

the Vision

Summer 2013 • Volume 19 • Issue 2

www.winningfutures.org



20 YEARS, \$20,000 CHALLENGE

In May 1994, Winning Futures was born through the generosity of entrepreneur Sam Cupp. Through his astute business wisdom, visionary leadership and financial support, Winning Futures grew from a 100 student program into a national leader in mentoring.

The 2013-2014 school year kicks off our 20th Anniversary! We will now have positively impacted 30,000 total youth, awarded over \$1.7M in scholarships, and engaged 700+ volunteer mentors who have empowered our students to have a winning future.

To keep this momentum going, *Kristina Marshall* (Winning Futures' CEO and *Sam Cupp's* protégé and first Winning Futures mentee) is **kicking off our 20th Anniversary with a \$20,000 Challenge**. For any new funds raised this year (new donors, past donors who did not give in 2012, and increased donations from last year), Kris and her husband Duane will match up to \$20,000! Every donation counts whether it's \$5 or \$5,000, **so please give, ask your friends to give, and rally your office to give**. Our goal is meet the \$20,000 Challenge by December 31, 2013.

Let's make our 20th year phenomenal!

To donate, send checks to Winning Futures, 27500 Cosgrove, Warren, MI 48092 or give online at winningfutures.org.

If you have any questions or need assistance with your gift, please contact Julie Rayes at 586-698-4416.



Dan Battjes with mentee Minh

CORPORATE CARE YIELDS HIGH ROI

Companies throughout metro Detroit are partnering with Winning Futures to develop tomorrow's workforce. Corporations like **Chrysler, General Motors and Kelly Services** are allowing their employees to mentor for short periods during the workday, providing students with positive role models and offering their employees a way to give back. These companies recognize the health, psychosocial, community and professional benefits related to mentoring.

Studies have found that employees who mentor:

- Return to work happier and feel more productive
- Report higher levels of wellbeing
- Are more loyal and have increased pride in their company
- Develop stronger leadership skills
- Accept more challenges at work

Matt Michayluk, Account Manager at Complete Prototype Services states "Through mentoring I have developed

valuable career tools like how to manage diverse personalities and to effectively be firm without being offensive."

There are also numerous corporate benefits for companies that support mentoring and volunteerism.

Corporations can:

- Enhance their community image
- Improve their morale and productivity
- Invest in their future work force and client base.

Doneen McDowell, Plant Manager at Detroit Hamtramck Assembly at General Motors states "GM Mentors benefit through gaining effective coaching skills while strengthening the communities we serve."

Our Corporate Care Sponsors understand the critical importance of youth mentoring to their corporate culture, and are leading the way in preparing America's future workforce.

\$37,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO TEENS



SAVE THE DATE



15th Annual Golf for Kids Classic
When: Monday, September 9, 2013
Time: 9aM shotgun start
Where: Indianwood Country Club
 Lake Orion, MI
Register: www.Winningfutures.org

For 20 years, Winning Futures has been providing students with essential goal setting and strategic planning skills to help them to continue their education after high school. In today's competitive workforce, continuing education is more important than ever before. In our pursuit to help students reach their education goals we proudly announce that this year we were able to provide 21 students with scholarships totaling in over \$37,000 through our Winning Futures Scholarship Program and our RARE Everyday Hero Essay Contest.

BOARD MEMBERS, DONORS, AND SPONSORS

■ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair: Scott Rice, Powerlink
 Chair, Scott Rice, Powerlink
 Vice-Chair, Lyndon Williams, Aisin World Corporation of America
 Gerald Hartley, Fifth Third Bank
 Scott Hiipakka, Patriot Services
 Jeff Hoover, Howard & Howard
 Erik Law, See-J Building
 DeAndre Lipscomb, HAP
 Merrick Maris III, Maris-Brown Insurance
 Kristina Marshall, Winning Futures
 Greg Nodland, Great Expressions
 James Parks, Jaffe Raitt Heuer & Weiss
 Kerri Ross, O'Keefe
 Carol Rusch, SHR Partners
 Tom Schneider, SRG Global
 Jenette Smith, Crain's Detroit Business
 Kevin Sutton, Lusk & Albertson

■ DONOR-FOUNDERS

Gil and Kay Cox
 Sam and Betty Cupp
 Donald and Aleta Hamilton
 Eugene and Dorothy Hamilton

■ GOLD SPONSORS

Comcast
 Detroit Public Schools
 Farm Bureau Insurance
 Fifth Third Bank
 General Motors Foundation
 Great Expressions Dental Centers
 Hamilton Chevrolet
 Hadas and Dennis Bernard
 ITC Holdings
 New York Life Insurance
 O'Keefe
 Powerlink Facilities Management
 SRG Global
 Sodexo
 UHY LLP
 United Way for Southeastern Michigan
 Young & Associates, P.C.

■ SILVER SPONSORS

Advance America
 Crain's Detroit Business
 EOS Worldwide
 Health Alliance Plan
 Hubbell Roth and Clark Engineering
 Identity PR
 Maris Brown Insurance
 SME Foundation

■ MICHIGAN COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Detroit Public School District
 Harper Woods School District
 Madison Heights School District
 Jalen Rose Leadership Academy
 Michigan Sports Hall of Fame
 Pontiac Academy for Excellence
 Warren Consolidated School District

Proudly partnering with agencies and schools in 38 states!

**Winning Futures:
 Empowering youth
 to succeed through
 mentoring and
 strategic planning.**

MENTORS OF THE YEAR HONORED



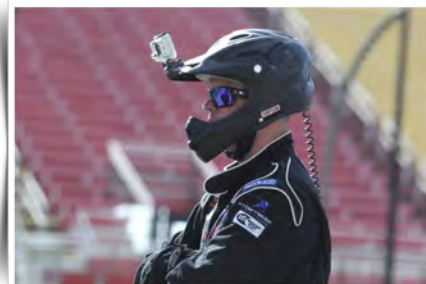
Five exceptional individuals were honored with the Winning Futures Mentor of the Year Award in recognition of their voluntary contributions as mentors for tri-county area students at the Winning Futures Awards celebration. Among the 200 guests who attended to honor Mentors and students

was *Maria Holmes* who presented a \$10,000 grant from **Comcast**. The 2013 Winning Futures Mentors of the Year are: (Left to Right) *Stephen Hettrick, Brown and Brown Detroit-Warren Mott High School; Brian Agar, Chrysler Group-Pontiac High School; Charles Johnson, Kelly Services, Inc.-Cass Technical High School; Gail Elias, Henry Ford Optimeyes-Madison High School; Donna Rochester, Macomb Community College-Community High School*

This was the 19th consecutive year that Winning Futures has presented the Mentor of the Year Awards at the annual scholarship event, which was sponsored by **Lusk & Albertson** and **Extra Credit Union**.

ALUMNI RACES TO SUCCESS AT GM

It's been 13 years since *Mathew Long* graduated from Cousino High School, yet he remembers the Winning Futures program as if it was yesterday.



When asked what he remembered most about the experience Long said, "I was a troubled student in high school and Winning Futures reached out to me, and helped me develop skills. Winning Futures was a starting point for me. It helped me really understand how important it is to set goals commit to them and focus."

Matt was always interested in cars, so when **General Motors** came knocking he gladly opened the door. He's had the opportunity to work in a variety of departments within GM; Hybrid, E-Motor development and Battery systems development. Today Matt is the Grand-Am Road Racing Car Chief.

After Cousino, Matt attended the University of North Western Ohio and majored in High Performance Motor Sports; shortly thereafter, he enrolled in Siena University and majored in Business.

When asked how he would sum up the impact Winning Futures had on him, Long simply said, "Vision, Goal, Plan, Commitment, Success = Winning Futures."

CREATE YOUR DYNAMIC 30-SECOND PITCH

“Tell me about yourself?”

For some this can be the most dreaded question of an interview, but it shouldn't be. Most interviewers will start with this question to determine who you are, what you have accomplished, and how you may be a valuable asset. Whether you're preparing to enter the workforce or a corporate veteran, developing and perfecting a 30-second pitch allows you to knock this traditional question out of the park. View the question as an opportunity to describe yourself positively and focus the interview on

your strengths.

This can be achieved by discussing what would most interest the interviewer, and by highlighting your most important accomplishments. Use examples to reinforce your strengths and talents, and be certain that these relate to the job you are interviewing for. Don't forget to practice. Write out your 30-second pitch, rehearse and time it, the goal being to sound natural. With practice and preparation you can master the typical interview opener and stand out from everyone else.



Practice makes perfect! Visit www.winningfutures.com to view students practicing their 30-second pitch.

STUDENTS DEVELOP JOB READINESS SKILLS TO PREPARE FOR THE WORLD OF WORK



Our students at Harper Woods and Madison Heights High Schools successfully completed this year's Winning Futures Job Readiness program. This semester-long program equipped students with the essential tools and skills needed to enter and compete in the workforce.

Mentors worked with students on soft skills necessary to get a job such as face-to-face communication, interviewing techniques and professional etiquette. The curriculum also addressed the personal qualities needed to maintain a job such as a positive attitude, work ethic and confidence.

The program had a tremendous impact on both students and mentors. Mentors were excited that they were playing a key role in developing tomorrow's workforce. After completing the Job Readiness program, eleventh grade student *Adreena* applied for a highly competitive summer internship

offered by **General Motors** that required an oral presentation as part of the application process. Adreena credited her ability to answer questions and communicate effectively to the skills she learned in the program, specifically the session on perfecting an "interview pitch." Adreena was awarded the internship and is excited about the opportunity to train at **General Motors**.

Contact Information: 27500 Cosgrove, Warren, MI 48092 ~ 586-294-8449 ~ www.WinningFutures.org


**Winning
Futures**
27500 Cosgrove
Warren, MI 48092

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 98
Warren, MI

*Address Service
Requested*