BUILDING ON THE DREAM
THEY WERE - WE ARE EMPOWERED
Welcome to Philadelphia – the City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly Affection. We are excited that you have joined us for the 24th Annual Youth Leadership Summit! This year marks 150 years since the passage of the Emancipation Proclamation and 50 years since Whitney M. Young helped lead the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. How fitting that our Annual Conference and Youth Leadership Summit are being held here in Philadelphia, where the Declaration of Independence was signed, establishing America as a model for freedom and opportunity.

For more than 100 years, the National Urban League has been working to ensure that access to opportunity the writers of the Declaration envisioned. Today, the National Urban League remains evermore committed to guaranteeing this inalienable right for our youth – our next generation of leaders.

As a leader in advocating for and creating innovative job training and education programs, the National Urban League understands that it is critically important for youth to receive a high quality education and have a voice in their future. With the recent Supreme Court decision ruling Section Four of the Voting Rights Act unconstitutional, it is critically important that you be informed about your rights and stand ready to take part in the democratic process. It is important that you invest in your future now, by pursuing and attaining high quality education and taking advantage of convenings such as the Youth Leadership Summit.

I encourage you to take advantage of every single moment of your five days here to meet peers from across the country, learn about new opportunities, and prepare yourselves for taking a leadership role in our communities. Building on the Dream, They Were... I Am... We Are... EMPOWERED!

Sincerely,

Marc H. Morial
President and Chief Executive Officer
National Urban League
There are few experiences in my life that were more important to my development and preparation than the time I spent on Temple’s campus, and I wish the same for you. The Youth Leadership Summit is designed to give you a different and wider advantage of the developmental and learning experiences that will help you explore your leadership, service and legacy.

Each year, we work with caring adults from across the country to create an environment at the Summit where you can explore your interests, meet other young people from across the country and learn more about how to realize your dreams. The Summit offers the kinds of investments you can make in yourself in order to be “Ready for College, Work and Life.” A sense of what is possible for you, what is necessary to improve our communities through your service and leadership, and the strength of localized services and supports with an accountable, standardized, centralized, national management structure.

Entrepreneurship Center Program: Provides management counseling and training services geared toward the development of managerial skills and in the world at large.

Foreclosure Prevention (aka “Restore our Homes”): Functions to forestall mortgage default, delinquency and foreclosure, and to educate constituents about better decision-making with regard to home purchase, financing and home maintenance, mortgage re-financing and loan modification.

Project Ready: Prepares adolescents for the critical transitions that mark their passage from school to the world of work.

Black Executive Exchange Program (BEEP): Prepares young people with the knowledge, skills and dispositions to be successful in school, their communities and in the world at large.

Program Department and Approach

The National Urban League’s Program Department, co-led by Hal Smith, Ed.D., and Cy Richardson is the primary vehicle through which the granting of funds, training and technical assistance is provided to local Urban League affiliates. Our purpose is to assess and understand the economic and social factors that negatively impact Urban League constituents and to design, pilot and implement, through our affiliate network, innovative solutions to address these problems. We propose “theories of change, then we test these theories by designing innovative models for social service delivery, funding them, and evaluating the results.”

EDUCATION, YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Hal Smith, Senior Vice President, Education

Youth Development and Health

Cy Richardson, Senior Vice President

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Terry Clark, Vice President

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Saroya Friedman-Gonzalez, Vice President

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

As a social service intermediary, one of our primary roles is to connect the philanthropic community with our affiliates, and to build the affiliates’ capacity to positively impact their communities. We provide our affiliates, who deliver direct services to the local community, with assistance primarily consisting of granting of funds, training, technical assistance, organizational assessments, knowledge sharing and networking. This allows the National Urban League to offer a flexible service-delivery model that can quickly achieve scale and depth in communities across the country, combining the strength of localized services and supports with an accountable, standardized, centralized, national management structure.

OUR SIGNATURE PROGRAMS, designated by the National Urban League, embody the mission and vision of the organization. These programs are scalable, evidence-based and have demonstrably enhanced our constituents’ economic or educational status. Our current signature programs are:

Asset Building and Financial Capability: Provides wealth and financial education to individuals and families so they can achieve financial security and independence.

Comprehensive Housing Counseling: Supports the delivery of a wide spectrum of housing counseling services to prospective homeowners, homeowners, low-to-moderate-income renters, and the homeless.

Entrepreneurship Center Program: Provides management counseling and training services geared toward the development of managerial skills and in the world at large.

Foreclosure Prevention (aka “Restore our Homes”): Functions to forestall mortgage default, delinquency and foreclosure, and to educate constituents about better decision-making with regard to home purchase, financing and home maintenance, mortgage re-financing and loan modification.

Project Ready: Prepares adolescents for the critical transitions that mark their passage from school to the world of work.

Project Wellness: Promotes healthy living, the development of health assets and the elimination of health disparities and deficiencies in underserved communities through the use of Community Health Workers who serve as health coaches and help participants to access quality healthcare services.

Read and Rise: Engages parents in early literacy development by providing them with developmentally appropriate tools and skills to work with their children to build and encourage reading.

Urban Youth Empowerment Program: Engages at-risk and underserved youth and prepares them for entry into the workforce through a comprehensive set of services, including case management, service learning, restorative justice, education, mentoring, internships, and on-the-job training. The program historically targets youth 18-24 year olds but the model has also been effectively applied to 14-17 year olds.

Youth Development Program: Provides young people with the knowledge, skills and dispositions to be successful in school, their communities and in the world at large.

Black Executive Exchange Program (BEEP): Prepares young people with the knowledge, skills and dispositions to be successful in school, their communities and in the world at large.

Impilo! Kunjani? (Xhosa)

Welcome to the 24th convening of the National Urban League’s Youth Leadership Summit, hosted this year at a place near and dear to my heart – Temple University, my alma mater.

Please accept our sincere congratulations on all that you have achieved this far and our well wishes for all that you hope to accomplish in the future.

As you come across members of the Youth Leadership Summit team, our sponsors, the staff of Temple University and the affiliate staff and volunteers who accompanied you to the Summit, please take a moment to thank them for all that they do.

There are few experiences in my life that were more important to my development and preparation than the time I spent on Temple’s campus, and I wish the same for you. The Youth Leadership Summit is designed to give you a different and wider sense of what is possible than you will ever experience through your service and leadership, and the kinds of investments you make in yourself in order to be “Ready for College, Work and Life.”

Each year, we work with caring adults from across the country to create an environment at the Summit where you can explore your interests, meet other young people from across the country and learn more about how to realize your dreams. Take advantage of this opportunity to meet new people, to learn from your experiences, to share your perspective and dreams with one another and to reflect on how you can “Be Empowered.”

This year’s theme specifically refers to those who came before you, the struggles they endured and the opportunities they created for you and for the generations to come who will look to them and to you for inspiration. We hope you take full advantage of the developmental and learning experiences that will help you explore your leadership, service and legacy.

As you come across members of the Youth Leadership Summit team, our sponsors, the staff of Temple University and the affiliate staff and volunteers who accompanied you to the Summit, please take a moment to thank them for all that they do.

Learn, enjoy and grow at this year’s Youth Leadership Summit and beyond!

Yours in the movement,

Hal Smith
Senior Vice President
Education, Youth Development & Health
National Urban League
For more than 50 years, the National Urban League's Education & Youth Development division has worked to improve educational opportunities for African-American students by developing innovative programs to support their academic achievement, encourage their civic involvement, and contribute to their healthy physical and emotional development.

In addition to a focus on the successful transition from high school to college or work, the Education and Youth Development division focuses on early literacy development and quality early childhood education, and building the “social capital” of young people. Because young people develop in the context of their families and communities, the National Urban League also has a strong parent education and engagement component.

Our keystone programs in education and youth development are designed to help us reach the goal that every American child will be ready for college, work and life by 2025.

Project Ready

Project Ready is designed to develop an individual student’s knowledge and attitude toward, and capacity for, post secondary success. Our framework brings together research and promising practices in youth development, adolescent literacy, out-of-school time learning and student success, within the tradition and legacy of the Urban League movement.

In the 2012-2013 program year, 27 affiliates implemented Project Ready across the country, with additional affiliates expressing interest in the program. The more than 2,500 students served by Project Ready nationally are expected to make academic progress, benefit from cultural enrichment opportunities and develop critical skills, attitudes and aptitudes necessary for postsecondary success.

Policy and Advocacy

In 2012, the National Urban League continued its policy, advocacy and engagement effort to build more effective grassroots advocacy in local and state venues through its Equity and Excellence Project with our affiliates in Pennsylvania and Tennessee, and expanding to two additional affiliates. In this next, three-year phase of the Equity and Excellence Project, the National Urban League is working to build the Urban League’s collective capacity to convene and participate in national and state level policy and reform discussions and enhance the advocacy skills of the local community leaders throughout the Urban League movement.

We continue to expand on our advocacy and policy efforts, working on a national level with education reform organizations, legislators and policymakers on a broad range of issues, including educational reform, post secondary success, the innovative use of learning time, college completion, and early childhood education.

The National Urban League Youth Development Framework and Guide (YDFG) is a research-based youth development / out-of-school time resource designed to provide participants with the knowledge, skills and dispositions to be successful in school, in their communities and in the world at large.

Using the YDFG as a baseline, our intent is to develop fully prepared and engaged young people by promoting and supporting meaningful professional development / capacity building and robust program development throughout the affiliate movement. As such, the Guide provides a comprehensive foundation upon which an affiliate youth development / out-of-school time / afterschool program can be built or enhanced.

The Youth Leadership Summit

Now in its 24th year, the National Urban League Youth Leadership Summit will engage up to 500 high school students from over 25 Urban League affiliates and, over five days, immerse them in a unique educational and developmental experience.

The Summit functions as the annual culminating event for all of the National Urban League’s local and national Education and Youth Development programs and provides access to national presenters and content that further develops important skills and capacities in our youth participants and in our youth-worker staff.

Established in 1969, the Black Executive Exchange Program (BEEP) is the direct-service arm of the National Urban League that provides an opportunity to share learning and experience across generations, cultivate new leaders and inspire achievements beyond what is presently imagined. As a signature Education & Youth Development program, BEEP has as its central mission the development of African American college students as leaders. This work is accomplished through outreach and strategic partnerships with colleges, universities, corporations and government agencies. Throughout the years, BEEP has reached hundreds of thousands of students at 84 Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Serving Institutions.

The Black Executive Exchange Program (BEEP)
BUILDING ON THE DREAM

THEY WERE EMPOWERED

I AM ARE

Programs

PARTICIPATING AFFILIATE CITIES
Given the Urban League’s historical focus and the critical importance of the issues, there are three targeted groups for Project Ready:

The primary group is African American and other children and youth in urban communities. Urban youth in historically underserved and under-resourced communities can be particularly vulnerable to an educational system that does not adequately prepare, or send clear signals to, them about their preparation and readiness for academic success.

The secondary group is parents and families of urban children and youth. The National Urban League is very clear that parents can be effective “first teachers” of their children and can be similarly effective in maintaining educational growth with the proper resources and engagement. Engaging parents in a meaningful and systemic manner allows for them to support and even accelerate children’s learning both before children enter formal settings and throughout the P-16 school years.

The tertiary group consists of community leaders, elementary school teachers, youth serving organizations, child care providers, policymakers, advocates, corporations and foundations that support African American and urban student success. These entities are most fully invested in, and informed about, the issue, and will incorporate information and perspective into their practice, policy, advocacy and community-building work. Improved student literacy skills, capacities, aptitudes and competencies will hopefully result in additional investments in children and the institutions that serve them, both locally and nationally.

Project Ready posits a number of inputs as critical to meaningful out-of-school time learning and developmental time, including hiring and supporting a professional staff of out-of-school time educators, providing high-quality content, ongoing capacity building, clear accountability and established programs standards.

In too many college preparation programs in the nation, greater emphasis is placed on academic skill building for college, often times at the expense of other equally important concerns such as students’ personal and social maturity for college, as a postsecondary success program Project Ready specifically integrates academic preparation for along with life-skills development, personal, global and cultural awareness.
2013 Project Ready Enhancements

NUL supports a full range of education and youth development services to many of the Urban League affiliates across the county, with a particular focus on the 27 Project Ready sites serving over 2500 students.

The Project Ready affiliate sites operate a range of program models, from the full Project Ready: Postsecondary Success model, to Project Ready enhancements – STEM; Service Learning; Literacy Coach; and Mentoring.

Project Ready STEM

With the support of Best Buy, BP, and State Farm and Verizon in 2013, the NUL is supporting 10 Project Ready STEM sites. The sites are successfully operating STEM programs for nearly 300 middle or high students, with the goals of ensuring that urban students have the necessary supports and opportunities available to them to succeed in STEM-related class work, and exposing students to STEM-related careers.

Project Ready: STEM Coach

The NUL believes that participation in the Project Ready STEM: Coach pilot will engage staff and local partners to high-quality content, pedagogy and expertise as they are developing tomorrow’s technology innovators. A professional STEM coach will work with NUL and local Urban League affiliate staff members, beginning by modeling good STEM and inquiry / project-based practice, then training, and gradually transferring responsibility to the staff person for designing new opportunities for, and delivering improved practice to, Project Ready youth participants. The goal is to improve the quality of youth’s experiences in affiliate STEM programs, provide direction and support to affiliate staff and partners to better ensure collaboration, promote the creation of environments that tap the most important resource available to any youth-serving organization: a young person’s motivation to engage critically with the world and build toward their own success.

Project Ready Service Learning

State Farm supports the National Urban League Project Ready Service Learning enhancement. These programs provide meaningful service activities that benefit both participants and their communities, fostering life skills, critical thinking, a sense of efficacy and self-worth, and responsible attitudes and behaviors. Service learning is one of several approaches to civic engagement of youth, distinguished by its curriculum-base and explicit educational goals. The National Urban League views this as an important addition to our postsecondary success agenda, as it allows youth to develop additional skills, build youth leadership and voice, exposes youth to important social, political and community issues, and better prepares them to be more active and thoughtful citizens.

Project Ready: Financial Capability Pilot Program

The Citi Foundation has awarded a grant to the National Urban League to provide NUL and local Urban League affiliated sites with a Financial Capability Pilot Program. This pilot will engage targeted Urban League Affiliates in assisting youth completing their FAFSA (Federal Application for Student Aid) and understanding their Financial Aid offers. Affiliate program staff will receive training from Financial Aid University and be certified to complete the FAFSA. Each Affiliate will serve up to 60 students over an 18 month period.

Project Ready Literacy Coaches

With the support of the Pitney Bowes Corporation, the National Urban League has completed the launch of the Project Ready Literacy Coach pilot. Every Urban League affiliate interested in integrating literacy into their out-of-school time and youth development practices has access to the Project Ready Literacy Coaches Manual, which features resources, activities and strategies that have been researched, developed, and tested by the National Urban League’s adolescent literacy specialist.

Youth Development Framework and Guide

Youth success is often chiefly attributed to school-based factors, when in fact it is exposure to an array of educational and developmental opportunities that promotes differentiated achievement. As experts such as Karen Pittman of the Forum for Youth Investment rightly suggest, “problem-free” does not mean “fully prepared” youth, nor does it equate to being “fully engaged.”

The National Urban League Youth Development Framework and Guide (YDFG) creates additional learning spaces in which young people can experience success and substantive development. While there are many resources available to those who know about them, can access them, and can advocate for their provision, this kind of knowledge, time and skill is unevenly distributed across families and communities. The National Urban League YDFG seeks to bring equity and excellence at scale into youth development practice and policy.

Youth Development Framework and Guide

The National Urban League Youth Development Framework and Guide is a research-based youth development / out-of-school time resource designed to provide participants with the knowledge, skills and dispositions to be successful in school, in their communities and in the world at large. As a tool, it is similarly designed to assist affiliates in the design and implementation of “leading edge” youth development / out-of-school time / after-school programs.

Our intent is to develop fully prepared and engaged young people by providing the framework’s meaningful professional development / capacity building and robust program development throughout the affiliate movement. As such, the YDFG is not a program in and of itself. Instead, the YDFG is a comprehensive framework upon which an affiliate youth development / out-of-school time / after-school program can be built or enhanced.

The YDFG is broken down across three content areas:

1. Intellectual
   - Early & Sustained Literacy
   - Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM)
   - Postsecondary Success (Project Ready)
   - Artistic Expression & Literacy
   - Entrepreneurship
   - Media Literacy

2. Social and Communal
   - Social & Cultural identity

3. Physical & Relational
   - Health & Wellness
   - Fitness & Recreation

Each content area of the guide explicitly connects across the childhood, adolescent and young adult age-spans (asset- and skill-building focused and developmentally appropriate) toward fostering fully engaged, fully prepared youth. For example, the Media Literacy content area has a K-5th grade component, a 6th-8th grade component and a 9th-12th grade component that can link together to form a 13-year pathway should affiliates decide to implement it in that way.

The National Urban League believes that providing multiple opportunities for learning, success and achievement in sufficient breadth, depth and variety allows for alternate pathways to excellence and equity for children, youth and communities. The YDFG allows for a range of different approaches and focus areas, because we believe affiliates work best when allowed and encouraged to develop their work in relation to local opportunities, assets and resources.
Project Ready: Mentor

Project Ready: Mentor is a mentoring program that specifically targets African-American and other urban youth ages 11-18 that are particularly vulnerable to disengagement from school, community and the world of work.

As a result of the success of the first year of Project Ready Mentor and the support of Urban League affiliates, the National Urban League was awarded an additional five Project Ready Mentor sites in 2012. These new Project Ready Mentor programs are operating in the Metropolitan Houston Area Urban League (TX); the Minneapolis Urban League (MN); the Urban League of Central Carolinas (NC); the Urban League of Greater New Orleans (LA); and the Wilmington Urban League (DE).

Now, a total of thirteen Urban League Affiliates around the country are participating in Project Ready: Mentor and Project Ready: Mentor 2, providing additional mentoring services to the young people who already served in one of their existing education and youth development programs. Through both programs at least 665 young people will each receive at least 182 hours per year of individual, group and virtual mentoring over three years.

The participating Urban League affiliates are located in:

- Atlanta, GA
- Charlotte, NC
- Chicago, IL
- Columbia, SC
- Dallas, TX
- Greenville, SC
- Houston, TX
- Knoxville, TN
- Minneapolis, MN
- New Orleans, LA
- Northern Virginia
- Oklahoma City, OK
- Wilmington, DE

The Project Ready National Mentor Project is based on three primary cornerstones:

- A mentor/youth relationship building model
- Core work readiness and academic activities leveraged from NUL’s existing programs (Project Ready and the Youth Development Framework and Guide)
- Wraparound activities such as community service learning and financial literacy that further engage the youth and demonstrate meaningful connections to society and the economy

This postsecondary success and mentoring program model involves youth and caring adults in activities that include: college and career tours, academic enrichment, and service learning. A successful graduate of the program will have been paired with a mentor, completed an Individualized College Development Plan (ICDP), maintained academic progress, and participated in service learning activities, academic support and assessments as well as career and work readiness activities.

This Department of Justice’s Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) grant also provides funding for affiliates to send teams of youth, staff members and mentors to the Youth Leadership Summits, and Professional Development opportunities for affiliates to send at least one staff member and mentors to the annual National Urban League Whitney M. Young, Jr. Leadership Institute. We have also enhanced the program by introducing an online Career Readiness tool – KuderNavigator, an on-line career readiness tool for all Project Ready: Mentor youth and mentors to use as the youth prepare for their future.

Project Wellness

The National Urban League directs several major health programs and initiatives, including: Project Wellness, Saving Our Sons, I Am Woman, Act Against AIDS Leadership Initiative and the NUL — Walgreen’s Wellness Bus Tour.

Project Wellness is the League’s signature health program and seeks to promote healthy lifestyles among African Americans and other emerging impoverished and underserved populations, improve their access to healthcare and other community assets, and influence public policy in favor of Community Health Worker / Navigator models by developing and disseminating a replicable and sustainable outcomes-based program that improves chronic disease prevention and management for African Americans. We base our activities on a positive, asset-based wellness model that seeks to incorporate evidence-based harm reduction and disease prevention strategies with culturally relevant approaches.

Activities under the Project Wellness umbrella include:

- health education and awareness; navigating access to quality health services, social services, and insurance
- peer counseling and support for healthy behavioral change
- advocacy on behalf of community members in order to ensure that clients receive needed services and support
- mobilization to eliminate barriers to quality healthcare and health outcomes, and
- the development of replicable, sustainable and national programs to promote healthy lives

Project Wellness operates in 14 Urban League affiliates. An additional 64 Urban League affiliates operate a variety of health care initiatives that include education, outreach, prevention and/or treatment services, focusing on mental health, substance abuse, family planning, teen pregnancy, nutrition, diabetes, obesity, cancer, asthma, sickle cell anemia, HIV/AIDS, heart disease, and hepatitis.
Black Executive Exchange Program

In January 2013, the National Urban League’s Black Executive Exchange Program became a part of the Education and Youth Development portfolio, emphasizing its central role in our work and preparing to move more deeply into higher education. The enhanced and revitalized BEEP concept and model will function as an innovative foundation to all of our higher education and leadership policy, advocacy and programmatic work and will be highly representative of the manner in which the national Urban League intends to build additional education programming, tools, supports and policy in the future.

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A Legacy of Sharing Across Generations

Established in 1969, the Black Executive Exchange Program (BEEP) is the direct-service arm of the National Urban League that provides an opportunity to share learning and experience across generations, cultivate new leaders and inspire achievements beyond what is presently imagined.

As a signature Education & Youth Development program, BEEP has as its central mission the development of African American college students as leaders. This work is accomplished through outreach and strategic partnerships with colleges, universities, corporations and government agencies. Throughout its 44 year history BEEP has touched hundreds of thousands of students at 84 Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Serving Institutions.

BEEP specifically enables African American students to interface and network with African American business professionals to prepare for careers in corporate America and the global economy. This is achieved in a unique and innovative way that helps college students understand the world of work, its environment and expectations, and how they can best prepare for success in an ever-changing marketplace.

In addition, BEEP serves an important role in helping to educate faculty, student affairs professionals and other campus administrators to the changing career, corporate and economic dynamics of the 21st century by introducing skilled and knowledgeable executives into the classroom. By intentionally integrating real-world examples from corporate and nonprofit executives and academic content, students are better served and better prepared.

Policy, Advocacy and Engagement

The National Urban League Education and Excellence Project explicitly supports national and state advocacy, engagement and education reform efforts throughout the Urban League Affiliate movement and with our partners in the Campaign for High School Equity (CHSE). This three year initiative enables the Urban League to deepen the work of our existing consortia in Pennsylvania and Tennessee, and in Cleveland, Ohio and New York City, by focusing intently on the implementation of education reforms.

In this next phase of the Equity and Excellence Project, the National Urban League is working to build the Urban League’s collective capacity to convene and participate in national and state level policy and reform discussions and enhance the advocacy skills of the local community leaders throughout the Urban League movement. While ultimately we seek to improve outcomes for under-served students, our more immediate intent—through our partnership with the CHSE—is to build the capacity of the civil rights community to lead more substantively the community engagement, analyses and planning and policy across the five EEP focus areas in a more intentional and meaningful fashion.

Common standards

- Improved access to high-quality curricula and effective teachers
- Comprehensive, aligned and transparent education & employment data systems
- Equity and Excellence at scale;
- Out of school time learning (emphasis on expanded day and summer learning).

These focus areas are highly and tightly related to our historic mission. A local, statewide and national approach allows the National Urban League to best leverage its greatest asset—the Urban League affiliate movement.

As such, support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is allowing the National Urban League to implement a four pronged approach to the Equity and Excellence Project including 1) Urban League affiliates and partners engagement in local, state and national education reform efforts; 2) Integration with our Postsecondary / Workforce Development and College Completion agendas; 3) Convenings; and 4) Building the capacity of the National Urban League and National Urban League Policy Institute to work more effectively and comprehensively with CHSE partners and the national education reform / innovation community.

Working in close collaboration with our National Urban League Policy Institute in Washington D.C., the Education and Youth Development Division continues to build on our legacy of advocacy and policy development, working on a national level with legislators and policymakers on a broad range of issues, including education reform, career and college readiness, postsecondary success, college completion, the innovative use of learning time, effective supports for youth in foster care, literacy and early childhood education.
This year, in partnership with Casey Family, a nationally-accredited nonprofit Washington corporation, whose mission is to provide, improve and ultimately to prevent the need for foster care, the National Urban League is participating in an Advocacy – Cities United project.

Three Urban League Affiliates, in Louisville Urban League, the Urban League of Greater New Orleans, and the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle, are working with NUL, Casey Family Programs and the National League of Cities to develop an inclusive local planning process that engages local municipal leadership and community stakeholders in developing a 12 to 18 month action plan for the reduction of African American male violence related deaths in the affiliate’s communities.

Over the year, each Affiliate CEO will incorporate promising practices from Casey Family of Programs and the National League of Cities into their youth development and out of school time programs, and strive to leverage local resources with private as well as federal funds to maximize their outcomes as related to youth violence prevention.

The National Basketball Retired Players Association (NBRPA), the only Association comprised of NBA, ABA and Harlem Globetrotters alumni, has launched a nationwide youth basketball and mentoring program in conjunction with the National Police Athletic League (PAL) and National Urban League (NUL). The program, Full Court Press: Prep for Success, includes a day-long youth basketball and life skills clinic conducted by NBRPA Members in each market, combined with Project Ready 2.0 workshops, led by PAL and Urban League Affiliate staff for each youngster who participates in the day-long session.

The program launched during NBA All-Star 2013 with a press conference prior to the NBRPA Houston Chapter’s “Kids Get Fit” basketball clinic. Throughout the year, NBRPA Members will conduct basketball and life skills clinics in the following 12 Urban League Affiliate markets: Boston, Charlotte, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Orlando, Philadelphia and Seattle.

NBRPA Members serve as coaches for each clinic, providing expert basketball instruction with an underlying message that encourages positive lifestyle choices. The PAL and NUL have collaborated to develop a life skills and mentoring program that provides each young person with lessons to encourage long-term character development and planning for their future.

The National Urban League believes the benefits of mentorship and positive role models are immeasurable, and that this kind of experience can be life-changing for young people.
Lincoln Financial Oral History Project

In recognition of the 150th Anniversary of the issuing of the final version of the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, The Lincoln Financial Group created the Lincoln Legacy Oral History Project. The Project seeks to explore how the Emancipation Proclamation and the 13th Amendment, both major achievements of the Lincoln Administration, help secure the freedom and opportunity that Americans enjoy today.

Urban League Affiliates were invited to participate in this project by engaging youth in creating their own oral history project, discussing the legacy of Abraham Lincoln and its impact on the life of your discussion partner. Additionally, 2015 will mark the 150th anniversary of the ratification of the 13th Amendment, which, shortly after Lincoln’s death, officially ended slavery in the United States. What better time, then, to reflect on the Lincoln Presidency and its impact on America’s past and present?

Students had the opportunity to investigate both how President Lincoln left a legacy through these documents and how their implications affected families over the years. Perhaps most importantly, they explored how Lincoln’s legacy can inspire today, as people continue to work towards freedom and opportunity all over the world.

State Farm Safe Driving Initiative

State Farm has a long and deep commitment to ensure that young people are ready and responsible drivers. Celebrate My Drive® was created by State Farm® in 2012 to share the belief that safe driving is a lifelong commitment from the start. Celebrate My Drive isn’t about scare tactics or negativity – it’s about emphasizing the positives of safe driving, reinforcing habits like remembering to think “2N2” whenever teens drive – keeping 2 eyes on the road and 2 hands on the wheel – in order to save lives.

In partnership with State Farm Insurance the National Urban League held the 2013 Project Ready Service Learning Teen Driver Safety PSA Competition. A total of 8 Project Ready sites submitted a Public Service Announcement (PSA) centered on teen driver safety. The PSAs were targeted to students from across the country, with a focus on engaging, peer-to-peer messages, addressed one of the following topics – distracted driving; driving under the influence, driving in severe weather conditions, or different driving environments. The top PSAs will be aired during the 2013 Youth Leadership Summit.

The 2013 celebration goes into overdrive October 18-26, when local State Farm agents will host student-focused events across North America. It’s a chance for communities to rally around young drivers and encourage them to make safe driving choices every time they’re behind the wheel. For more information visit http://www.celebratemydrive.com/About.aspx
# Agenda at a Glance

## TUESDAY
**JULY 23**

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<tr>
<td>9:30AM</td>
<td>CAMPUS TOURS</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00PM</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00PM</td>
<td>Project Ready Case Competition Finalist Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00PM</td>
<td>“Urban Voices SPEAKOUT”</td>
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## WEDNESDAY
**JULY 24**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>7:30AM</td>
<td>BREAKFAST</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15AM</td>
<td>“Postsecondary Success”</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45AM</td>
<td>5th Annual Project Ready Student Case Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30PM</td>
<td>“Readiness” Workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30PM</td>
<td>DINNER</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30PM</td>
<td>“State of the Urban League” Keynote Address</td>
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## THURSDAY
**JULY 25**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00AM</td>
<td>BREAKFAST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30AM</td>
<td>“Postsecondary Success”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45AM</td>
<td>5th Annual Project Ready Student Case Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15PM</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30PM</td>
<td>“Readiness” Workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30PM</td>
<td>DINNER</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30PM</td>
<td>“State of the Urban League” Keynote Address</td>
</tr>
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## FRIDAY
**JULY 26**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00AM</td>
<td>BREAKFAST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM</td>
<td>“Project Wellness: Teen Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds, Healthy Relationships”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30AM</td>
<td>Youth and Chaperon Breakout Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30AM</td>
<td>“Postsecondary Success”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45PM</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15PM</td>
<td>Jazz @ Lincoln Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:15PM</td>
<td>DINNER</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## SATURDAY
**JULY 27**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00AM</td>
<td>BREAKFAST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30AM</td>
<td>Inspiring the Next Generation of Innovators: Real World STEM – Institutions, Education &amp; Opportunity – Held at The Franklin Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45AM</td>
<td>4th Annual Project Ready Invitational College Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45PM</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30PM</td>
<td>Philadelphia Sightseeing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00PM</td>
<td>DINNER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00PM</td>
<td>Youth Summit Celebration</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Welcome and Orientation

Now in its 24th year, the National Urban League Youth Leadership Summit is a college based conference that brings together up to 500 Urban League youth and their chaperones from across the nation.

This year’s Summit is being held at Temple University, and is the annual culminating event for all National Urban League Education and Youth Development programs, and reinforces the goals and practices of the affiliates’ work with middle and high school-aged youth from across the country. Our five-day event immerses young people in a college setting that provides them with a unique educational and development experience, focused on important skills for success in college, work and life. While youth participants learn to navigate the college experience, affiliate program staff and leadership are provided with structured professional development and capacity building workshops.

The Youth Leadership Summit coincides with the National Urban League Annual Conference to further provide young people with access to Urban League leadership.

Our Youth Leadership Summit Program highlights include:

- 5th Annual Project Ready Case Competition
- Jazz @ Lincoln Center
- Youth Leadership Summit Town Hall
- 4th Annual Project Ready Invitational College Fair
- Legacy of Success Luncheon

Being held in Philadelphia, the Youth Leadership Summit will provide a unique opportunity for our students to visit The Franklin Institute. Established in 1824 in the spirit of inquiry and discovery embodied by Benjamin Franklin, the mission of The Franklin Institute is to inspire a passion for learning about science and technology. Inspiring the Next Generation of Innovators Real World STEM: Institutions, Education & Opportunity, provides a unique opportunity, that will allow Youth Leadership Summit participants to see STEM in action and meet real world STEM professionals.

Real World STEM: Opportunities for Success

Since establishing the Inspiring the Next Generation of Innovators Project Ready STEM day, Urban League affiliate interest in STEM programming has increased. These hands-on, real world STEM experiences can influence the way youth look at Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) because of their understanding of the real world application.

Our goal for this session is to focus on how young people are taking advantage of STEM opportunities in their schools and communities, and bring STEM closer to our students by exposing them to the experience of their peers. We believe providing students with real world examples of STEM success is the best way to deepen Youth Leadership Summit participant investment in STEM academic content and careers. During the panel, middle- and high school students will discuss their STEM-focused projects and experiments. After the panel, Youth Leadership Summit students will participate in a walking tour of various STEM projects at individual learning stations so they can ask questions of the STEM student leaders and hear more about how they might work in their local communities on similar student-based projects.

Urban Voices SPEAKOUT

The Urban Voices SPEAKOUT offers participants the opportunity to weigh in on the most pressing topics of today. In group breakout sessions, facilitators will lead Youth Leadership Summit students in discussions to tease out their perspectives on topics, including:

- Resisting and Understanding Media Stereotypes
- Moment of Clarity: Hip Hop and the African American Community
- Healthy Friendships: How to be and Recognize a Good Friend
- Body Image: Seeing Yourself in a Positive Light
- Redeeming, Believing, and Preparing for your Dream
- #RealSocialMedia: Catfishing...Who’s Really Behind the Screen?
- I Am...Identities, Differences and the Act of Becoming Who You Are
- Leadership: Started from the bottom now I’m here
- Gender Roles

Our aim is to support the participants’ growth and preparation towards their goals, promote confidence, and enable them to navigate and address these areas in their daily lives.
Students from Englewood and other urban areas in Chicago have easier access to guns, drugs and violence than to computers, calculators and stethoscopes. To address this alarming reality, the Chicago Urban League’s S.T.E.M. (Support Talent through Exposure and Mentoring) program was created to provide a direct pathway from STEM education to STEM careers. By giving program participants the educational support, career exposure and mentoring that they need in order to achieve their own version of the American dream.

In the program, African American professionals will serve as mentors and real-life examples of people who have successfully created their own niche in STEM fields. With the convening of the Chicago Urban League’s 2013 “STEMing the Barriers to Opportunity” Spring Summit, the foundation has been laid for the creation of innovative public, private and non-profit partnerships in order to bolster the number of African Americans prepared to for future career opportunities in STEM fields.

We explicitly wanted to hear from engaged and empowered youth from across the nation — our Project Ready students! We asked — What can Project Ready participants do to redeem the American dream? How do they think that schools, local businesses and programs like Project Ready can assist a generation of young women of color in STEM careers? What can Project Ready do to bolster the educational support, career exposure and mentoring that students need in order to achieve their own version of the American dream?

The Elevate Campaign targets underserved students and young adults. It is the Elevate Campaign’s main focus. Minority students tend not to recognize their educational and employment possibilities. The Elevate Campaign looks to enable youth to harness their potential, take charge of their lives through greater competency in both life and future work, thus equipping them to better identify and maximize opportunities. The Campaign uses a two pronged approach to guide students and young adults educational, leadership and career mentorship to stimulate job awareness activities, network building and career mentoring to stimulate job creation.

Our goals are to increase opportunities for minority women to explore STEM occupations, to inspire the next generation of women to consider an entrepreneur; to provide students with the tools to effectively maneuver in the business sector as a creator of jobs; and to improve the perception of women of color in both business and STEM.

We believe this initiative will connect businesses, institutions of higher education, and the framework of existing programs, such as Project Ready, to assist a generation of young women of color to “redeem the American dream.” Langston Hughes asks the question, “What happens to a dream deferred?” We suggest that it becomes the W. I. S. E. Entrepreneurial Dream.

Realizing the need for African Americans to enter careers in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math in Oklahoma, the Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City has devised a plan for expounding on Point 1 of the 12 Point Plan: Putting Urban America Back to Work. Project Ready: Redeem the Dream OKC provides educational services and preventative educational programs geared towards postsecondary success and careers in STEM while also providing a holistic approach to serving participants through character building and mental health services.

By integrating Project Ready: Mentor students to provide peer to peer mentoring and linkage services with community partners and a full staff, this program provides opportunities for training, college, subsidized employment and/or on the job training in a STEM related field, thus strengthening the community both economically and equity.

The underrepresentation of certain ethnic groups in STEM fields is a result of poor support systems, lack of ready access to resources, and a cultural stigma of success that starts early and continues through postsecondary education.

Project Ready…STEP…Go! addresses these factors by capturing STEM interest at a young age and nurturing it through the students’ formative educational years, through a structure composed of youth advocacy, hands-on STEM activities and projects, exposure to STEM professionals from similar backgrounds, scholarship opportunities, and mentoring through the postsecondary experience.

The Elevate Campaign presents an opportunity for youth from Project Ready Affiliate sites to compete for awards and prizes at the Youth Leadership Summit.

Justice Kimmons, Arvina Sport, Jonqua Shaw and Gihana Horton
Chicago Urban League
S.T.E.M. (Support Talent through Exposure and Mentoring) Program

Rachel McGill, Sarah Hodges, Malisa Russell and Tia Williamson
Knoxville Area Urban League
W.I.S.E. Entrepreneurial Academy

Brian Bohannon, Melik Boddie, Emmanuel M-Tommy, and Makalia Miller
Knoxville Area Urban League
W.I.S.E. Entrepreneurial Academy

Darwin Huff, DeJa Hurte, Makeyshia Barber and James Ford
Mandalay Health, Inc.

Ahmed Sadiq, Keatun Hall, Warren Chen, Jr., and Luther Smart
Redeem the Dream OKC

The 5th Annual National Urban League Project Ready Case Competition presents an opportunity for youth from Project Ready Affiliate sites to compete for awards and prizes at the Youth Leadership Summit.

This year’s case is based on the National Urban League’s 2013 Jobs Rebuild America: Empower, Educate, Empower initiative. This is a two-part initiative that includes a series of public and private investments totaling more than $70 million over the next five years, through which existing Urban League programs will be augmented and new programs created, reaching thousands of job-seekers, youth and entrepreneurs, and putting urban America back to work; and an aggressive grassroots advocacy campaign focused on supporting federal legislative action to create permanent pathways to employment for at-risk teenagers and young adults.

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Postsecondary Success

Extending our focus on career and college readiness and postsecondary success, and in preparation for the Project Ready College Fair, the National Urban League is joining with American Honda Motor Company and Target to host sessions designed to help Youth Summit attendees improve their readiness for success, during and after high school.

The first session, hosted by American Honda Motor Company is a conversation with the 2013 National Urban League Education & Youth Development and Health & Quality of Life Division’s college interns. Reflecting on their college experience, they will share recommendations on how to navigate college in order to leverage opportunities for postsecondary success. The panelists will identify the kinds of investments young people need to make in themselves and the ways in which their high schools, and, ultimately, postsecondary institutions can assist in their setting and achieving their goals.

The second session is a plenary hosted by Target which will provide Youth Summit attendees with additional information and inspiration as they reflect on commitment, leadership and vision as a key part of their educational preparation and development.

Readiness Workshops

At the Youth Leadership Summit, students will participate in facilitated interactive workshops designed to present a range of perspectives on how students can prepare for their future. Our goal is for participants to end the session with a clearer sense of how to maximize the opportunities that await them.

City Year: A Pathway to Educational and Career Success presented by:

Financial Aid 101: Tips on Getting Money for College presented by Federal Student Aid, an office of the U.S. Department of Education sponsored by: Federal Student Aid

The Forward Thinking Student: Progressively Approaching the “College Going” Process Online presented by Fordham College Educators

Engineering is Everywhere presented by:

Cultural & Historical Literacy presented by:

How NOT to be Basic: Preparing for Life After High School sponsored by:

Developing A Culture of Leadership sponsored by:

Jazz @ Lincoln Center: Innovation and Leadership

The National Urban League is pleased to provide Youth Leadership Summit participants with a Jazz Workshop this year. During this session, Jazz at Lincoln Center will explore the inner workings of a Jazz ensemble—as well as demonstrate how a Jazz band represents a model of great business leadership—and apply the lessons to the concept of autonomous teams in work.

Jazz at Lincoln Center’s Jazz and Business Workshops explore the inner workings of a jazz ensemble within a business context, and apply the lessons of jazz performance and improvisation toward teaching useful strategies and best practices in managing autonomous business teams.

Created in collaboration between Professor John Hollwitz and jazz pianist and educator Eli Yamin, since its inception, more than 400 participants per year from nearly 30 countries have taken part in the Jazz and Business Workshop. They have included chief executive officers, mid-career managers, MBA students, and undergraduates.

Jazz offers an unparalleled educational model that illustrates how teams can effectively deliver quality products and services in high-pressure and time-constrained environments while still leaving room for each team member’s voice to weigh in fully. The event will feature live performances by some of today’s top Jazz musicians paired with interactive discussions and team-based exercises that will impart lessons in leadership through swing.
**Project Wellness: Teen**

The *Project Wellness: Teen* is a half-day session at the Youth Leadership Summit. Focused on enlightening youth on how thoughts, behaviors, diet, exercise, experiences, and relationships all contribute to their development and overall well-being.

*Project Wellness: Teen* is built upon five principles:

- a shared responsibility and accountability for teen health and wellness
- an asset-based approach to changing behavior and attitude via effective instruction and high-quality content
- diverse, innovative and effective partnerships
- robust, durable and meaningful youth and parent engagement, and
- the innovative use of peer-led content and dialogue.

In all of our work the National Urban League believes positive outcomes for urban youth are best achieved when the program design is based on the assets and interests of stakeholders rather than a sole focus on existing deficiencies. This is reflected in the design of these sessions, as *Project Wellness: Teen* works to build on the connections—existing and specific strategies, high-quality curricula and content and practical approaches that can sustain a participant’s interest, positively alter behavior and attitude and affect the trajectory of the lives of children and youth—in an enriching and supportive developmental environment with the explicit goal of preparing for success after high school.

Sponsored by Cenpatico, the *Project Wellness: Teen* session at the Youth Leadership Summit will begin with a comprehensive hour-long panel, focused on the overall promotion of teen health and wellness, and will be followed by breakout sessions (organized by age and gender) focused on specific wellness strategies and issues that confront today’s urban youth – Healthy Relationships; Healthy Minds; Healthy Bodies; Healthy Living; and Healthy Images.

To provide room for conversations, the sessions will be held in a small group setting, giving youth the opportunity to address and challenge myths and misconceptions regarding identity, relationships, self-worth, self-presentation, and introducing them to a new way of interpreting their everyday experiences. While the students are in breakout sessions, chaperones will attend a Professional Development session on Stress & Resource Management, and best practices when working with children and youth.

The National Urban League is excited to once-again offer this opportunity to youth from our affiliate movement. Providing urban youth with additional productive exposure to an array of developmental opportunities, knowledgeable adults outside their families, and motivated peers can accelerate positive emotional, behavioral and attitudinal development and lead to success in college, career and life.

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**Youth Voice & Investments**

The National Urban League will host its Annual Youth Leadership Summit Town Hall, entitled – “Hip Hop Culture: Exploitation and Empowerment.” Moderated by Rev. Lennox Yearwood Jr., President and CEO of the Hip Hop Caucus, the Town Hall will be held on Friday, July 26th at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, PA.

The event will engage youth and youth advocates and leaders in a dialogue about Hip Hop – what it means to them and how it can used as a tool for empowerment, when exercised properly. This is an opportunity to gain the insight and commentary from the youth on the challenges they face as the next hip hop generation. The Town Hall will culminate with questions and reactions from the audience, which will be comprised of our 2013 Youth Leadership Summit participants and youth from the Philadelphia Metropolitan area.

**Fun & Fitness Challenge**

As part of its commitment to youth and healthy choices, the National Urban League is continuing its tradition of hosting the Fun & Fitness Challenge. This fun, interactive event provides Summit participants with the opportunity to be physically and mentally engaged while competing with one another in a series of challenges. Activities are designed to reinforce the message that mental skills and physical activity contribute to good leadership development, and to promote fitness and deepen youth people’s commitment to health. Teams will play against each other to win points and prizes, and celebrate their health and well-being.
The National Urban League is proud to be hosting its 4th Annual Project Ready College Fair during the Youth Leadership Summit.

Our Project Ready Invitational College Fair is designed to provide Philadelphia area scholarship organizations, college access organizations and colleges and universities with the opportunity to meet with nearly 600 youth from across the country.

Participating Institutions Include:

Alabama A&M University
American University
Arcadia University
ASA College
Barry University
Bates College
Boston College
Bryant University
Carleton College
Case Western Reserve University
Chatham University
Choate Rosemary Hall
City Year, Inc.
Clairin University
Columbia University
Cornell University
DeVry University
Dickinson College
Duquesne University
Educational Testing Service
Elizabeth City State University
Elon University
Emory University
Hamilton College
Hampton University
Haverford College
Howard University
Jackie Robinson Foundation
Johnson C. Smith University
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Middlebury College
New College of Florida
NROTC Scholarship Program
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Philiips Academy Andover
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
Rhodes College
Rice University
Rutgers University
Salve Regina University
Simmons College
Smith College
Spelman College
Temple University
The George Washington University
The Lincoln University
The Pennsylvania State University
U.S. Department of Education
Office of Federal Student Aid
United States Marine Corps
University of California, Irvine
University of Kentucky
University of New Haven
University of Pennsylvania
Valencia College
Villanova University
Wesleyan University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI)
WVU Institute of Technology
Xavier University of LA

The National Urban League is proud to be hosting its 4th Annual Legacy of Success Luncheon.

This luncheon is one of the highlights of the Youth Leadership Summit. Created in response to a former student participant’s excitement in meeting an actual Ph.D. recipient, the Legacy of Success Luncheon has been designed to provide Youth Leadership Summit participants with an opportunity to meet and interact with successful women and men of color across various professional fields.

In keeping with our Youth Leadership Summit theme, “Building on the Dream: They Were…I Am…I Am... EMPOWERED!” our youth will meet and dine with professionals who are asked to share their personal, educational and professional journeys, and answer questions pertaining to college access, readiness and leadership. In addition to their time with youth, volunteers will be provided with an opportunity to network with other professionals from various fields of expertise.

Through this afternoon event, Urban League youth will gain access to important information and perspectives that will help them further develop critical life-skills and goals.
Youth Leadership Awards Ceremony

The 2013 Youth Leadership Awards Ceremony honors the outstanding youth and adults who exemplify the ideals of our mission and work in their everyday lives. The National Urban League recognizes excellence in academic achievement and a dedication to mentoring, both of which are integral parts of ensuring success and prosperity of our youth.

Eddie L. Moore Caring Adult of the Year

The National Urban League Youth Leadership Summit Caring Adult of the Year Award was established in honor of Columbia, South Carolina Urban Leaguer and NULITES Team Member, Eddie L. Moore, who died unexpectedly of a massive stroke at the age of 32 on April 7, 2009. President/CEO James T. McLawhorn once observed, “To see that level of enthusiasm about serving young people was inspiring, especially from such a young man. You didn’t have to question Eddie’s level of commitment to his job.”

The Caring Adult of the Year award recognizes staff workers and volunteers who work tirelessly to empower and assist in the development of young people in the Affiliate Movement.

“Empower Our Children” Outstanding Affiliate Award

Formerly known as the NULITES Chapter of the Year Award, the “Empower Our Children” Outstanding Affiliate Award recognizes the work of one youth-serving affiliate that demonstrates (through its youth programs, members served, parental involvement and community partnerships) its dedication to empowering our children and commitment to the I AM EMPOWERED goal that Every American Child is Ready for College, Work & Life by 2025.

National Urban League Youth Vanguard Award

For nearly 25 years, the National Urban League has focused on serving young people through innovative youth initiatives such as the Men’s Lynch Scholarship Builders, Campaign for African American Achievement, National Achievers Society, the National Urban League Incentives To Excel & Succeed (NULITES), and, most recently, Project Ready, this award recognizes innovative leadership among our youth who have graduated from these initiatives.

“I Am Empowered” Youth of the Year Award

The “I Am Empowered” Youth of the Year is an award shared with the entire movement. The recipient exemplifies a positive outlook and character, participates in extracurricular activities, has improved grades, exhibits exemplary involvement with community service, and effectively demonstrates the impact of the Urban League programs in his or her personal development and empowerment.

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MarathonOil

The “I Am Empowered” Marathon Oil Social Responsibility Scholarship is awarded to high school seniors who can demonstrate how they have been empowered and will empower others in the future. The winning applicants must be active participants of an Urban League Youth Development Program and demonstrate how they have been empowered by the Urban League through their academic studies, community service and other demonstrations of empowerment. Scholarships will be awarded to the students, who will be entering a postsecondary institution in the Fall.

Felicia Ada Harris / Knoxville Area Urban League
Rekeenya Cunningham / Knoxville Area Urban League
Sheri J. Cunningham / Knoxville Area Urban League
Joshua Wyman / Lorain County Urban League
Ashley Hudson / Tri-County Urban League
Cary Hightower / Tri-County Urban League
Catrina Warren / Tri-County Urban League
James A. Thaddies Jr. / Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City
Teahre Breare Jakes / Urban League of Palm Beach County
Isaiah Wilson / Urban League of Rochester
Shantique Cowans / Urban League of Rochester

This year’s case is based on the National Urban League’s 2013 Jobs Rebuild America: Emply, Educate, Empower Initiative. Five student teams from Project Ready programs throughout the affiliate movement submitted proposals addressing the following questions – What can Project Ready participants do to redeem the American dream? How do you think that schools, local businesses and programs like Project Ready can assist you in building your assets as you develop youth-led campaigns to ensure the necessary investments are made?

The 2013 Case Competition finalists are the: Chicago Urban League, Knoxville Area Urban League, Minneapolis Urban League, Urban League of Greater Ol thorora City, and Urban League of Rochester. The winning team will be announced at the Legacy of Success Luncheon & Awards Ceremony.

ETS Youth Leadership Summit Scholarships

Continuing its deep and long-standing commitment to the education and preparation of the nation’s youth beyond assessment, for the past four years, the Education Testing Service (ETS) has generously provided scholarships to Urban League affiliates and youth who would otherwise not have been able to participate in the Youth Leadership Summit.
Real World STEM: Institutions, Education & Opportunity

2013 Project Ready “Inspiring the Next Generation of Innovators" - Real World STEM: Institutions, Education & Opportunity event will take place at The Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, PA. Established in 1824, in the spirit of inquiry and discovery embodied by Benjamin Franklin, the mission of The Franklin Institute is to inspire a passion for learning about science and technology. This unique opportunity will allow Youth Leadership Summit participants to see Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) in action and meet real world STEM professionals.

Students will have a Passport to The Color of Science which will allow them to tour different exhibit areas and interact with thematic scientists. At each station, students will learn hands-on activities supporting specific science areas. They will also be able to ask the scientists / engineers any questions about their career paths and what is required to “make it”. The Passport will contain biographic information on each professional and will provide them with a comprehensive overview of STEM.

STEM Passport Stations include:

- "Amazing Machine" The World of Engineering – Mechanical Engineer / Systems Engineer
- "Changing Earth" Our Planet – Environmental Engineer / Climatologist
- "Electricity" The World of Electricity – Electrical Engineer / Physicist
- "Franklin Food Works" The Science of Taste – Food Scientist / Culinary Expert
- "Kids Science" Making Science Fun – General Scientist / Engineer
- "Space Command" The World of Astrophysics – Astrophysicists / Astronomer
- "The Franklin Air Show" Gateway to the Sky Aeronautical Engineering / Pilot
- "The Giant Heart" Cardiology and Medicine – Cardiologists MD / Physiologist

Our goal is for real-world experiences such as our annual STEM Day to help increase our participants' understanding of the world of STEM, and extend the learning opportunities found in the National Urban League’s Project Ready: STEM Program.
We Thank Our Sponsors
We appreciate the support for our 24th Annual National Urban League Youth Leadership Summit!

YOUTH CHAMPIONS

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YOUTH SPONSOR

U.S. Army

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Thank you to The Walt Disney Company for sponsoring the production of the 2013 Youth Leadership Summit Program Book.
Every kid deserves the thrill of knowing the answer.

Altria salutes the 2013 Youth Leadership Summit.

Honoring Achievement

Target is on track to give $1 BILLION FOR EDUCATION by the end of 2015.

Learn about the difference this support is making for kids nationwide at: Target.com/Education.
LEADING THE COMMUNITY TOWARD A STRONGER FUTURE.

The U.S. Army is proud to partner with the National Urban League in sharing the vision of empowering communities and changing lives. As Army soldiers, young men and women experience educational and leadership opportunities that train them to be leaders. Working together, we can enhance our communities and empower the nation.

There’s strong. Then there’s Army Strong. Find out all the ways being a soldier can strengthen your community at yourarmy.com.
COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

BEST BUY IS PROUD TO CELEBRATE THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

Best Buy is proud of our commitment to help make a difference. Together, we're creating jobs, opportunities and strong communities. And that's building for the future.

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Your perspective powers our innovation.

Our people are our greatest asset. Their backgrounds and perspectives are as diverse as the global market we serve. It's what enables us to develop amazing new technologies for global markets to connect and enrich the lives of people around the world.

We need your skills. Your experiences. Your unique point of view.

"Intel has over 200 programs in more than 70 countries that provide professional development for teachers, support student achievement in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), enable access to relevant, local digital content and more." 2012 Intel Corporate Responsibility Report

Find more inside at intel.com/jobs/diversity

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The best thing we serve is the community.

Our commitment to serving the community goes beyond what's on our menu. From providing neighborhood kids in need with backpacks and school supplies to working with UNCF to provide college scholarships for deserving students. We're committed to help make a difference ... one neighborhood at a time.

Find out more at 36Black.com

Scale the Tallest Mountain
Tackle a Seemingly Unattainable Goal
Change the World

At Honda we believe no task is impossible when powered by dreams and supported by teamwork.

Honda would like to salute the National Urban League for meeting every challenge and leading the way toward achievement of equal opportunity and empowerment for all Americans.

To learn more about Honda philosophy in action visit dreams.honda.com
Improving Lives.

www.cenpatico.com

ETS is proud to support the National Urban League and its goal of helping students excel in college and their careers.

www.ets.org
Youth Leadership Summit Steering Committee

Recognition

Fatou Fall
My sister and I are the first generation of our family that was born in America. My family originated from Senegal, Africa. We speak Wolof and French. I am the oldest female in my family, and have numerous brothers and sisters. I am planning to attend the College of Staten Island in the Fall of 2013, with a double major in theater and communications and minor in Marketing. It a great honor to have been chosen to represent the youth. This gave the confidence to believe in myself knowing that other people believe in me achieving my dream to become a successful actress and businesswoman. My advice for people is to be thankful for what you have and strive to get better in life.

Kareemah Johnson
I am 15 years old, and am in the 11th grade. I have two younger brothers and one older stepbrother. Being a youth leader is very important to me. It gives me the opportunity to inspire other people to lead as well. When I grow up I would like to be a therapist or guidance counselor, because I like to help people with their problems. Advice I would give to someone younger than me is to always be yourself and live the life you want to live, not the life someone else wants you to live.

Lauren Gonzales
Building on a Dream: They were…. I am….
We are Empowered!
This theme gives us the ability to rise positively in this generation. “They were” refers to our ancestors — their dream, their struggle, their hope and their foundation for us. W.E.B Du Bois, an influential African American activist who fought for equality, once said “Now is the accepted time, not tomorrow, not some more convenient season. It is today that our best work can be done and not some future day or future year. It is today that we fit ourselves for the greater usefulness of tomorrow. Today is the seed time, now are the hours of work, and tomorrow comes the harvest and the playtime.”

Louise Okyne
I am a rising junior, and the middle of five children. My goals are to graduate as valedictorian, attend one of my top ten colleges, major in pre-med, and be a pediatric cardiologist. To achieve my goals, I must possess skills including leadership, respect, responsibility, grit, resiliency, and optimism. “Building on the Dream: They were… I am… We are …Empowered,” is the idea that each generation before us has paved a path for individuals to be empowered. It is our duty as the future of tomorrow to build on the Urban League’s dream and mission to enable African Americans and other minorities to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power and civil rights.

T. Myles Pittman
I am a rising senior, and the eldest of two siblings. Being a youth leader means leading by example. It is about walking the path that you would like to see others walk. When I get older I would like to do some work with graphic design. I decided to be a part of 2013 NUL Youth Leadership Summit to contribute to helping my fellow scholars network and better themselves individually. If there was a time capsule of this Summit, I would put in a banner with our motto, The advice I have for younger students is: realize that you can truly be anything you set your mind to. My advice to adults is to allow a younger person to form their own ambitions.

The National Urban League Youth Leadership Summit Steering Committee represents some of the best and brightest young people who are involved in the Urban League youth leadership programs. Annually, the National Urban League invites the host affiliate and regional affiliates for the Annual Conference to identify young people from their programs who will serve as ambassadors for the Youth Leadership Summit. As part of the Steering Committee, these young people meet with representatives of the National Urban League Education & Youth Development Division to create the Youth Leadership Summit theme.
We Salute Our 2013 High School Graduates!

The National Urban League congratulates high school graduates from Education & Youth Development programs throughout the affiliate movement as they prepare for college, work and life. The graduating seniors include students from the following affiliates.

Columbia Urban League graduates will be pursuing postsecondary success at: Claflin University, University of South Carolina, United States Army, and United States Navy.

Deon Harris
Edrich McCullough
Jeramy Austin
Kienna Goodman
Tiesqaqad

Houston Area Urban League graduates will be pursuing postsecondary success at: Blinn College, Houston Baptist University, Phlaimd Schong College, Prairie View A&M, Texas A&M, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, University of Texas at Austin.

Amber Butler
Brandon Jones
Chas Jones
Chet Brooks
Ebony Brown
Jahtheel Waddit
Keyona Antoine
Tiesqaqad

Knoxville Urban Alliance graduates will be pursuing postsecondary success at: Austin Peay State University, Tennessee State University, Tennessee Technological University, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

Alanna Williams
Amirah Hadi-Al Rehaume
Bradley Houston
Brenda Morris
Brooke Thompson
Felicia Harris
Hannah Hodges
Jaron Bowan
Jonathan Bingham
Jazmine Smith
Maicaela Ash-Thompson
Makenzie Mosby
Mariska Warren
Melina Russel
Nigel Bethel
Samira Divwa
Sheldon “Cole” Green

Lorain County Urban League graduates will be pursuing postsecondary success at: Cleveland State Community College, Lorain Community College, and University of Akron.

Serina Treadwell
Takura Benavides
Tia Cologi

Metro/Wilmington Urban League graduates will be pursuing postsecondary success at: Delaware Technical & Community College, Delaware State University, Community College of Delaware of New Castle, University of Delaware.

Antoina Foxx
Erin Emory
Kenneth Screven
Siana Anderson

Louisville Urban League graduates will be pursuing postsecondary success at: Eastern Kentucky University, Jefferson Community College, University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, and University of Missouri.

Alexandria Williams
Amarrah Sa’ad-Heaume
Bradley Houston
Brenda Morris
Brooke Thompson
Felicia Harris
Hannah Hodges
Jaron Bowan
Jonathan Bingham
Jazmine Smith
Maicaela Ash-Thompson
Makenzie Mosby
Mariska Warren
Melina Russel
Nigel Bethel
Samira Divwa
Sheldon “Cole” Green

Urban League of Greater Chattanooga graduates will be pursuing postsecondary success at: Austin Peay State University, Chattanooga State Community College, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

Antiona Jones
Antonia Hurrin-Morrow, Jr.
Cardell Davis
Courtney Cousin
Darlyluster
David Tolliver
Desiree Jones
Diamond Henrun
Diera Wilborn
John Paul Mobbien
Namire Shonpire-Boykin
Teneria Dotson
Willie Moss

Urban League of Greater Cincinnati graduates will be pursuing postsecondary success at: Bowling Green State University, Central State University, Cincinnati State, College of Staten Island (CUNY), Eastern Michigan University, Shawnee State University, the Ohio State University, the University of Cincinnati, the University of Toledo, and the University of Toledo.

Amirah Showes
Antonia Hurrin-Morrow
Antavia Lee-Worman
Charles Weaver
Damarco Chapman
Dianna Peterson
Dondra Gordon
Don'thy McKag
Dontrice Wells
Evertton Thomas
Fatou Fall
Gary Foster
Hylunda Fields
Jaylin Lewis
J'Mar Thomas
Ka'aira Sherman
Keiah Moore
Kortez Barnes
Kyra Clark
Lakraysia McDaniel
Laquisha Lindsey
Larrika Shaw
Lashasa Adams
Makayla Stephens
Montava Hill
Nie'unte Brown
Precious Ewing
Reginal Wallace
Ryan Connell
Shawn Carter
Shekinhawk
Tyasha Henson
Xaviera Billard-Mason

Urban League of Greater Dallas and North Central Texas graduates will be pursuing postsecondary success at: Baylor University, Cedar Valley Community College, Texas A&M University, Texas Women’s University, University of North Texas and the United States Army.

Brand Fields
Brianna Carmichael
Chy Cole Cory
Daielle Sandeiras
Jabari Felton
Kent Tucker
Reggie Rush

Urban League of Middle Tennessee graduates will be pursuing postsecondary success at: Austin Peay State University, Charleston Southern University, Middle Tennessee State University, and Tennessee State University.

Antonio Burris
Bryan Dollar
Coltyn Maberry
Desmond Taylor
Dominic Wilkins
Dylan Wilson
Tytus Hinson

Urban League of New Orleans graduates will be pursuing postsecondary success at: Agnes Scott College, Birmingham Southern, Dillard University, Goucher University, Howard University, Louisiana State University, Loyola University-New Orleans, Nichols State University, Northwestern State University, Southeastern Louisiana University, Southern University, and A&M College.

Urban League of New Orleans graduates will be pursuing postsecondary success at: Delaware Institute of Art, Lakeland College. University of South Carolina.

Jonathan Hills
Joshua Joseph Young
Julian A. Preston
Kerry Hart
Layandia Gristead
Maya Benth
Melissa Londono
Noel Bery Jr.
Oscar Garcia Rafael
Rafael Obarb Jr.
Rakia Dokes
Riekane Boutraud
Rossia Ampperu
Staar-Aleasha Campbell
Tatarisha Aych
Tayaja Molette
Travis M. Jones
Thesxsalata V. Joseph
Tra Thomas
Wesley Garrett
Willie Jones III

Urban League of Rochester graduates will be pursuing postsecondary success at: Clarkson University, Monroe Community College, and Niagara University.

DeAndre Boursard
Isaiah Wilson
Thomas Hilare

Urban League of Rochester graduates will be pursuing postsecondary success at: Charleston Southern University, University of South Carolina.

Vincent Clark

Urban League of Rochester graduates will be pursuing postsecondary success at: Clarkson University, Monroe Community College, and Niagara University.

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