



### Corporate Mentor of Year Award Winners

**Todd Burach**, Morgan Stanley, Big Brothers Big Sisters of NYC; **Morgan Baden**, Scholastic, Girls Write Now; **Delores Flamer**, The Walt Disney Company, LaGuardia High School; **Brian Levitt**, Oppenheimer Funds, Lower Manhattan Arts Academy



# The Heart of Mentoring

Information and Insights for the Mentoring Community

## New Year's Greetings

The first of the year provides us with a fresh start to the valuable work we do providing mentors to young people. Many of you have been busy tabulating year-end data to demonstrate mentoring outcomes and illustrate the effectiveness of your program. But you and I know that numbers don't tell the entire story of mentoring. It isn't so easy to count how many times a mentee smiles when **he see his mentor approaching** or measure the swelling of a mentor's heart when she learns about her mentee's newest accomplishment. Grade point averages, attendance records and such provide us with some important indicators about a young person's progress but the "Heart of Mentoring" is in the anecdotal evidence – the small moments we witness and the tidbits mentors share with us.

Throughout the year we are privileged to hear many special stories of mentoring relationships and the changes they bring to mentee and mentor alike. Where mentees can often show increased self esteem and a new belief in themselves, mentors can likewise discover a renewed faith in themselves. So many people come to this work with strong convictions but with trepidation about their ability to effect change in a young person's life only to learn how powerful their simple presence can be.

The programs you run make these life changing events possible. With every reassuring phone conversation you have with a mentor and each time you remind a mentee that they have to be present to get the most out of the relationship you are facilitating change in the lives of two people.

I hope you will use the New Year to take some time and reflect on the part you play in this mentoring movement we are in. Now is not the time to underestimate your accomplishments. Now is the time to count yourself in because you are such a valuable component to the formula that makes mentoring work. It is our honor at MPNY to support our mentoring partners. In 2010, as always, we are here to serve you.

## National Mentoring Month

The ninth annual National Mentoring Month begins January first with General Colin L. Powell as its key spokesperson and with the theme "Expand Your Universe. Mentor a Child."

Created by the Harvard School of Public Health and MENTOR, National Mentoring Month (NMM) is marking its ninth year in 2010. By focusing national attention on the need for mentors, as well as how each of us—individuals, businesses, government agencies, schools, faith communities and nonprofits—can work together to increase the number of mentors, we assure brighter futures for our young people.

The U.S.Senate has officially recognized January as National Mentoring Month 2010 with a resolution introduced by Senators John McCain (R-AZ) and John Kerry (D-MA).

January 21, 2010, is **Thank Your Mentor Day™**.

Ways to honor Mentors:

- Send a Thank You card
- Plan a mentor appreciation event hosted by the mentees
- Create hand made gifts
- Call to say Thank You
- Write a tribute on:

[http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/chc/wmy2009/Thank\\_Them/intro.html](http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/chc/wmy2009/Thank_Them/intro.html)

Marketing materials have been created, including, print ads, "Thank Your Mentor" note cards, and bookmarks. **Contact our office for materials 212-953-0945**

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**Join Our LinkedIn Network:** <http://www.linkedin.com/in/mentoringny>

**Visit Us at Facebook:** [www.causes.com/mpny](http://www.causes.com/mpny)

**Follow us on Twitter:** [http://twitter.com/Mentoring\\_NY](http://twitter.com/Mentoring_NY)

We would like to offer the **FREE** use of our conference room when available during the hours of 9-5 p.m.

Please inquire about availability 3 weeks in advance. **Contact:** [siragorri@mentoring.org](mailto:siragorri@mentoring.org)

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## Funding Opportunities/ Foundations

**Michael and Susan Dell Foundation:**  
512-600-5501 <http://www.msdf.org>

**The Kresge Foundation:** 248-643-0930  
[www.kresge.org](http://www.kresge.org)

**Robin Hood Foundation:** 212-227-6601  
[www.robinhood.org](http://www.robinhood.org)

**The Countess Moira Charitable  
Foundation:** 212-488-5340  
[www.cmforg.wordpress.com](http://www.cmforg.wordpress.com)

## FREE ACTIVITIES FOR MATCHES

### Sony Wonder Technology Lab

56th Street and Madison  
212- 833-8100

Tuesday – Saturday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Sunday: 12 p.m. – 5 p.m.

FREE technology and entertainment museum for all ages.

### Tours for Fours

Museum of Modern Art 11 W 53rd St  
212-708-9805

Saturday and Sunday: 10:20 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

Tour MoMA's galleries in a fun and engaging way, sharing their ideas about the art and getting any questions answered by museum educators.

### Magic in Bryant Park

Sixth Ave at 40th St  
212-768-4242

Sunday: 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Gather at Le Carrousel to see master magicians enrapture youngsters with sophisticated tricks and sleight-of-hand stunners. All ages.



**Jean Lahage Cohen,**  
Executive Director

**Bruce Beckwith,** Director  
of Services

**Sara Iragorri,** Project and  
Operations Coordinator

**Muriel Kerr,** Administrative  
Assistant

**Naomi Rabeeya,** Intern  
122 E 42nd Street, Suite 1520

New York, NY 10168

212-953-0945

[siragorri@mentoring.org](mailto:siragorri@mentoring.org)

[www.mentoring.org/ny](http://www.mentoring.org/ny)

## MENTORING BREAKFAST FORUM 11-2-09

Based on surveys submitted immediately following the forum, here is some follow up to the Forum hosted by the staff and Provider's Council of MPNY. The majority of those who attended (over 90%) found the Forum useful and the topics sessions relevant. Of the 6 topics presented the subjects participants most responded to were those that helped them learn how to keeping matches engaged, how to turn down inappropriate volunteers and where to find low cost activities for match pairs. Some of the subjects coordinators said they would like to see discussed at future sessions dealt with; engaging families, peer mentoring, social networking for mentors, and mentee selection and training. Here is a recap of the issues raised and information shared at each of the topic tables:

### Keeping Matches Engaged

Parents meet mentors in advance  
Managing expectations of mentors/mentees  
Clarifying time commitments with youth  
Evaluations/ survey– yearly (re-enrollment)  
Comfortable settings for meetings

### Fundraising Ideas

Develop a pitch book-arm volunteers  
Volunteer committee to organize events  
Tell your story-clients to pitch mentoring/newsletters

### Low Budget Match Activities

Blog to post low cost activities and share ideas (MPNY)  
Scavenger Hunt  
Thank you letters at tax time; save receipts for write-offs  
Field day at parks  
Educate mentors and allow them to come up with low cost activities  
Allow corporate partners to sponsor events and bring volunteers

### Metrics for Mentoring

Primary measurements  
Secondary measurements  
Featured both qualitative and quantitative  
What funders need to hear  
Uniform software to collect data

### Social Media

Overall organizational decision  
Getting started  
Keeping it active  
Using volunteers to setup  
Boundaries– professional, personal

### Turning Down or Firing a Volunteer

Guidelines/job description  
Manage expectations  
Training  
Touro NFP Law Center Policy Manual (MPNY will forward)  
Policy “no reason for non acceptance”  
Volunteering alternative

## The Friday Afternoon Series

**February 12, 2010 - Shoring Up Self Esteem Through Strength Based Communication**

**March 19, 2010 - Match Supervision: Managing Expectations**

**April 16, 2010 - Termination: The significance of proper closure**

Register at [www.mentoring.org/newyork](http://www.mentoring.org/newyork) “Mentoring Institute”