

ACE Completion Ceremony

By G. Crimm

ACE Mentoring Program 2009 Completion Ceremony was hosted by the Construction Training School on June 17, 2009.

This year marked a milestone for the St. Louis affiliate with their entry in the design competition sponsored by the Construction Industry Round Table (CIRT). St. Louis received an honorable mention for their design of St. Louis Art/Theatre Center.

The participants included Quindarryl Adams, Serenity Breeland, Felix Cooley, Brandon Dyer, Byron Dyer, Martez Johnson, Stephen Lang, Brittany Madison, Danielle Redden, Eric Redden and Veronica Simmons. Mentors from HOK Construction Services, Inc., URS Corporation, Tri Architects, and Jacobs Engineering, Inc. facilitated meetings and visits to BSI Constructors, Inc. project sites, Washington University School of Architecture, Southern Illinois University—

Edwardsville School of Engineering, URS Corporation, Clayco offices and the Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Program training school.

The ACE mentors are planning next year's schedule and look forward to working with CCC students. Thank you mentors for another great year!



Seated L-R: Mentor Amy Phillips, Gwen Crimm, Veronica Simmons, Brittany Madison, Mentor Kyle Wagner. Standing L-R: Felix Cooley, Martez Johnson, Eric Redden, Zack Pierson, Jared Hall, Quindarryl Adams and Mentor David Ziolkowski.

Career Coaching

By G. Crimm

Construction Career Coaching Program (CCCP) concluded its 2008-2009 year with a completion ceremony hosted by the Construction Training School. On July 8, 2009 students were honored for their accomplishments and offered thanks to their coaches with their families and friends attending.

Over a 10-month period nine participants were coached by ten coaches from HOK Construction

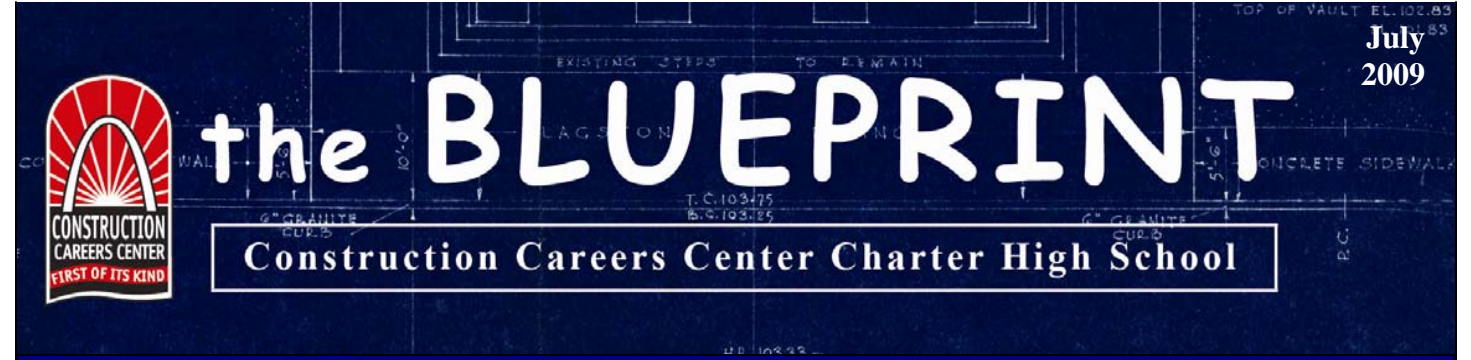
Services, Inc., Simms Building Group, S. M. Wilson & Co., and Fred Weber, Inc. CCCP participants attended personal development seminars and construction industry luncheons and dinners and served as hosts at other construction industry functions.

The program sponsored by the Regional Business Council-Diversity Initiative is designed to prepare minority men and women to become successful construction business owners.

The 2009 participants are Dominique Adams, Serenity Breeland, Brandon Dyer, Byron Dyer, Stephon Gates, Robert Gregory, Martez Johnson, Veronica Simmons and Jerome Sims. Their plans are to attend two or four year colleges pursuing construction related degrees or be employed by local utility companies. Congratulations to all for successful completion of the CCCP year!



L-R Back Row: Stephon Gates, Byron Dyer, Dominique Adams, Coach Ryan Perryman, Jerome Sims, Coach Michael Carter, Robert Gregory, Coach Tony Ruebsam, Martez Johnson, Brandon Dyer.
L-R Front Row: Gwen Crimm, Placement Coordinator, Veronica Simmons, Coach Diane Henebry.



July 2009

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Respect, Responsibility and Safety! Congratulations to the Class of 2009 who graduated June 25, 2009 at Harris Stowe State University! I am very pleased of the great accomplishments made during this past school year! Student achievement continues to improve as seen through increases in GPAs, WorkKeys scores and End of Course Exams.



Gina Washington

I continue to seek the support of parents to reiterate being on time to school and striving for daily academic excellence. Research indicates that when parents and families are involved, students achieve at higher levels, have better attendance, and exhibit a positive attitude toward school. To affect positive change, parents must find time to participate in their student's education. Parents can do this by attending monthly PTSO meetings, motivating students to take advantage of our before/after school programs, attending parent/teacher conferences, volunteering at CCC, and communicating with your student's teachers daily.

I look forward to working closely with parents and students in the 2009-2010 school year. School begins **August 17, 2009 at 8:00 a.m.** Enrollment for the upcoming school year is still open, so if you know of a student who is interested in attending CCC, please have them call 314-588-9991 and speak to Ms. Drake. As always, it is my pleasure to serve the students and families of CCC. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me directly at 314-588-9991 extension 101.

With Bobcat Pride,
Mrs. Washington

Mural Dedication

By D. Ruben

The fourth term offered a unique opportunity in art at CCC! Two artists from Craft Alliance came every day to take Mrs. Ruben's A2 class of 13 students through the process of brainstorming, designing, and making the 8' x 5' mural that is now permanently installed on the ceiling of the Grattan Street entrance. All ideas came from students. It is a beautiful mural whose layered images depict life at CCC from the students' point of views. The central image consists of three students sitting atop the school building contemplating a multitude of ideas. Standing behind them, on a blueprint background, are three students looking at plans. The border consists of images applied through screen printing, decal, and resist techniques. Near the top are the CCC initials. The effort students put into this project and the manner in which they worked together sharing ideas is what made this project such a success!

Mural Project Students:

Mercedes Adams, Chloé Anderson, Ventricis Bailey, Albert Bradford, Felix Cooley, Kirstie Dora, LeRon Fields, Brad Komerous, John Moore, Veronica Simmons, Damien Thomas, Jerome Sims, Izaiah Johnson.



Making Magic With Myths: CCC Students Visit Daycare

By M. Oyola



The terrible, princess-eating dragon, Orochi, appears from behind the backdrop. His eight heads bob on necks made of pipe cleaner. The audience lets out a collective, ear-piercing squeal. The fifth-term mythology class at CCC visited Perpetual Life Daycare Thursday, July 2, to present puppet shows to the daycare's students. The shows were based on myths of Ancient Japan, which was a recent unit topic. The students spent two class periods putting the shows together. First, the groups had to choose which Japanese myth they would translate into puppet shows. They then planned all parts of the shows, including script writing, puppet creation, and voice acting. This semester, the mythology class also covered Egyptian, Norse,

and Greek stories. Each unit included a large project, such as hieroglyphics and plays. To see a multimedia presentation of the shows, visit www.constructioncareerscenteractivities.blogspot.com.

Ameren Partnership

By G. Crimm

Ameren Skilled Trade Crafts Education Program for 2009 culminated after five months of preparation for careers in the utilities industry with the Ameren Ambassadors.

CCC participants benefited from monthly seminars with the ambassadors, mock interviews, visits to a power plant and Ameren's headquarters. The motto for our students was, "When preparation meets opportunity it equals success."

As a result, three Construction Careers Center graduates from the Class of 2009, Brandon Dyer, Robert Gregory and Montez Tabron were successful in passing the entrance exams. They have gone through the interviewing process and have two additional steps left towards full employment and hopefully will join the two Construction Careers Center's graduates from the Class of 2008 as Ameren employees.

We look forward to more successes in 2010. Thank you Ameren for your leadership!



Robert Gregory

Graduation

By G. Wilson, Sr.

The 35 proud graduates of CCC understood much more than what was taught in the classroom. They believed that learning is not just about understanding the construction of a subfloor, complex mathematical problems or figuring out grammatical endings. It is about freeing oneself from the unconscious constraints of perception. They knew that whatever they could conceive, they could achieve anything that was set in their minds.

St. Louis native and political activist for more than 40 years, State Senator Robin Wright Jones confirmed this belief as she began her commencement address to the class of 2009 with, "You must be who you are and utilize all of your gifts." This comment came after a heartfelt rendition, sung by senior LeRon Fields, of Marvin Sapp's hit song *Never Would Have Made It* rang out through the auditorium at Harris Stowe State University. Senator Wright Jones stated that the graduates were choosing paths that will make a change in our nation. She asked the families in the audience to continue to support the graduates as they set out to make this change.



L-R Seated: Valedictorian Serenity Breeland, Senator Robin Wright Jones, Board Member Hattie Jackson. L-R Standing: Len Toenjes, President AGC of St. Louis, Board Member Paul Shaughnessy, Salutatorian Izaiah Johnson, Board Members Rich Ledbetter, Terry Nelson, and Don Pohl.

Scholarship Award

By G. Crimm



Serenity Breeland

Congratulations to Serenity Breeland, 2009 Construction Careers Center Graduate, for receiving the Parsons Brinckerhoff – Golden Apple Scholarship (\$2,500) from the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO). This scholarship is awarded to a graduating high school student who has been a COMTO member for at least one year and has been accepted at an accredited college/university/vocational or technical institution with at least a 2.0 GPA. The recipient must have expressed a desire to work in the field of transportation in the disciplines of finance, marketing or communications. Serenity was up against some strong competition nationwide and won the scholarship by a tenth of a point.