



CMSD High Tech Academy students inducted into honor society

Cleveland — 28 Cleveland Metropolitan School District students enrolled in the district's High Tech Academy (HTA) were inducted into the international honor society for community college students, Phi Theta Kappa.

The high-achieving HTA high school students along with 24 additional traditional aged college students were inducted into Cuyahoga Community College's Alpha Zeta Delta Chapter.

The induction ceremony was held on Nov. 17 at the Metropolitan Campus of Tri-C.

Launched as a new and innovative educational initiative between Tri-C and the Cleveland Metropolitan School District during the 2000-2001 school year, and joined a year later by National City Bank (now PNC) and NASA, HTA is a dual enrollment program in which nearly 270 CMSD high school students attend a half-day of school at their home high

schools and then attend college classes on the Metropolitan Campus of Tri-C.

Since its inception more than 850 high school students have earned significant college credit prior to earning their high school diplomas, and many have been able to earn high grades in high school and college, simultaneously.

More than 50 HTA students have earned their associate degrees, while earning their high school diplomas.

Honor society induction ceremony keynote speaker, Mr. David Sigmund, adjunct faculty member at Stark State College, inducted into the honor society in fall 2005, reflected upon the four hallmarks of Phi Theta Kappa, scholarship, leadership, service and fellowship.

Sigmund passionately shared, "this is the greatest society for me."

You're in the top 2 percent of all college students in the United States. You should be proud, ex-

claimed Sigmund.

The keynote speaker encouraged the honorees take advantage of the opportunity to get involved, and be of service to your college or community.

Providing alumni remarks, Ms. Irina Novopoltseva, a 2004 inductee, congratulated the honorees and added, "hard work and extremely long hours at the library does pay off. I am proud to have begun my career at the Metropolitan Campus of Tri-C. You should be too. Use your years at Tri-C to broaden your horizons."

High Tech Academy students seem to be really broadening their horizons, and are inspired by the rigorous college coursework.

"The college courses challenge me more than any high school class could currently, and that is what I was searching for," said high school student Sophia Higginbottom.

"Family, service, and education are the most important things to me, and I shall continue to

strive to better myself as a citizen, and as a human being," added Higginbottom.

HTA's principal, Stacy Hutchinson, applauded the achievements of the school's students.

"We are so proud of our students' accomplishments. They are committed and driven young people who consistently strive to do their very best academically," exclaimed Hutchinson.

Recognized as the official honor society for two year colleges, Phi Theta Kappa serves to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students and provide opportunities for individual growth and development through honors, leadership and service programming.

Today, Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2.5 million members and 1,275 chapters located in each of the United States, and abroad.



CMSD High Tech Academy students inducted into Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society.

Tri-C's executive director of early college and outreach programs, Kenneth Hale, added, "Our young people have so much intelligence, talent and potential. Having so many Cleveland high school students being inducted into this international honor society is just one example of our Cleveland youth demonstrating excellence."

The twelve year innovative collaborative educational partnership between Tri-C, CMSD, and PNC

seems to be making an immediate and lasting impact.

"Tri-C has had a huge impact on how I am today," remarked HTA student Eddie Flores.

"This experience has made me more mature and responsible after every semester. I will carry the skills I have learned to a four-year college after graduating from high school."

High school students dance with dance troop for those with and without disabilities

Each year, the 10th, 11th and 12th grade students who are a part of the paid arts internship program, ArtWorks, surprise Young Audiences with their drive, collaboration, and willingness to push their limits.

This fall, Dance Apprentices worked with the Performance Ensemble

of Dancing Wheels throughout the semester, learning much more than dance from this integrated dance group for those with and without disabilities.

Students danced in borrowed wheelchairs and studied from those in wheelchairs permanently and had life-changing experiences.

"I enjoyed moving with the dancers with disabilities, and I was inspired by how they and the whole company don't let their disabilities hold them back," said Olivia, an ArtWorks Apprentice.

"I really learned not to be discouraged or let something hold me back in dance or in life. I loved everybody's positive attitudes and learning how to ride and move in the wheelchairs!"

The students have appreciated this experience so much that they have decided to perform with Dancing Wheels on December 14, 2012 at the Art Museum at 7 p.m. Additionally, in a show of collaboration, Poetry Artworks Apprentices will have live readings while the dancers perform, using the spoken word to help

the dancers portray a surprise theme. This display of teamwork, tenacity, and understanding is not to be missed.

"As I walked into the Dancing Wheels studio, I was hesitant, nervous for new experience and excited for new friends. Once I saw Motion teaching hip-hop, I thought it was all over. I have no rhythm. Hip-hop is not my favorite style of dance, but Motion helped me understand how to move," said Samantha, another ArtWorks Apprentice.

"Once we started to interact with the dancers with disabilities, I was amazed. They were keeping up with all standing dancers phenomenally. Some could retain better than I could. Then we tried getting in their shoes, or I should say chairs. The



Marissa Hope is an dance apprentice at ArtWorks.

experience was eye opening and extremely fun. I am ecstatic I have that memory and anticipating the next visit to be just as great."

The culminating performance and exhibit for

all ArtWorks Apprentices will be held at the Halle Building on December 18th at 6 p.m. and will feature Dance, Digital Game Design, Photography and Poetry.

Ohio Child Nutrition Summit seeks to feed hungry students

Cincinnati — Ohio providers of child nutrition programs came together with Cincinnati Public Schools Superintendent Mary Ronan, representatives from the Ohio Department of Education, and national and state-based anti-hunger advocates to learn how to implement and expand the Afterschool Meal Program to feed children afterschool, on weekends, and during school holidays.

Working together, these stakeholders are helping to eliminate childhood hunger in Ohio.

At the Child Nutrition Summit, state and regional program administrators and advocacy organizations shared best practices about and strategized on:

Finding current opportunities for implementa-

tion and expansion of the Afterschool Meals Program,

Identifying meal site sponsors and ways to transition from a snack program to offering children full meals,

Ensuring that meals are nutritious and that meal programs are combined with educational enrichment activities.

"The Afterschool Meal Program can make a big difference for children in Ohio," said Charlie Kozlesky of the Children's Hunger Alliance.

"Many parents are struggling to hold onto jobs, working extra-long or nontraditional hours, commuting long-distances, or trying to get back into the workforce. They need care for their children in order to do

that, so it absolutely makes sense to provide afterschool, weekend, and summer programs to help parents provide healthy food for their children."

The goal of the Children's Hunger Alliance and its partners is to increase the number of schools and organizations that participate in the Afterschool Meal Program

so that more children in Ohio can participate fully in afterschool activities while also receiving the nutrition they need and may not have access to outside of school.

"The benefits of afterschool meal programs are boundless," said Crystal FitzSimons of the Food Research and Action Center. "Access to after-

school meals improves students' health, mental well-being, and their ability to fully participate and learn in afterschool activities. As a result, schools have higher overall achievement scores, and communities stay healthier."

Almost one in four children in Ohio live below the poverty line and nearly 19 percent of Ohio families

cannot always afford to buy enough food to put on the table.

The Ohio Child Nutrition Summit is hosted by the Children's Hunger Alliance and the Food Research and Action Center in partnership with Molina Healthcare and is supported by the ConAgra Foods Foundation.

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