING ABOUT TEACHING AS A CAREER”

PRESENTERS: Mrs. Lynne Partridge, Gifted Support Teacher
Mrs. Andrea Wilson-Harvey, Special Education Teacher
Mr. Jason Fritz, HS English Teacher
Lower Merion School District
Ardmore, PA

ROOM: University Suite

SESSION DESCRIPTION: Teaching is a special calling that demands intellect, commitment and caring. Think about a teacher who has touched your life...do you have some of those qualities? This workshop will focus on thinking about teaching as a career, and discuss the top ten reasons to

teach. Participants will also learn about a number of specialties in teaching at the preschool, elementary, secondary and post secondary level. If you enjoy helping others, come find out if you have what it takes to teach and make a difference in someone's life!

**1:50- 2:30 WORLD CAFE
Ben Franklin 3-4-5**

2:30- 2:45 BUSES DEPART

Special thanks to Mrs. Alyce Halpin, Kennett Consolidated School District Mr. David Poindexter, Cheltenham Township School District, and Mrs. Lynne Partridge and Mrs. Bernice Green, Lower Merion School District for their leadership in organizing this event with support of many dedicated teachers, counselors and school administrators from our Delaware Valley Minority Student Achievement Consortium school districts

2008-09

**Delaware Valley Minority Student Achievement Consortium
Member School Districts and Affiliate County Intermediate Units**

Abington School District

Amy Sichel, Superintendent
Abington, PA

Brandywine School District

James Scanlon, Superintendent
Claymont, DE

Centennial School District

Sandy Homel, Interim Superintendent
Warminster, PA

Cherry Hill Public Schools

David Campbell, Superintendent
Cherry Hill, NJ

Hatboro-Horsham School District

William Lessa, Superintendent
Horsham, PA

Lenape Regional High School District

Emily Capella, Superintendent
Shamong, NJ

Lindenwold Public Schools

Geraldine Carroll, Superintendent
Lindenwold, NJ

Moorestown Township Public Schools

John Bach, Superintendent
Moorestown, NJ

North Penn School District

Robert Hassler, Superintendent
Lansdale, PA

Princeton Regional Schools

Judith Wilson, Superintendent
Princeton, NJ

Rose Tree Media School District

Denise Kerr, Superintendent
Media, PA

Springfield Township School District

Roseann Nyiri, Superintendent
Oreland, PA

Upper Merion School District

Melissa Jamula, Superintendent
King of Prussia, PA

West Chester Area School District

Linda Antonowich, Interim Superintendent
West Chester, PA

Bensalem Township School District

James Lombardo, Superintendent
Bensalem, PA

Bristol Township School District

Ellen Budman, Superintendent
Levittown, PA

Cheltenham Township School District

William Kiefer, Superintendent
Elkins Park, PA

Collingswood School District

Scott Oswald, Superintendent
Collingswood, NJ

Kennett Consolidated School District

Rudy Karkosak, Superintendent
Kennett Square, PA

Lower Merion School District

Christopher McGinley, Superintendent
Ardmore, PA

Morrisville Borough School District

Elizabeth Yonson, Superintendent
Morrisville, PA

Norristown Area School District

Janet Samuels, Superintendent
Norristown, PA

Perkiomen Valley School District

Cliff Rogers, Superintendent
Collegeville, PA

Springfield School District

James Capalupo, Superintendent
Springfield, PA

Upper Dublin School District

Michael Pladus, Superintendent
Maple Glen, PA

Wissahickon School District

Judith Clark, Superintendent
Ambler, PA

West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District

Victoria Kniewel, Superintendent
Princeton Junction, NJ

Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22

Barry Gallaso, Executive Director
Doylestown, PA

Delaware County Intermediate Unit #25

Lawrence O'Shea, Executive Director
Morton, PA

Chester County Intermediate Unit # 24

Joe O'Brien, Executive Director
Downingtown, PA