

# Mentoring *Matters*

An e-newsletter for the mentors of Chester County Futures, Inc.

May 2007

Welcome to the ninth edition of Chester County Futures' monthly electronic mentor newsletter- Mentoring Matters. The purpose of this monthly newsletter is to provide a forum for communication and information.

## Chester County Futures Celebrates Student Achievements

On May 16th over 200 of Futures students, parents, mentors, supporters and board members gathered to celebrate the graduation of Futures' class of 2007 and academic achievements of all of its students. The event featured over 65 academic achievement awards and a special celebration for Futures' 2007 graduates.

Nineteen students will join their fellow Futures graduates at post-secondary institutions throughout the Country. Some schools this years graduates will attend are: Temple University, Delaware County Community College, Neumann College, Harcum College, Slippery Rock University, Morgan State College, Immaculata University, Penn State University and Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

This annual celebration is a special event for Futures. The record crowd was treated to a slide show recap of the 2006-2007 school year and proudly watched as many Futures students received multiple academic achievement awards. Cash awards as well as certificates were given to the winners. Special scholarships (see below) were given to selected members of the class of 2007.

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## Scholarship Winners

Several Chester County Futures students received special scholarship awards at the annual student banquet held on May 16th. Award winners were as follows:

### Huston Foundation Scholarships

#### Cidor Scholarship

#### Suburban West Scholars

# Contact Information

**We want to hear from you!! Your feedback is crucial to the success of the Chester County Futures program.**

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## HAVE QUESTIONS??

We would like to feature your mentoring related questions in our monthly newsletter. It is important that we address your concerns. Please submit your questions to Holly Parker at [mentoroffice@ccfutures.org](mailto:mentoroffice@ccfutures.org)

**Chester County Futures'  
"Passport to College" Expo  
August 17, 2007  
9 am - 3 pm  
Inn at Chester Springs, Exton**

**Cidor Scholarship Reception  
June 13, 2007  
6:00 pm  
Journey's End Farm, Glenmoore**

We are excited to announce Chester County Futures' 2007 **Passport to College EXPO**, a high energy, informative and fun event to kick off the 2007-2008 school year. The August 17<sup>th</sup> event takes place at the Inn at Chester Springs in Exton and will run from 9:00AM -3:00PM. Your student will spend the day exploring a variety of college and career options as well as participate in breakout sessions on important topics pertinent to your student's academic and social success. One of this year's highlights will be a keynote luncheon speaker, nationally syndicated cartoonist Robb Armstrong, creator of Jump Start. Mr. Armstrong grew up in West Philadelphia in a single parent family with five children. Money was scarce and the neighborhood rough but Robb managed to persevere, graduate from high school and college and establish a career as a successful cartoonist and motivational speaker. All mentors are invited to attend all or a portion of this exciting day. Aside from spending quality time with your individual mentee, volunteers are needed. The EXPO is a free event for mentors and students.

### Reception and Scholarship Award Presentation by Cidor

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**Dressage Exhibition by Fanale and Friends**

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**Light Refreshments. All Complimentary!**

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**Kindly RSVP to Chester County Futures at**

**610-458-9926 or [mentoroffice@ccfutures.org](mailto:mentoroffice@ccfutures.org)**

Cidor is an award winning Grand Prix dressage horse owned by Chester County Futures' Board Member, Susan Springsteen of the Springsteen Hoteling Group at Morgan Stanley. Two years ago, at the age of 22, Cidor retired from competition. His younger sibling, Fanale, has taken up the challenge as the new "spokes horse" for the Cidor Scholarship Fund and Chester County Futures. Fanale has recently moved up to the advanced levels of dressage competition and hopes to follow in Cidor's footsteps.

## **Student Perspectives**

**Q:** What is the hardest thing about high school?

**A:** “Keeping your grades up in a class you don’t like.”  
“Staying organized and on track.”  
“Being able to manage my time.”  
“Keeping up with my homework assignments.”  
“Trying to get along with other students.”  
“Not letting work or social life get in the way of your school work.”  
“Scheduling your classes.”  
“Dealing with your friend’s problems.”  
“Retaining knowledge while learning new information.”  
“Not getting distracted.”  
“Math.”  
“Balancing school, work and my social life.”  
“Keeping my GPA.”  
“Classes I don’t like.”  
“Staying on track the whole year.”  
“My classes.”  
“The amount of homework I have.”  
“Knowing who to be friends with and trusting them.”  
“Getting good grades.”  
“Being overloaded with homework while doing after school activities.”  
“Waking up in the morning.”  
“All of the stress and school work.”  
“Biology.”  
“Not having enough free time.”  
“Writing essays.”

Chester County Futures’ students were recently surveyed about topics ranging from their relationship with their mentor to the best and hardest things about high school. Below are some of the most frequently mentioned answers. Each issue of Mentoring Matters will feature a different question/answer set.

## **We Need Your Input!**

We are in the process of revamping the mentor page on the Chester County Futures website. We would like your input in order to make this page more useful for you. Please send your thoughts and suggestions to Holly Parker at [mentoroffice@ccfutures.org](mailto:mentoroffice@ccfutures.org) or 610-247-4961.

**SAVE THIS DATE!!!**

## **June Mentor Roundtable**

**Thursday, June 21, 2007  
6:30 p.m.**

**Chester County Futures’ Main Office  
704 Haywood Drive  
Exton, PA 19341**

A brief discussion pertaining to exciting curriculum changes that will have a positive impact on our mentor program will take place. Significant time for sharing joys and concerns and connecting with other mentors will be available.

A boxed dinner will be served.