



Guilford Education Alliance Newsletter

November 19, 2008

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Upcoming Events

Thursday November 20: College Tech Prep Showcase at Weaver Academy, 300 S. Spring Street, Greensboro; 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm; for more information call 370-8282

Friday November 28-Saturday November 29: The Points of Light Youth Leadership Institute is a state-of-the-art training program designed to teach leadership and community service skills to high school-age students; 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Trainers Terry Aiken and Di-Ann Williams will lead this upcoming session for local high school students. Pre-registration required. For more information contact Keonna Hayes at 882-4126 or khayes@ywcah.com



As holiday shoppers struggle to find the perfect gift for friends, family and colleagues, Guilford Education Alliance and DonorsChoose.org recommend giving the gift

Welcome to the Guilford Education Alliance newsletter. We hope you find this informative and helpful!

Editorial: Best Practices for Kids

Guilford Education Alliance's education summit Thursday November 13th was a time of uplift, of focusing on programs both here in Guilford County and throughout the nation that benefit kids. Under the theme "What Works," the several hundred community members who attended the conference at the Koury Convention Center heard syndicated newspaper columnist and Pulitzer Prize-winner Leonard Pitts Jr. speak about programs he sees as valuable in helping children get ahead, from the Sunflower County Freedom Project in rural Mississippi to the Harlem Children's Zone in New York... http://www.news-record.com/content/2008/11/14/article/editorial_best_practices_for_kids#nrcAnc_Comments

Click the link below to view and order pictures of the 2008 Education Summit from J. Harris Photography:

<http://www.pictage.com/client/event.do?event=584064&emailFlag=true>

Harder Reading Test Lowers Many Scores

It's not saying much, but students in Guilford County Schools fared about the same as their counterparts statewide on a new reading test. The test was introduced last school year, raising standards and setting back schools across the state. State and local data were released Thursday for the ABCs of Public Education. The state's testing and accountability program examines student proficiency in reading and math in third through eighth grades and on end-of-course tests in high

of education. Public school teachers with classroom resource needs are connected to individuals that want to help through www.DonorsChoose.org. The nonprofit organization DonorsChoose.org offers GivingCards which allow the recipients to go online and fund the Guilford County public school project of their choice.

"Giving a DonorsChoose.org GivingCard for the holidays has a three-fold return: recipients get to choose the school project they want to fund and see the lasting impact for students, givers are able to deduct the cost of the GivingCard from their taxes, and North Carolina schools receive much needed resources. How many other holiday purchases can you say that about?" said Katie Bisbee, DonorsChoose.org - Atlantic executive director.

To purchase DonorsChoose.org GivingCards in time for the holidays, donors can visit www.DonorsChooes.org and click the 'Gifts' tab or go directly to

<http://www.donorschoose.org/donors/giftoptions.html>. To give to a Guilford County project,

isit <http://www.donorschoose.org/donors/search.html?zone=301&community=749:1>

Our Sponsors

Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro, High Point Community Foundation, the Cemala Foundation, the Weaver Foundation, the Tannenbaum Sternberger Foundation, Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, and Duke Energy Corporation, Lincoln Financial Group Foundation, Allen Tate Realtors, and The News & Record, as well as many individuals.

Please join in thanking them for their support!

school... http://www.news-record.com/content/2008/11/06/article/harder_reading_test_lowers_many_scores

Higher Standards Signal New Expectations for NC Schools and Students

North Carolina public schools felt the full effects of new, increased standards for reading in 2008 as fewer students earned passing scores on the state's end-of-grade tests in reading and fewer schools and districts demonstrated performance at the highest levels under the state's school accountability program, the ABCs of Public Education. North Carolina has been working to raise standards over time because students need to perform at higher levels so that they can graduate high school prepared to be competitive in today's labor market and at the community colleges or universities. These higher standards also better align North Carolina's expectations with the National Assessment of Educational Progress, also known as "The Nation's Report Card."...

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/newsroom/news/2008-09/20081106-01>

High Point Grant to Prevent Child Abuse

The United Way of Greater High Point is one of six community organizations that will use grant money to examine what strengthens families in the area. The charity organization is hoping the almost \$100,000 two-year Strengthening Families United Grant will help decrease the number of abused and neglected children...

<http://news14.com/Default.aspx?ArID=601326>

Hunt Won't be U.S. Secretary of Education

Former Gov. Jim Hunt says you can take him off the list of potential education secretaries in Barack Obama's administration. He says he'll advise Obama on education, but has no interest in going to Washington. Hunt called Dome on his way back to the East Coast from a three-day stay in Seattle, where he attended a Gates Foundation meeting on education. Obama education advisers were there, including leaders of Obama's education advisory board...

<http://www.newsobserver.com/politics/story/1292637.html>



To donate materials to Guilford County Schools Teacher visit

http://www.gcsnc.com/teacher_warehouse/index.html

Join Our Mailing List!

Scores Soften Wake's Boast

New test results are making it harder for Wake County school leaders to continue to claim that they have one of the best school systems in the nation. Results show that 70.8 percent of Wake's elementary and middle school students are passing tougher new state exams, compared with 90.4 percent three years ago. It was those higher scores that earned Wake national recognition for its academic efforts, especially its diversity policy...
<http://www.newsobserver.com/news/education/wake/story/1291237.html>

K-12 Issues Will Await President

At the end of a presidential campaign in which education received some attention but never emerged as a top-tier issue, analysts were trying to look beyond this week's election to the K-12 issues awaiting the next president and gauge where they might fit as a new administration prepares to grapple with a global economic crisis...
<http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2008/11/05/11outlook.h28.html?tmp=830992810>

Obama and Our Schools

President-elect Barack Obama and his aides are sending signals that education may be on the back burner at the beginning of the new administration. He ranked it fifth among his priorities, and if it is being downplayed, that's a mistake. We can't meaningfully address poverty or grow the economy as long as urban schools are failing...
http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/13/opinion/13kristof.html?_r=2&oref=slogin&oref=slogin

New Course is Needed for No Child Law, Educators Say

Change is coming to the federal No Child Left Behind Act. With Barack Obama heading to the White House and dozens of additional Democrats elected to Congress, President Bush's signature education bill almost certainly will face profound revisions, experts across the country say...
<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/education/20081110-9999-1n10nclb.html>

Teacher Grants

1. The Junior League of Greensboro is funding \$7,500 worth of classroom projects in Guilford County for the 2008-09 school year. GCS projects listed on DonorsChoose.org will be considered for funding. To be eligible for a grant, teachers must place their proposal on DonorsChoose.org by Friday, November 28. For more information on how to submit a proposal, go to www.donorschoose.org or e-mail JLG.Projects@gmail.com.

2. The Enrichment Fund is funding field trip scholarships up to \$250 and teacher mini grants up to \$300 for teacher projects and \$1,000 for group projects. The deadlines for the field trip scholarships are January 7th and April 16th. The deadline for a teacher grant is November 14th. For more information visit www.enrichmentfund.org.

Grant Opportunities

Keepers in the Classroom - NC Zoo

*Bring a NC Zookeeper to your classroom to present a fascinating program!

*Programs meet Standard Course of Study objectives and the zoo pays all the cost!

*If you want to implement a classroom environmental project- ie: a butterfly garden, bird feeding station, arts display around nature themes, compost site, recycling program- we will pay up to \$500.00 to support your efforts if you have a Keeper program.

Go to www.nczoo.org and click on the Education Link to fill out an application

Clinton Global Initiative University Invites Student Applications

Deadline: December 12, 2008

The Clinton Global Initiative(<http://www.clintonglobalinitiative.org/>), a nonpartisan initiative of the William J. Clinton Foundation, is accepting student applications for the Clinton Global Initiative University (CGI U) 2009 meeting. Visit the CGI Web site for complete program information.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15015636/clintonglobalinitiative>

Educators Invited to Apply for ING Unsung Heroes Program

Deadline: April 30, 2009

The ING (<http://www.ing.com/>) Unsung Heroes program helps K-12 educators and their schools fund innovative classroom projects. Each year, the program selects a hundred educators to receive grants of \$2,000 to help fund their innovative class projects. Visit the ING Web site to download a program application form.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15015815/unsungheroes>

For additional RFPs in Education, visit:

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_education.jhtml

Entries Invited for National School Library Media Program of the Year Awards

Deadline: January 2, 2009

Established in 1963, the National School Library Media Program of the Year Award honors school library media programs working to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information. The award recognizes exemplary library media programs that are fully integrated into the host school's curriculum. Three winning programs will receive \$10,000 each from Follett Library Resources.

For complete program information, visit the American Association of School Librarians Web site.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15015816/aaslawards>

For additional RFPs in Education, visit:

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_education.jhtml

To make a contribution to support the valuable programs of Guilford Education Alliance, visit <http://www.guilfordnonprofits.org/donations/index.html>

Sincerely,

Guilford Education Alliance