



ANNUAL NEWSLETTER • 2007-2008

A program of the



HARTFORD CONSORTIUM
FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

High School Seniors Depend on Career Beginnings

Career Beginnings staff recently spoke with Career Beginner Shani Legore, a senior at Weaver High School. Shani is applying to a number of colleges in Connecticut.

How did you learn about Career Beginnings?

SL: I learned about the Career Beginnings Program through a friend.

What do you enjoy about Career Beginnings?

SL: I enjoy the fact that they offer workshops to help us academically and also they gave us the opportunity to have a mentor to help us with college.

How do you see benefiting from participating in Career Beginnings workshops with other high schools?

SL: I think it is a good interaction because it feels good to know that there are other students who have the same mentality to succeed in life.

Would you recommend Career Beginnings to other students? If so, please tell why.

SL: I would definitely tell other students about Career Beginnings because it is a program that offers the tools to get into a good college that is affordable and they help you along the way.

What advice would you give students who are considering joining Career Beginnings?

SL: The advice I would give is that they should be open-minded, respectful and dedicated to the program because it is a really helpful program that they grow in.

If you had to describe Career Beginnings in three words, what would they be?

SL: The three words that describe Career Beginnings are: resourceful, energetic and helpful. ■



Talented Volunteers Fulfill Many Roles in the Career Beginnings Program

Marissa Fee from Pratt & Whitney, Mark Gray from the CT Banking Commission and Dorian Long from the CT Dept of Social Services are shown with their appreciation plaques provided to outstanding volunteers working with the program. The awards were presented at the May 2008 graduation ceremony. The three were recognized because of their dedicated record of service either as a mentor or a workshop facilitator.

CLASS OF 2008: POST-HIGH SCHOOL PLANS



Student Speaker

Ashley Daley was one of the student speakers at the May 2008 graduation ceremony for seniors who completed the Career Beginnings Program. Ashley graduated from Weaver High School in 2008 and is now a student at Smith College.



Award for Representative Green

State Representative Kenneth Green was the keynote speaker at the Career Beginnings Graduation for the class of 2008. He is shown with Rosanne Druckman, Consortium Executive Director, who presented him with an award for his leadership and service to area youth.

BULKELEY HIGH SCHOOL

Evebonee Acosta – Capital Community College
 Johanna Acosta – Manchester Community College
 Mariama Dukulay – Capital Community College
 Yavonne Herndon – Eastern Connecticut State University
 Aris Lopez – Manchester Community College
 Garmai Morris – Central Connecticut State University
 Anais Rivera – Manchester Community College
 Ely Rodriguez – Capital Community College
 Jimena Sono-Ampuero – Capital Community College
 Patience Tennie – University of Connecticut

EAST HARTFORD HIGH SCHOOL

Mary Amofa – Saint Joseph College
 Ysabel Badimir – University of Hartford
 Meloney Bailey – University of Connecticut
 Jonathan Bates – University of Connecticut
 Megan Burke – University of Florida
 Stephanie Campbell – Clemens College
 Robert Closs – Eastern Connecticut State University
 Erica Gardner – University of Connecticut
 Dramere Graham – University of Connecticut
 Ebonei Grandville – Capital Community College
 Nicole Jones – Albertus Magnus College
 Andreama Leonard – University of Bridgeport
 Brittany Lightbody – Capital Community College
 Carmen Lopez – University of Hartford
 Karen Martinez – Central Connecticut State University
 Shabrielee Matias – University of Hartford
 Everton McGhan – Southern Connecticut State University
 Zuleika Medina – Southern Connecticut State University
 Nkiru Mills – University of Connecticut
 Ebony Minott – Eastern Connecticut State University
 Keishla Mota-Santos – Central Connecticut State University
 Nakeema Norwood – Capital Community College
 Tricia Nyarkoh – Southern Connecticut State University
 Sharaunda Pitt – Capital Community College
 Dashinay Pruitt – Central Connecticut State University
 Tiffany Teat – Capital Community College

HARTFORD PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Jackee Black – Capital Community College
 Christina Boyce – University of Connecticut
 Orquidea Burgos – Eastern Connecticut State University
 Deverau Dixon – Capital Community College
 Elias Gomez – Eastern Connecticut State University
 Laura Jimenez – Saint Joseph College
 Kayla Johnson – University of Connecticut
 Sherish A. McCoskie – University of Connecticut
 Natalie Roman – Capital Community College
 Dwayne Samuels – Manchester Community College
 Krystal Torres – University of Connecticut

A.I. PRINCE TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Stephanie Acevedo – Employment
 Don S. Altius – Art Institute of New York
 Michael Barnes – Tuskegee University
 James Bonilla – Barry University
 Vanessa Carter – Johnson and Wales
 Denton W. Clahar – Goodwin College
 Ben DeJesus – Employment
 Sandry DeJesus – Employment
 Shereka Dorman – Post University
 Renita Ellis – Saint Joseph College
 Taylor Harvey – Manchester Community College
 Kwain Heath – Manchester Community College
 Jasmine Johnson – Eastern Connecticut State University
 Cynthia Lemus – University of Connecticut
 Johnny Lugo – Central Connecticut State University
 Racquel Matthews – Capital Community College
 Cassilina McCants – Johnson & Wales, Miami Florida
 Calvin McFarlane – University of Connecticut
 Arlena Mitchell – Johnson & Wales, Miami, Florida
 Laura Pacheco – Manchester Community College
 Maricely Ponton – Goodwin College
 Victoria Reed – Virginia State University
 Jonathan Rivera – Employment (electrical trade)
 Alberto Rosado – University of Connecticut
 Taina Sanchez – U. S. Air Force
 Keisha L. Santiago – Goodwin College
 Keomy A. Sierra – Goodwin College
 Rosemarie Telleria – Employment
 Jesse Thomas – Central Connecticut State University
 Jessie Thomas – Central Connecticut State University
 Robert Williams – Central Connecticut State University
 Shamira Woodward – Johnson C. Smith, North Carolina

SPORTS & MEDICAL SCIENCE ACADEMY

Monique Francis – Albertus Magnus College
 Troy Hardy – University of Connecticut
 Adrienne Morgan – Saint Joseph College

UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

Laiyah Cortes – University of Connecticut
 Audacia Crawford – University of Hartford
 Sharae Gresham – Pennsylvania State University
 Byron Henderson – University of Connecticut
 Jasmine Jones – Manchester Community College
 Nadine Mahoney – Briarwood College
 Endonesia Octave – University of Hartford
 Nayleen Rivera – Manchester Community College
 Nicole Scott – Philadelphia University
 Nefertere Whittingham – Southern Connecticut State University

WEAVER HIGH SCHOOL

Ashley Daley – Smith College
 Shaniel Ellis – Employment
 Richard Hall – Employment
 Kareemah Muhammad – University of Connecticut
 Tricia Nicholas – Capital Community College
 Cheyenne Seatts – Capital Community College

MENTORS 2007-2008



Mentors Make a Difference

Sherry Ann Coelho, Vice President Relationship Management at Prudential Retirement and Career Beginnings mentor is shown with her student at the 2008 graduation. Her mentee, Keishla Mota-Santos, who graduated from East Hartford High School in 2008, is now a student at Central Connecticut State University.

AARP (American Association of Retired Persons)

Sherrie-Ann Gordon

AETNA

Kristen Coletto
Daniel Conroy, III

THE AMISTAD FOUNDATION AT THE WADSWORTH ATHENEUM

Rehema Barber
Monica Scott

CAMP DRESSER & MCKEE, INC.

Neill Hampton

CIGNA

Susan Adams
Barbra Canary
Elyse Darefsky
Jill DelBiondo
Rita Gan
Nicole Hester
Kevin Hutt
Kristin Jasinski
Cynthia Kellogg
Reginald St. Juste
Sarah Upson
Randy Walker
Jennifer Wetzel

CITIGROUP INC.

Anita Gillespie
Vanessa Harper

CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Estela Lopez

CORNERSTONE REAL ESTATE ADVISERS

Nahkia Henry

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Yolanda Leon

ESPN

Karen Mendes

GENERAL ELECTRIC

Jametta James

GOVERNOR'S PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP

Veronica Taylor

HARTFORD COURANT

Lynn Doan

HARTFORD LIFE INSURANCE

Barbara Scott
Yezenia Vega-Nigam

INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT

Richard Pearson

MCDONALD'S

Judy Young

MIDDLETOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Stephanie Wielgoszinski

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

Devon Johnson

PERCEPTION PROGRAMS, INC.

Melissa Doody

PERMANENT COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Lisa Smith-Overton

PRATT & WHITNEY

Kyle Craig
Marissa Fee
Marlon Long
Jerry McClam, III
Ashley Norris
Michael Okrah
Jennifer Thomas
Steven D. Townes
Phela Townsend
Tiffany Young

PRUDENTIAL

Sherry Coelho
Doug Ellis

Bradford Melius
Brenden Roche
Lynn Sharpe

RETIRED

Jannett Jennings

ROCKWELL SCHOOL

Damon Coachman

SS&C TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

Rasha Jones-Warren

SAINT JOSEPH COLLEGE

Leia Bell

SHAW'S PHARMACY

Dr. D'Shana Dorsey

SHIPMAN & GOODWIN LLP

Princess Wiggins

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Mikisha Bellamy
Lisa Cato

THE HARTFORD

Lisa Alberto-Calma
Janice Castle
Jennifer Fabrizio
Janee Folston
Shakora Gardener
Rachel George
Hope Johnson
Frank Miller
Ruth Torres

TRAVELERS PROPERTY CASUALTY

Sheryl Cole
Amy Gift
Maja Strbuncelj
Matt Termine

TRINITY COLLEGE

Alexis Surovov

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Patricia Harkins

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH CENTER

Beasha Bartlett
Devin Carney


WEST HARTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Maxine Smith



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Career Beginnings Staff as of December 2008
Carla Rodrigues Hawkins, *Student Advisor*
Antony Wormack, *Student Advisor*
Janet Suquilanda, *Staff Assistant*
Amanda Friedman, *Graduate Intern*
Katie Yates, *Graduate Intern*

 *Career Beginnings* is a program of the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education, a collaborative endeavor of the public and private colleges and universities in the Hartford area. Founded in 1972, the Consortium is a vehicle for the development of joint programs that serve students, faculty and the wider community.

Rosanne Druckman, *Executive Director*

HARTFORD CONSORTIUM FOR HIGHER EDUCATION MEMBERSHIP

Capital Community College
Central Connecticut State University
Goodwin College
Hartford Seminary
Rensselaer at Hartford
Saint Joseph College
Trinity College
University of Connecticut
University of Hartford

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Charter Oak State College
Saint Thomas Seminary

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The Hartford
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Webster Bank

Thank you!

COLLEGE LIAISONS

Career Beginnings would like to thank these college representatives for their help arranging workshops in 2007-2008.

Marsha Ball-Davis: *Capital Community College*
Joe Barber: *Trinity College*
Carlos Castillo: *Capital Community College*
Ramon Hernandez: *Central Connecticut State University*
Bettyanne Janelle: *Saint Joseph College*
Roseann Lezak Janow: *Hartford Seminary*
Lois Lindsey: *University of Hartford*
Awilda Reasco: *Central Connecticut State University*
Bea Rocker: *Hartford Seminary*
Dennis Seymour: *University of Connecticut*

In January 2009, Dr. Martin Estey joined the staff as the program manager for Career Beginnings. The Hartford Consortium thanks Dr. Blanca Reyes, Jane Gardner, Tyesha Wood and Fran Kallaugher for their service to the program.