



HARLEM CHILDREN SOCIETY

'The purpose of souls is to assist each other.'

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“AN EVENING OF STARS” CELEBRATED HARLEM CHILDREN SOCIETY’S INNER-CITY SCIENCE PROJECT: *EXPERIMENT WITH A DREAM**

***Students Welcomed; Student Presentations;
Event hosted by Dr. Pola Rosen, Editor & Publisher, Education Update;
Featured presentation by NYC Citibank Manager***

NEW YORK, NY (June 29th 2005)...The Harlem Children Society’s “An evening of Stars” celebrated the orientation of 50 inner-city high school students participating in the organization’s *Experiment with a Dream* science Project at some of the top research laboratories throughout New York City for Year 2004 “An Evening of Stars” will take place on Tuesday, June 29th, 2004, at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center’s Auditorium, from 3:00 to 5.00pm.

The audience was mainly comprised of 50 participating students from 20 High Schools from under-resourced and under-represented neighborhoods. Three students from the previous years presented their research. The manager of Citibank spoke about the management of finances and various opportunities that are available for the students. In addition, he will help them to open and manage bank accounts. **All of the high school students participating in the program receive a substantial stipend/Scholarship for their summer research. This year we have expanded our Program to include some of our past students who have graduated and are still pursuing research – these students are also eligible for a stipend for the Program.** This year, starting in the Fall of 2004, we will be embarking on ‘After-School’ Research Internship for selected students as well.

The ‘American Chemical Society’ and the ‘New York Community Trust’ have Awarded \$100,000 in Grant monies to fund this project.

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* THIS PROGRAM IS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY TWO GENEROUS GRANTS FROM – (1) AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY’S PROJECT ‘SEED’; AND, (2) THE ‘NEW YORK COMMUNITY TRUST’

The 'Harlem Children Society' was founded by Dr. Sat Bhattacharya in 2000 as a private, **Not-for-Profit Organization** [501(c) 3]. He currently serves as the President and CEO of the 'Harlem Children Society'. The Goal of the organization is to increase awareness in the Sciences and to provide an opportunity for Inner city High School Students & Youth and their families living in Under-resourced & Under-served Communities & School districts. **Our involvement with these communities is an enterprise and an experiment to help increase the entrepreneurial spirit of the communities. It is an Enterprise for generating Hope, for creating a culture, for arming a community with Knowledge to propel itself to the future.** Please visit the 'Harlem Children Society' Website – www.HarlemChildrenSociety.org for an account of our endeavors.

The *Experiment with a Dream* program, teams student interns with some of the best researchers in their fields. It is carried out at major research institutions around New York City including Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center; The Rockefeller Univ.; Columbia Univ.; Columbia University, College of Physicians & Surgeons; New York Univ.; Hunter College of the City University of New York; Steven Institute of Technology; and others. Scientists volunteer their time and expertise to mentor the students throughout the summer internship, which includes laboratory work, seminars & written reports.

The Harlem Children Society's *Experiment with a Dream* project selects young people living and attending schools in under-resourced urban communities and engages them in hands-on scientific work-study at major research institutions. "It is thrilling to give the gift of hands-on learning to young people, and to see them share in the excitement of discovery. If we are able to bring science out of the academic stratosphere and give it a context, which attracts and inspires young people, we are accomplishing a great deal. If we insure that that context is inclusive of all young people – exclusive of none – then we will have succeeded," said Harlem Children Society president and CEO, Dr. Sat Bhattacharya.

"We view our involvement with these communities as an experiment and as an enterprise – an enterprise for generating hope and for arming young people with the skills and knowledge that will propel them into the future," Bhattacharya added. "These awards come after long hours of challenging work. The determination of these young people is evident. I am very proud of my students; their families, teachers, mentors and communities should also be very proud."

This year there are 50 High school students from 20 schools (Grades 9, 10, 11, & 12) from inner-city neighborhoods participating. They would be conducting research under the mentorship of 43 renowned scientists and researchers in over 15 institutions such as - Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Cornell University Medical Center, Columbia University, Rockefeller University, Albert Einstein School of Medicine, Beth Israel Hospital, Stevens Institute of Technology, Hunter College of CUNY, New York University, American Museum of Natural History, Fordham University, Bronx River Alliance, The Gaia Institute, and the Lehman College Natural Sciences. Some of these bright students will also be encouraged to participate in the 'After-school all-year-round Research Program where they will continue their research in the Fall of 2004. The students were selected based on their motivation, enthusiasm & performance at school, on the recommendations from their principal and science teachers, and the interview during the selection process – which earned them a spot in the summer internship.

All of the students are given a thorough background in the sciences related to the projects, including Frequent Lectures & Tutorials by several scientists and researchers. All of the students are given rigorous training relating to the Techniques, Safe and Proper handling of devices, instruments, chemicals & biologicals relating to the ongoing projects. They are given individual projects to complete by the end of the summer term. Proper guidance and background will be given to enable them to build self-confidence and presentation skills. **At the end of the summer term, the students are required to summarize their work and present their results in the laboratory and encouraged to compete with other students at several Regional and National Science conferences & Competitions.**

I am proud to say that all of the past students Successfully Participated & Competed in several Regional & National Science conferences & Competitions, presenting their work with full self confidence and Excellent Presentation, winning innumerable Regional and National Awards including the 'New York Times Scholarship'. The students presented their work at National Symposia all over the country – around the Tri-state area, including Chicago, San Diego, Colorado, etc. They developed a sense of responsibility & commitment towards completion of their work and projects. Some of my past students have since joined leading universities like Penn State, Rutgers, Swarthmore, Dartmouth, and 'Seven year- combined medical school at UMDNJ'. All of the students have expressed an intense interest in the pursuit of Research and Education in Sciences & Medicine.

The Harlem Children Society is dedicated to promoting innovative science education programs to children and youth living in under-resourced and underserved communities and school districts. The organization seeks to engage learners in a healthy enquiry of the world, and to expose them to opportunities available in the field of science that might be otherwise out-of-reach. The pursuit of higher education and career achievement is emphasized by providing students with knowledge, skills, guidance, encouragement and understanding. The Harlem Children Society is a private, not-for-profit organization, recognized by the city, state and federal governments. Donations to the Harlem Children Society are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

For more information on the *Experiment with a Dream* project, contact Dr. Satyajit (Sat) Bhattacharya, Harlem Children Society, 536 East 82nd Street, Suite 5F, New York, NY 10028; Telephone: (646) 643-8563; E-mail: bhattacs@mskcc.org. Additional information is available online at: www.harlemchildrensociety.org.

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

There are **43 Mentors for 50 Students** in the following institutions that we are collaborating with:

1. Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
2. Hunter College
3. Columbia University
4. Cornell University Medical Center
5. American Museum of Natural History
6. Lehman College Natural Sciences
7. The Gaia Institute
8. Bronx River Alliance
9. Beth Israel Hospital
10. New York University
11. Albert Einstein School of Medicine
12. Rockefeller University
13. Fordham University
14. Rock in the Boat
15. Stevens Institute of Technology

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HARLEM CHILDREN SOCIETY'S EXPERIMENT WITH A DREAM

<u>Name of Student</u>	<u>School/Center</u>
1. Mr. Haynes Velasco	Banana Kelly Collaborative High School, Bronx
2. Ms. Jessica Gonzalez	Banana Kelly Collaborative High School, Bronx
3. Ms. Dressy O. Villar	Banana Kelly Collaborative High School, Bronx
4. Ms. Eryka D. Hernandez	High School of Medical Science, Bronx
5. Ms. Sadiqa Cassell	High School of Medical Science, Bronx
6. Mr. Pierre T. Vieux Jr.	High School of Medical Science, Bronx
7. Ms. Geraldia Ortiz	High School of Medical Science, Bronx
8. Mr. Shawndell Powell	High School of Medical Science, Bronx
9. Ms. Areli Veliz	Gregorio Luperon High School of Science & Math, West Harlem
10. Mr. Edward Valerio	Gregorio Luperon High School of Science & Math, West Harlem
11. Ms. Mary Lu	High School of Math, Science & Engineering @ CCNY, East Harlem
12. Ms. Nertila Ujkaj	Lincoln Academy/Hostos, Bronx
13. Mr. Dennis Samaroo	Lincoln Academy/Hostos, Bronx
14. Ms. Poon Ka lai	Manhattan/Hunter College High School of Science, West Harlem
15. Mr. Jian Wang	Manhattan/Hunter College High School of Science, West Harlem
16. Ms. Ivana Lebron	Young Women's Leadership High School, East Harlem
17. Ms. Teana White	Young Women's Leadership High School, East Harlem
18. Ms. Sade Lake	Young Women's Leadership High School, East Harlem
19. Ms. Elidaysin Morisete	Young Women's Leadership High School, East Harlem
20. Mr. Willie Collado	East Side Community High School, Lower East Side
21. Ms. Krystal Xylina Vera	East Side Community High School, Lower East Side
22. Ms. Theresa Lugo	East Side Community High School, Lower East Side
23. Mr. Louis Shackelford	Frederick Douglas Academy, West Harlem
24. Ms. Christina Romero	Frederick Douglas Academy, West Harlem
25. Ms. Francesca Torres	Frederick Douglas Academy, West Harlem
26. Mr. Corey Lyons	Frederick Douglas Academy, West Harlem
27. Ms. Foasade Akeloko	Frederick Douglas Academy, West Harlem
28. Ms. Annie Yveliz Velez	Thurgood Marshall Academy, West Harlem
29. Ms. Eunice Asare	Thurgood Marshall Academy, West Harlem
30. Ms. Yvonne Sarpong	Thurgood Marshall Academy, West Harlem & Penn State University
31. Mr. Pankaj Saha	Manhattan Center for Science and Math, East Harlem
32. Mr. Swapan Bhuiyan	Manhattan Center for Science and Math, East Harlem
33. Mr. Rami Abdelghafar	Manhattan Center for Science and Math, East Harlem
34. Mr. Alberto Del Rosario	Manhattan Center for Science and Math, East Harlem
35. Ms. Sobella Quezada	Academy of Mount Saint Ursula, Bronx
36. Ms. Rebecca Santiago	High School of Fashion Industry, Manhattan East side
37. Ms. Maria Sacta	Union Hill High School, Union City, New Jersey
38. Ms. Karen J. Salgado Dennery	Union Hill High School, Union City, New Jersey
39. Ms. Jillian Greenaway	Clara Barton High School, Brooklyn
40. Ms. Jessica Geffrad	Edward R. Murrow High School, Brooklyn
41. Ms. Vanessa Hardy	Edward R. Murrow High School, Brooklyn
42. Ms. Jackeline Louis	Edward R. Murrow High School, Brooklyn
43. Mr. Tareque Barnaby	Ossining High School, Brooklyn
44. Ms. Eugenia Shmidt	High Tech High School, New Jersey & Cornell University
45. Ms. Shirley Gomez	High School for Health Professions & Human Services, Lower East Side
46. Ms. Cindi Law	High School for Health Professions & Human Services, Lower East Side
47. Ms. Suraiya Afroz	High School for Health Professions & Human Services, Lower East Side
48. Mr. Paolo Lizano	Union Hill High School, Union City, New Jersey & Rutgers University
49. Ms. Rina Shah	Union Hill High School, Union City, New Jersey & UNDMJ
50. Ms. Sheveen Green	Frederick Douglas Academy, West Harlem & Swarthmore University

HARLEM CHILDREN SOCIETY: PARTNERSHIPS

Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society

Sigma Xi was founded in 1886 as an honor society for science and engineering. Today, it is an international research society whose programs and activities promote the health of the scientific enterprise and honor scientific achievement. There are more than 70,000 Sigma Xi members in over 500 chapters at colleges and universities, industrial research centers and government laboratories. The Society has its headquarters in North Carolina.

In addition to honoring scientific achievement, Sigma Xi also endeavors to encourage support of original work in science and technology and promote an appreciation within society at large for the role research has played in human progress. Over the course of the Society's distinguished history, nearly 200 members have won the Nobel Prize and many more have earned election to the National Academies of Sciences and Engineering.

The New York Academy of Sciences

Founded in 1817, the New York Academy of Sciences is one of the most prominent and enduring organizations in the international scientific community. Its members have included such notable individuals as U.S. Presidents Jefferson and Monroe, Charles Darwin, John James Audubon and Albert Einstein. Independent and nonprofit, the Academy currently numbers over 23,000 Members in more than 150 countries. The Academy's mission is "to advance understanding of science and technology" by focusing on science across disciplines and nations, and by building bridges between society and science.

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‘Harlem Children Society’ in partnership with the ‘Rockefeller Chapter of the Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society’, set up High School internships for some of our best students from the Inner-City neighborhoods like Bronx, Harlem and other areas.

The main thrust of the ‘Harlem Children Society’ in partnership with the ‘Rockefeller University Chapter of the Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society’ has been to – Encourage and Expand our Outreach programs, especially involving the under-resourced and under-represented sections of our society.

Last year on November 19th 2003, in the Caspary Auditorium of the Rockefeller University we celebrated – ‘A Night Of Stars’ to Celebrate our Inner-City Science Project: *Experiment With A Dream*’ – which was a grand Success!

Honored Guests included:

**Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author, Frank McCourt
New York City Department of Education, Chancellor Joel Klein
New York State Senator, Liz Krueger
New York Academy of Sciences, CEO, Ellis Rubinstein
President, The Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce Lloyd A. Williams
UNESCO representative, Suzan Bilelo**

Special Certificates were awarded to:

- 1) 17 students,
- 2) 16 teachers, Principals and Other Educators,
- 3) 11 mentors, and
- 4) 2 other Sigma Xi contributors.

A Splendid entertainment by the Dance Theatre of Harlem School capped the evening

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HARLEM CHILDREN SOCIETY *Experiment with a Dream*
"An Evening of Stars" 06/29/04
Page of 8 Of 10

OVERALL STATISTICS (Years 2000 – 2004)

* <u>Total Percentage of Minority Students served</u>	: 98%
* <u>Total Percentage of Students based on Ethnicity</u>	
* African American	: ~38%
* Hispanic	: ~36%
* Asian/other minorities	: ~22%
* White	: ~4%
* <u>Total Number of Students based on Sex:</u>	
* Percentage of Female Students	: ~66%
* Percentage of Male Students	: ~34%
* <u>Total Number of Participating Institutions/ High Schools</u>	: 25
* <u>Total Number of Students Selected for the Internship Program</u>	: 50
* <u>Participating Mentors and their Affiliations:</u>	
<u>Total Number of Participating Mentors</u>	: 43
<u>Total Number of Mentoring Institutions</u>	: 15
* <u>Partnerships/ Collaborations:</u>	
i. <u>Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society</u> , Rockefeller University Chapter, NYC.	
ii. <u>New York Academy of Sciences</u> , NYC.	
iii. <u>Asphalt Green</u> , NYC.	

Year 2004

* <u>Total Percentage of Minority Students served</u>	: 96%
* <u>Total Percentage of Students based on Ethnicity</u>	
* African American	: 36%
* Hispanic	: 38%
* Asian/other minorities	: 22%
* White	: 4%
* <u>Total Number of Students based on Sex:</u>	
* Percentage of Female Students	: 68%
* Percentage of Male Students	: 32%
* <u>Total Number of Participating Institutions/ High Schools</u>	: 26
* <u>Total Number of Students Selected for the Internship Program</u>	: 50
* <u>Participating Mentors and their Affiliations:</u>	

Total Number of Participating Mentors : 43
Total Number of Mentoring Institutions : 15

*** Partnerships/ Collaborations:**

- i. Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society, Rockefeller University Chapter, NYC.
- ii. New York Academy of Sciences, NYC.
- iii. Asphalt Green, NYC.

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HARLEM CHILDREN SOCIETY *Experiment with a Dream*
 "An Evening of Stars" 06/29/04
 Page of 9 of 10

Year 2003

*** Total Percentage of Minority Students served** : 100%

*** Total Percentage of Students based on Ethnicity**

- * **African American** : ~24%
- * **Hispanic** : ~61%
- * **Asian/other minorities** : ~15%

*** Total Number of Students based on Sex:**

- * **Percentage of Female Students** : ~69%
- * **Percentage of Male Students** : ~31%

*** Total Number of Participating Institutions/ High Schools** : 8

*** Total Number of Students Selected for the Internship Program** : 13

*** Participating Mentors and their Affiliations:**

Total Number of Participating Mentors : 10
Total Number of Mentoring Institutions : 6

*** Partnerships/ Collaborations:**

- i. Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society, Rockefeller University Chapter, NYC.
- ii. New York Academy of Sciences, NYC.
- iii. Asphalt Green, NYC.

Year 2002

*** Total Percentage of Minority Students served** : 100%

*** Total Percentage of Students based on Ethnicity**

- * **African American** : ~33%
- * **Hispanic** : ~33%
- * **Asian/other minorities** : ~33%

*** Total Number of Students based on Sex:**

- * **Percentage of Female Students** : ~66%
- * **Percentage of Male Students** : ~33%

*** Total Number of Participating Institutions/ High Schools** : 2

*** Total Number of Students Selected for the Internship Program** : 3

*** Participating Mentors and their Affiliations:**

Total Number of Participating Mentors : 1

Total Number of Mentoring Institutions : 1

*** Partnerships/ Collaborations:**

- i. Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society, Rockefeller University Chapter, NYC.
- ii. New York Academy of Sciences, NYC.
- iii. Asphalt Green, NYC.

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HARLEM CHILDREN SOCIETY *Experiment with a Dream*
"An Evening of Stars" 06/29/04
Page of 10 Of 10

Year 2001

*** Total Percentage of Minority Students served** : 100%

*** Total Percentage of Students based on Ethnicity**

* **African American** : ~33%

* **Hispanic** : ~33%

* **Asian/other minorities** : ~33%

*** Total Number of Students based on Sex:**

* **Percentage of Female Students** : ~33%

* **Percentage of Male Students** : ~66%

*** Total Number of Participating Institutions/ High Schools** : 2

*** Total Number of Students Selected for the Internship Program** : 3

*** Participating Mentors and their Affiliations:**

Total Number of Participating Mentors : 1

Total Number of Mentoring Institutions : 1

*** Partnerships/ Collaborations:**

- i. Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society, Rockefeller University Chapter, NYC.

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