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Email: collegesummit@erols.com



College Summit

Jacob (J.B.) Schramm

Executive Director

Mail: P.O. 9966 ~ Washington, D.C. 20016

Deliveries: 3316 19th St. NW, Ste. B ~ Washington, D.C. 20010

Ph: (202) 265-7707

Fax: (202) 265-7525

collegesummit@erols.com

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SummitUP

L E T T A L E N T S H I N E

THE COLLEGE SUMMIT NEWSLETTER • VOLUME 1, NUMBER 1 • WINTER 1999

Dear Friends

The other day, David Coleman, a volunteer from McKinsey & Company, told me, "You guys are in the relationship business, relationships forged over the kids' dreams and the process of writing." Indeed, College Summit would not be able to help students' talent shine—so it can be seen by colleges, employers, their schools and, most importantly, themselves—were it not for relationships.

Around the writing team table, in the rap session circle, face-to-face for college counseling interviews, over pizza during

mentoring, talented young people and gifted adults build bonds. But for these bonds, we could neither push each other as rigorously, nor take the risks to honestly face and express our skills and dreams. *Summit Up!* will help us stay connected, learn lessons and discover ways we can help upcoming classes of talented students seize the advantages of higher education.

As you read the newsletter, I expect a number of Summit faces will flash before your eyes. You may remember a college counselor who pointed you in the right direction, a mentor who stood by you, a student who inspired you with courage, or the friend who first told you about College Summit. Take

five minutes to call or e-mail that person as a way of celebrating the victories described in these pages.

If you need help locating the person, or if you have any questions or thoughts to share with Summit staff, please call us at (202) 265-7707.

Sincerely,



J.B. Schramm

Executive Director



Our Enrollment Rates Are Up

If actions speak louder than words, then numbers speak for themselves: College Summit's enrollment rate is now 79%. This is calculated by the total number of College Summit participants between 1993-1998, who graduated from high school, are Citizens or Permanent Residents, and who enrolled in college the fall following high school graduation. This number is compared to the national percentage of economically disadvantaged students who enroll in college, 34%.*

	National Average	CS 1998	CS 1993-98
College Enrollment Rate	34%	83%	79%

* (U.S. Census, 1996, School Enrollment: Percentage of high school graduates, citizens or Permanent Residents, from families earning between \$0-\$25,000 per year, who enrolled in college the fall following their high school graduation.)

CONTENTS

Ramping Up	2
Summer Wrap Up	4
Daniel Trujillo, Telling His Story	6
Up and Coming	7
Community Update	8

"You gave me a step up. Now I will have to work for my goals. I couldn't have done it alone"

Participant

George Washington University Workshop

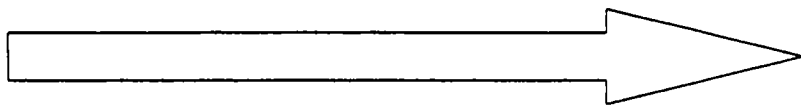


College Summit

**MISSION: TO HELP LOW-INCOME TALENT
ENROLL IN COLLEGE**

To maintain social and economic vitality in the 21st century, America must fully develop its available talent. College Summit exists because many students who can make it in college cannot make the transition to college. For economically disadvantaged students, the barriers to college are immense, numerous and individual. These barriers include poverty, anti-academic peer pressure, family obligations, and personal fears, as well as the daunting practical difficulties of the application process (intensified in under-resourced schools). As a result, a whole sector of promising American teenagers are slipping “under the radar,” going unnoticed as potential college students, and being overlooked as potential college-educated employees. Through our capacity-building and mentor training program for schools, youth agencies, colleges and corporations, as well as our intensive, four-day College Immersion Workshop for students, we enable young people to emerge with not only a far greater likelihood of attending college, but a clearer sense of their own potential.

WHAT COLLEGE SUMMIT DOES



1. 4-Day Workshop and Senior-Year Curriculum for Students

Experience College

Students live college and do college work for four days. This is not a 'college tour.'

Face Personal Obstacles and Goals

Students explore challenges and set goals with peer support, engaging the pressures of home, school, and neighborhood.

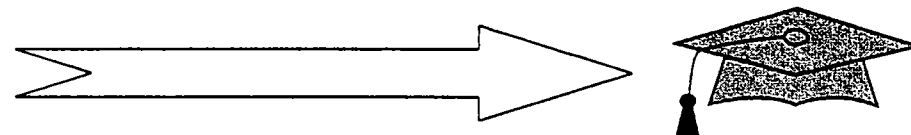
Complete Applications

Students leave the workshop with:

- Application essay, having worked in small teams with writing coaches
- College selection, having had 1-on-1 college counseling
- Completed common application
- Completed financial aid form
- Internet scholarship research skills

Senior-Year Curriculum

Throughout senior year, students meet weekly with College Summit-trained college mentors to complete the application process.



2. Capacity-Building for Communities

Schools and Youth Agencies – *College Summit will:*

- Develop, or enhance existing, college mentor structure
- Train teachers, youth workers, or corporate mentors to help guide students in senior year
- Provide ongoing guidance and curricula to mentors
- Help build partnerships with colleges and corporations

Colleges – *College Summit will:*

- Identify mid-tier, low-income students who can succeed in college
- Screen students
- Deliver 'Preview Packets,' including essay, transcript, and recommendations of students who match specific college's admissions criteria
- Help build partnerships with schools and corporations

Corporations – *College Summit will:*

- Set up corporate volunteer mentor programs in partner schools
- Provide short- and long-term volunteer opportunities, as writing coaches, mentors, etc.
- Raise profile of coalition efforts with media
- Help build partnerships with schools and colleges



Outcomes and Year 2000 Profile

1993 - 1999

1,075 economically disadvantaged students

Ethnicity:

African-American:50%. Latino:35%. Native American:10%.
Asian-American:3%. White:2%.

G.P.A.

2.8 avg. (1.0 – 4.0 range) These are *mid-tier* students.

**From Single Parent
Homes:**

83%

**Enrollment
in Colleges:**

College Summit Average: 79% **National Average: 34%¹**
Students attend colleges including: DePaul, Florida A&M, Santa Fe
Community College, Stanford, SUNY Delhi, University of Colorado, and
University of Massachusetts

Retention '93-97:

80%

Scholarships:

\$3,500,000 for the first 140 students

Plans for 2000

800 economically disadvantaged students from 7 states

Key hubs:

Rocky Mountains
Chicago

Seed regions:

Florida
Washington, D.C.

¹ U.S. Census, 1996, School Enrollment Table 8. High school graduates who enroll in college the fall following graduation, family income: \$0 - \$25,000.



College Summit

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Student Eligibility / Year 2000

Target: Students with more college promise than their standardized test scores and cumulative GPA suggest

Characteristic students have:

- Demonstrated academic *skills* superior to their g.p.a.;
- Recently turned around their academic performance;
- Shown outstanding achievement in extracurricular and community activities; or
- Overcome obstacles in an extraordinary way.

Requirements:

- Economically disadvantaged (see below)
- Rising high school seniors, Class of '01, or GED recipients
- U.S. Citizens, Permanent Residents, or Asylees (exceptions made on a case-by-case basis)
- Not attending private schools that give generous college guidance

Determination for Economically Disadvantaged:

- GROUP I: At least 2/3 of nominees must meet these federal income guidelines:

Size of Family	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Income Limit	\$11,835	\$15,915	\$19,995	\$24,075	\$28,155	\$32,235	\$36,315	\$40,395

- GROUP II: The remaining 1/3 of nominees must be economically disadvantaged, according to the judgment of the school/youth agency, but need not meet the federal income restriction.

Best Means of Identifying Students:

- Ask teachers and community members for recommendations
- Ask College Summit alumni to nominate peers they believe would benefit from the program

Cumulative G.P.A. Distribution Guidelines:

- Out of every six students:

G.P.A.	Number of students selected
3.0 or above	2
2.0 – 3.0	3
Below 2.0	1



FROM ROGER'S 'FREE-WRITE' DURING THE FIRST ESSAY SESSION

I can't do this. I don't know why. I guess it's because I watch too much T.V....I don't like writing. It's one of my worst subjects and the teachers at my school can't teach. There are many reasons I don't like writing and it's that I can't write legibly...and the other one is when I can't do something that I am the best at I really don't want to do it. I am out of ideas on what to write about and I have no idea on what my essay is going to be about. I haven't had anything special happen to me so I just don't know...

ROGER'S FINAL DRAFT TWO DAYS LATER

Forgotten Memories

by Roger Casanova, CS '98

As I woke that one morning a week before my seventh birthday, I chose to make one of the biggest decisions of my life. My sister pounding on my door like a madman, tells me to go to her room. There, sitting on the cold tile with the sun in my face, my two brothers and sister decide to do it.

As we walked ~~that long~~ hallway of pain and repressed memories we were more confident then ever. We pulled around the corner and took the last breath of our miserable lives. There we stood and listened, listened to the horrible sound of death, the sound we have repressed and long forgotten since that day. There we are turning the corner tightly clutched up against the wall so he won't see us.

We saw one of the most vivid and unforgettable memories of our lives, our mother whose face looked like a shineless, bleeding moon. The tears and blood dripped down her face like a roaring waterfall, dripping down her neck, onto her arm, down to her fingertips. Suddenly, it went silent. Then we heard a sound, a sound that will never be forgotten: drip, drip droplets of blood flowing down her finger tips onto the puddle of blood on the floor like a stream leads to the ocean. There we stood in despair, just looking at the blood droplets hit the puddle as if each droplet fueled us in some way, fueled our anger, our will to continue on with the events that were to come.

Then we turned, full of anger and rage, and looked at him our father, our father that almost killed our mother. We attacked him with all the courage in our hearts. We attacked the one of the two people that gave us life. Reaching for any object I could find, a vase, a cup, a utensil, it didn't matter we wanted him out of our house. He ran out of our house like a pack of wolves had disowned him. Then we realized we've done it, we have succeeded. Then just standing at the door, watching him run with feelings of emotion surging through our bodies, feelings of gladness, of joyfulness and even some feelings of remorse, knowing we will never see him, never touch him, never feel him, knowing he had left our lives forever.

Mother recovered nicely after he left, no more headaches, no more attacks of uncontrollable shaking, and no more pain. Now knowing that the days to come weren't going to be easy, weren't going to be simple, but one thing we knew, they weren't going to be full of pain. After that we all looked at each other a little differently, with a greater sense of strength, sense of pride, the will to live on. Knowing now that we could accomplish any task the world threw at us.

The Washington Post

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 1998

FINAL

Inside The Weekly, Page
Today's Contents on Page A7

5¢



BY ROBIN SHOTOLA FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Desmond Pryce and Y'nday Sesay were among four students first helped by what became College Summit.

In the Footsteps of a Few, Many Are College-Bound

By DAVID MONTGOMERY
Washington Post Staff Writer

What began five years ago as tutoring to help a handful of bright young people from Adams-Morgan apply for college has blossomed into a program in 14 states that coaches hundreds of inner-city students on how to break through some of the barriers between them and higher education.

Three of the four original Adams-Morgan students will be on hand today when College Summit convenes at George Washington University. One graduated Monday from Brown University, and two received diplomas Saturday from Connecticut

College. They are members of College Summit '93, the pioneering first class of a program that educators say is an innovative approach to increasing diversity on America's college campuses.

"There are a lot of kids on the street who say, 'I want to go to college,'" said Yanday Sesay, 21, who received a degree in psychology from Connecticut College, the first in her family to graduate from college. "This [College Summit] made me realize that I *am* going to college. It wasn't just a dream. I had the dream, but through this program it made it a reality."

See COLLEGE, Page 8, Col. 1

College Summit Started Small, but Now Helps Hundreds

COLLEGE, From Page 1

Theresa Atta, 22, graduated from Brown, and Desmond Pryce, 22, graduated from Connecticut College.

"I'm so proud," said Esmin I. Williams, Desmond's mother, a hotel food service employee, who rode a Greyhound bus to New London, Conn., to watch her son receive his diploma.

The fourth original College Summit student, Alimammy Sankoh, 22, joined the Army for a while, where he received engineering training, and now is enrolling in the University of Kansas to major in engineering, according to his sister, Habibatu Sankoh, 20, a junior at Boston University and a College Summit alumna.

Overall college enrollment out of the 136 students who attended College Summit during its first three years is 75 percent, more than twice the national average for low-income high school graduates, according to organizers of the non-profit program. Enrollment statistics for 200 students who participated last year are still being tallied. Of the students who enrolled, about 70 percent have remained in college.

"We see a lot applications from Bethesda, Chevy Chase, Northern Virginia, not inner-city schools," said Lee Coffin, director of admissions for Connecticut College, which has enrolled four College Summit students. "You can scramble for the same pool of kids, or you can say, how can we expand the pool."

The college provided financial aid so the students could afford to attend, Coffin said.

College Summit consists of an intense four-day workshop, followed up by one-on-one mentor-

ing. In the workshops, students learn how to navigate the maze of applications, financial aid forms, and deadlines. College Summit also trains adult mentors who stay in touch with the students weekly during the last year or two of high school and continue offering support during college.

A "rap director" leads discussions in which the students air broader issues that many of them face, such as fear of whether they will succeed away from home and peer pressure not to pursue their studies.

The students receive instruction on writing the application essay. A "writing coach" works with small groups of students over the four days, encouraging them to write about who they are for the benefit of strangers who later will decide whether to admit them.

"That's the one part of the application where they can use their background to their advantage," said J.B. Schramm, executive director of College Summit. "They tell their story, and in doing so they show strengths the SAT can't measure."

Sesay wrote her essay about the responsibilities she took on at an early age: trying to do well at Wilson High School, playing on sports teams and, after school, taking care of her sister and performing household chores.

Now that sister is college-bound through College Summit, being mentored by Sesay's old mentor, John Kevill, a vice president in the Washington office of commercial real estate firm Jones Lang Wootton.

After a rough period of adjustment in her first semester, Sesay said she had a grade-point average of about 3.5 this year.

The College Summit workshop being offered today through Sun-



Executive Director J.B. Schramm says College Summit may be a model for efforts to maintain diversity in higher education.

day by GWU's admissions office is the first of a dozen occurring around the country through late August. The second one in the Washington area will be at Georgetown University, June 4-7, and will be conducted by the university's Center for Minority Student Affairs.

The two local workshops, which are already filled, will coach a total of 70 students from D.C. schools and 10 traveling here from New York City. A total of 480 students from 14 states will be coached at the dozen College Summits running on campuses this year from Washington to Seattle.

Students are asked to pay a "commitment fee" of \$10 to \$20 for

the workshops, and schools or youth groups sponsoring the students must pay from \$70 to \$100 per student, depending on whether College Summit is training adults to be mentors.

College Summit is also supported by individual donations and foundations, including the Rockefeller Foundation and Echoing Green, according to Schramm.

As affirmative action comes under attack in states such as California, Texas and Michigan, College Summit may be a model to maintain diversity in higher education, Schramm said.

"We allow the students to express [in their application] other

things that the college values," Schramm said. "So it's not a matter of giving these students preference. They are just presenting strengths that otherwise would be hidden."

Students at private schools may receive detailed advice on applications from guidance counselors, but counselors at public schools often have too many students to give them such attention.

"My guidance counselor did everything she could," said Pryce, who graduated from Wilson High School. "But it's hard to get to know each other on a personal level."

Pryce said he thinks he would have found a way to get to college on his own, but College Summit

"made a big difference; it made it a lot smoother."

College Summit traces its origins to late 1993, when Pryce, Atta, Sesay and Sankoh, four friends from Adams-Morgan, told Schramm about their college ambitions. They knew Schramm from going to the Teen Learning Center, an after-school program run by Good Shepherd Ministries, on Fuller Street NW, where Schramm was one of the directors.

Schramm and other mentors associated with the center worked out the basics of what the students needed to help them through the application process.

The program of workshops was formalized and expanded by 1995. Young professionals volunteered to be writing coaches and mentors.

"It's not doing anything magical other than opening their eyes and steering them in a way they would probably be inclined to go," said Dean Furbush, a writing coach and chief economist at the National Association of Securities Dealers and the Nasdaq Stock Market.

At the workshop today, Pryce, Atta and Sesay will reassure students that college is within their grasps.

"I've had a full experience here," said Atta, whose career at Brown included study abroad in Spain and the Dominican Republic. "Stuff that I never thought I would be able to do."

Atta plans to attend law school after working for two years. Sesay is looking for career opportunities in early education or marketing. Pryce is considering job offers from companies to design early education software.

DENVER AND THE WEST

THE DENVER POST
online
www.denverpost.com

June 20, 1998

SECTION B

The Denver Post 6/20/98

THE DENVER

Each afternoon, students participate in recreational activities. And at the end of each day, all the students gather for "rap sessions," where they discuss with group leaders what they learned and also talk frankly about problems that can arise in college, such as binge drinking and promiscuous sex.

"College is different, that's for sure," 16-year-old Manual student Aaron Aston said. "You're on your own here. You're paying for this."

The idea for College Summit, funded by foundation grants and by private donations, was literally born five years ago in the basement of a low-income housing project where Schramm worked in Washington.

He realized that not many of the local kids were going to college and began working with four students who he thought could make it in college but needed some extra help.

Entry essays were key

When the four applied to Connecticut College, the dean of the school told Schramm they had presented their strengths on their entry essays better than any urban students had in the past.

This year, about 500 students from 14 states will participate in the summit.

A critical element of the program is teaching the students how to write a good essay on their entry applications. Inner-city students, as a whole nationwide, tend to score lower on tests than their counterparts in more affluent areas, Schramm said. A well-written essay could sway a decision, he said.

"What we are doing is training the students to make their excellence recognizable to admissions offices," Schramm said. "If you only look at one set of traits that are predictors of academic success like test scores, colleges are missing out on a number of potential students."

The College Summit is just one innovative way Manual school officials are trying to make the transition out of mandatory busing.

With busing, Manual was a model of social and economic integration and sent most of its graduates on to college. There were concerns that Manual would suffer once it started drawing students from the surrounding neighborhood, but with programs like College Summit, that isn't going to happen, school officials vowed.

"This school is doing what it needs to do," Ludwig said. "We're trying to be very proactive, getting kids on board while they are still in high school so they don't fall through the cracks."

Manual High students reach for the Summit

Intensive workshop helps teens experience, prepare for college

By Carlos Illescas
Denver Post Education Writer

No one in Tausha Marshall's extended family ever went to college. Not her mother, who died three years ago, or her father, whom she doesn't even know, or her Aunt Nina, with whom she now lives.

Marshall just assumed she wouldn't either.

Now, the senior-to-be at Manual High School is planning her academic future — thanks to a program called College Summit that prepares and coaches inner-city students on how to get into higher education.

"I know I want to go to college and nothing is going to stop me from what I want to do," Marshall said Thursday, as she anxiously filled out a college application form on a computer at the University of Denver.

Four-day sessions

High school graduation may be more than a year away, but for Marshall and about 40 other Manual students, the college experience is already under way. Through the Summit, students nationwide are attending intense, four-day workshop sessions at colleges and universities throughout the country to learn how to get into institutions of higher learning.

Manual students began gathering at DU on Thursday where they are learning how to fill out paperwork, from financial aid forms to applications, including the all-important essay that can be key for a student "on the bubble" for accep-

Staying in DU's dorms for the four days, the students are discovering other aspects of college life, such as how to share bathroom time with roommates.

"College can be a culture shock for many students," said Manual guidance counselor Patricia Ludwig. "A lot of them have never been on a college campus before. This program will give them a taste of what college is like, and hopefully help them make that transition."

Lorraine Cook, 17, said she was overwhelmed by all the forms, tests and essays she needed to complete to apply to college. Like others at the Summit, Cook's parents didn't attend college.

Many return to help

"If I didn't come here, I'd have a hard time getting all my things in before deadlines," said Cook, who plans to attend college in Georgia and wants to be a physical therapist.

Ryan Shires said the program is like a "10-step lead" for students seeking to enter college. Shires attended the private Colorado High School in Denver and participated in College Summit two years ago at Colorado College in Colorado Springs. Now, like other Summit graduates, he's returned to help high school seniors at DU.

"It's a big advantage for them getting to come to a program like this. I know it was for me," said Shires, 20, who now attends Colorado State University. "It gives them their whole senior year to concen-

MANUAL from Page 1B

trate on their studies instead of college. They can focus more on their schooling."

Inner-city students are targeted, organizers said, because they may not have the support system in place to motivate them.

"The mission of the program is to help economically disadvantaged talent enroll in college," said College Summit founder J.B. Schramm. "In inner-city public schools, with 300 students in a graduated class, there is no way to hold the hands of all those kids" to help them get to college.

Schramm, who graduated from Denver's East High School, was running a teen center in Washington when he came up with the idea for the summits five years ago.

The summit is especially important for students at Manual, a school undergoing enormous transformation after the first full year out of court-ordered busing and the return to neighborhood schools. Manual picked up half of the \$100 fee for each student who participated in the summit, with parents or students paying the remaining \$50.

All students from Manual

This weekend's program is unusual because all the students are from a single school. Typically, summits are held at different spots nationwide and students from a variety of high schools attend.

If successful, the model could be used nationwide.

Cheryl Ealy, whose son Michael is taking part in College Summit, said the program is a great way for students to continue their drive for college — in the middle of their summer vacations.

"Anything to keep them in school and their minds focused on college. I'm all for it," Ealy said. "It's better than wondering about what college is like. At least this way they get a little taste of it."

The four-day workshop isn't all work, though.



The Denver Post / Helen H. Davis

Brittany Reese, 17, an incoming senior at Manual High School, fills out an application for a student loan in a classroom at the University of Denver. About 40 Manual students are taking part in the College Summit, which helps primarily economically disadvantaged stu-

Buffalo News
7/25/99

College Summit gets high praise from students

By KAREN BRADY
and RON DePASQUALE

News Staff Reporters

Seniors from a number of local high schools and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Buffalo, along with students from around the country, are getting a taste of college this weekend.

Actually, it's more like a full-course meal.

They're staying in dormitories, attending workshops and rap sessions and learning that, despite where they are from and whatever grades they may have received, they can succeed in college. And they are at it from crack of dawn until late at night.

In a round-table discussion with 10 students Saturday night at D'Youville College, the prospective collegians sounded a chorus of praises for College Summit, a nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., designed to help low-income students enroll.

Satarra Alexander of Manhattan did not hold back when lauding the program, its mentors and counselors. She learned more in an hour with her counselor than in three years of high school, she said.

"These people are like angels," Satarra said. "They've given us wings and now we can fly."

As with every other statement, the rest of the students clapped and cheered their companion. Most had known each other for only three days but had grown close in a short time.

Giving up a sunny weekend to spend stimulating college was not even a concern for these students. Relying on their mentors and each other was a must, if they wanted to rise above the competition.

"Coming from Queens, my college counselor is not always the best," said Sharon Marie Cox, 16. "When something like this comes along, you go for it."

Her teachers in Queens taught her to do just enough to get by and to settle for less than her best, she said. But the College Summit teachers forced her to believe otherwise.

Writing coaches taught the students not just how to write an adequate college-application essay, but to write "da' bomb" essay. Counselors didn't just make general observations about what college would be like, they gave them every last real-life detail. And mentors did not just tell students to always give 100 percent, they "drilled it into our heads," as Sherri Mox of Lackawanna said.

PAGE 82

They're seeing, from the way that there are people who really want them to succeed and are going to help them do it," Ellen Grant Bishop, Erie County mental health commissioner, said of the unusual, four-day College Summit.

Ms. Grant Bishop, a member of its national board of directors, is heading the local steering committee with Keith Frome, headmaster of the Elmwood-Franklin School and a member of the College Summit's national board of advisers.

"Last year was the first year of the program in Buffalo, and we had 22 students," Ms. Grant Bishop noted. "This year, we have 90. I hope that, in the future, we have a full partnership with the (Buffalo) Board of Education."

"College Summit was one of best experiences of my life," said Laguan Rogers, a McKinley High School graduate who participated in last year's summit and is working as a staff member at the summit this year.

"It taught me things not just about the college process but also about how to prepare yourself to make the best decisions for following your dreams in life and how to get there."

Rogers expects to enter Erie Community College to study culinary arts.

The program's only shortcoming that Kyle Kennon-Brown of Niagara Falls could come up with is that only a couple of students from each participating school could come. So, to spread what they have learned, each student interviewed said he or she will take the newfound knowledge and confidence back to classmates.

"I'm telling everyone as soon as I get back," Kyle said.

Last year, only Medaille College was involved in the summit. This year, Canisius and D'Youville colleges are also playing host to the high school seniors. Workshops are being led by local and national educators and volunteers.

"The schedule is a mix — of actual completion of college application forms and sessions with writing coaches to complete application essays along with social events like a banquet Saturday evening," said Peggy Jean Ledbetter, director of academic program development at D'Youville College.

About 40 high school seniors are staying at D'Youville where the weekend includes Internet college searches, creation of individual college-admission action plans, presentations from participating colleges, a pizza party and a trip to Walden Galleria.

Students taking part in this summer's summit will be followed through their senior year in high school by summit mentors.

The program has made CatriceCQ Jones, 14, of Washington believe in herself. "Some people don't have the love at home, the push you need to go to college that I got here," she said. "The coaches made us believe that we can do it because we are the future."

THE
BUFFALO
NEWS

The Miami Herald

www.herald.com

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 1998

UM comes to the rescue: College will host high school workshop

By JACK WHEAT
Herald Staff Writer

The University of Miami has rescued a college-preparatory program for low-income high school students that was routed from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach by Central Florida's wildfires.

The national College Summit's first workshop for Florida students was to have begun today. Thanks to UM, it will begin on time.

A week ago, Jacob B. Schramm, executive director of the Washington-based College Summit, was alerted that Embry-Riddle had to pull out. Some university employees were being evacuated from their homes, and there was a chance the university would be closed.

Schramm called UM.

UM Vice Provost John Master-son made one call, to find out whether enough dorm rooms would be available, and then called Schramm back with a "yes." Then UM started hustling.

When 35 students — 30 from Miami-Dade County — show up, UM will be ready with experts to help with admissions and financial aid decisions, a computer lab, lodging and classroom space.

In the 3½-day workshop — one of 12 nationwide this year — students who have completed their junior years get help in selecting colleges, filling out applications and writing admission essays. They'll continue working with trained College Summit volunteer mentors throughout their senior years.

College Summit's first Florida program is supported by a \$30,000 grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. The Knight Foundation makes national grants in journalism, education, arts and culture. It also supports organizations in 27 communities where the communications company founded by the Knight brothers has published or continues to publish newspapers. The Knight Foundation is wholly independent of those newspapers.

Summit draws Taos students

While their classmates were still enjoying summer vacation, eight ambitious Taos students, ages 16-18, worked to shape their futures at the national program, College Summit, held at Colorado College in Colorado Springs earlier this summer. The Bridges Project for Education took five students to the summit: Yolanda Kittredge, Natalia Vigil, Matthew Aaron, Gaynell Lefthand and Abbee Taddesse.

Rocky Mountain Youth Corps took corps members Andres Garcia, Heather Lane and Amy Fresquez.

In an intensive four-day program students learned about financial aid, college applications and wrote their college essays with the help of writing coaches from colleges around the country.

After their extensive training, students enjoyed a much-deserved awards banquet celebrating their hard work, then danced late into the night, confident that they were one giant step up on the journey to college.

In conjunction with the four-day program, Bridges Project for Education will provide biweekly follow-up sessions to keep these students moving toward the goals they set for themselves.



Pamela Shepherd

Front row, left to right, Naomi Hannah, Pamela Shepherd, Abbee Taddesse (holding son Antonio), Heather Lane, Yolanda Kittredge, Gaynell Lefthand (holding daughter Sequoia) and Amy Fresquez; back row, left to right, Matthew Aaron, Andres Garcia, Natalia Vigil and Liana Baldonado.



College Summit

E. Kinney Zalesne
Deputy Director & General Counsel

Mail: P.O. 9966 ~ Washington, D.C. 20016
2390 Champlain St. NW, Ste. A ~ Washington, D.C. 20009

Ph: (202) 265-7707

Fax: (202) 265-7525

Email: kzalesne@collegesummit.org



College Summit

**Transform the college admissions process
Double the enrollment rate of low-income students**

**P.O. Box 9966
Washington DC 20016**

**Ph: 202 265.7707
Fax: 202 265.7525
collegesummit@erols.com**

1999 WORKSHOPS

Canisius College
Colorado College
D'Youville College
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical U
George Washington U
Manhattanville College
Medaille College
Regis University
University of Chicago
University of Colorado at
Boulder
University of Colorado at
Colorado Springs
University of Denver

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WHO WE ARE

College Summit is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that helps low-income talent enroll in college. Since 1993, our capacity-building program for schools, youth agencies, colleges and corporations, along with our four-day workshop and senior-year curriculum for students, have enabled young people to emerge with not only a far greater likelihood of attending college but a clearer sense of their own potential.

WHAT WE DO

- Concentrate the six month application process into four-day, on-campus workshops
- Provide organizational planning and ongoing guidance to schools, youth agencies, colleges and corporations to help communities connect students to colleges where they will thrive
- Efficiently train mentors to guide students throughout the year

WHY THIS IS SO IMPORTANT

Economically disadvantaged high school graduates are two-and-a-half-times less likely to enroll in college than their middle and upper class counterparts (U.S. Census 1996)

BIG PICTURE

Over a lifetime, bachelor's degree holders earn 73% more income and contribute \$300,000 more federal taxes than do high school graduates (U.S. Census 1992; U.S. Bureau of Labor 1997)

RESULTS 1993-1999

- 37 Programs: 1078 students
- College enrollment rate of College Summit participants: 79%
National enrollment average for their peers: 34% (U.S. Census, 1996)
- Ethnicity: African-American 50%; Latino 36%; Native American 10%;
Asian-American 2%; White 2%
- G.P.A. average: 2.8
- Students from single-parent families: 83%

PLANS FOR YEAR 2000

- 20 programs with youth from seven states: Colorado, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Maryland, New Mexico, and New York
- 800 students and 200 mentors from 80 schools and youth agencies

CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION GRANTORS HAVE INCLUDED:

The Rockefeller Foundation
Lucent Technologies
The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
The John Nuveen Company
Echoing Green Foundation
The St. Paul Companies
U S WEST

*College Summit steps
in to fill the gap...
helping young people
from economically
disadvantaged areas
get through the maze
that makes up the
college application
process.*

—National
Public Radio

College Summit

College

Bridging the college counseling gap

Why we are here: *Promising Students*

“College Summit steps in to fill the gap ... helping young people from economically disadvantaged areas get through the maze that makes up the college application process.”

– National Public Radio

College

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This gap affects 500,000 of our nation's low-income high school students every year

- Economically disadvantaged high school graduates are two times less likely to enroll in college than students from higher-income backgrounds.

— U.S. Census, 1996

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And the causes of this gap are complex and multifaceted, including ...

- Poverty
- Under-resourced public schools
- Personal fears
- Peer pressure
- Family obligations

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Leaving many of these students
feeling alienated and overwhelmed

“My mother looks like Poland. I look like
Africa, but I feel like Bosnia.”

– Melody, 1998 Medaille College Workshop

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How, then, are these teens to face the daunting and cumbersome college application process?

- Most college-bound teens rely on two resources
 - Their parents
 - Their guidance counselors

But for economically disadvantaged,
potential 'first generation' college
applicants...

- EXPERIENCE GAP

Their parents are unable to guide them

- The parents have not been to college
- The parents are unfamiliar with the process
- They are often distracted by other demands
 - Unemployment
 - Multiple jobs
 - Parental responsibilities

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- *RESOURCE GAP*

Their guidance counselors are overwhelmed

“My school has 1000 students and three counselors —
for all counseling duties. We can’t do it alone.”

— Patricia Ludwig, Counselor, Manual High School, Denver

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- *INFORMATION GAP*

Colleges see an incomplete picture of the students and their strengths

“We can’t know a kid is ‘promising’ if we never see the evidence.”

– Gary Kelsey, Vice President for Enrollment Management,
SUNY Binghamton

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As a result, a whole sector of promising American teenagers are slipping “under the radar” ...

- They are going unnoticed as potential college students
- They are being overlooked as potential college educated employees

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College Summit solution:
two powerful forces— our four-day,
intensive workshop for students. . .



- Concentrates the overwhelming 6-month college application process into an achievable 4-day workshop
- 4 days of living and doing college (not a college tour)
- Explore personal obstacles and goals with peer support

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...and our Capacity-Building and Training Program for Communities -

*Four-day
Workshop*

- High Schools,
Youth Agencies
- Colleges
- Corporations

*Capacity-
Building/Training*

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The *College Summit* results are
powerful

College Enrollment Rate

(low-income students)

<i>College Summit</i> participants	79%
Low-income students, nationwide*	34%

*U.S. Census

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College Retention Rate

(low-income students)

College Summit participants

80%

College

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College Summit Student Profile

Ethnicity

African-American	50%
Latino-American	35%
Native-American	10%
Asian-American	3%
European-American	2%

<u>From Single-Parent Homes</u>	83%
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1993 - 1998, Sample of Colleges Attended

Bennett College

Clark Atlanta University

Colorado State University

DePaul University

Georgetown University

Morgan State University

Notre Dame University

South Carolina State

SUNY Albany

Trinidad State Junior College

University of Illinois

Brown University

Colorado College

Community College of Denver

Florida A&M

Hampton University

New Mexico Highlands

Northwestern University

Spelman College

Swarthmore College

University of Central Florida

University of Maryland

California State University/LA

Colorado School of Mines

CUNY - Hunter College

George Washington University

Montgomery Comm. College

North Carolina A&T

Santa Rosa Community College

Stanford University

Texas Southern University

University of Denver

University of New Mexico

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2000 Partner Colleges

Colorado:

Colorado College

Colorado School of Mines

Colorado Christian Univ.

Community College Consortium

Fort Lewis College

Regis University

University of Denver

University of Colorado/Boulder

University of Southern CO

Chicago:

Concordia University

DePaul University

Elmhurst College

University of Chicago

Florida:

University of Florida, Florida State University

Washington, DC: Georgetown University, Trinity College

Yet to be selected: 5 colleges and universities in Chicago, Florida and Washington, DC

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But the effects extend far beyond the numbers ... *College Summit* transforms high school cultures

- Seniors no longer fail-out senior year to avoid facing up to ambiguous futures

“For the first time in 15 years, I don’t see ‘senior sabotage.’”

—Nancy Sutton, Principal, Manual High School

College

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College Summit transforms the college student pool

“*College Summit* provides us with a venue to target different types of students, so that we can educate a more diverse workforce.”

— Morris Price , Associate Dean of Admissions, University of Denver

College

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College Summit transforms the corporate workforce

“For a corporation, College Summit is about workforce. Each workshop doubles the number of economically disadvantaged kids who go to college.”

-- Dean Furbush, SVP / Chief Economist, Nasdaq

“One of the best investments ever made by the Lucent Foundation.”

--Ave Elliott, Regional Vice President, Lucent Technologies

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College Summit transforms mentors and volunteers

“College Summit reminded me why it is that I teach writing.”

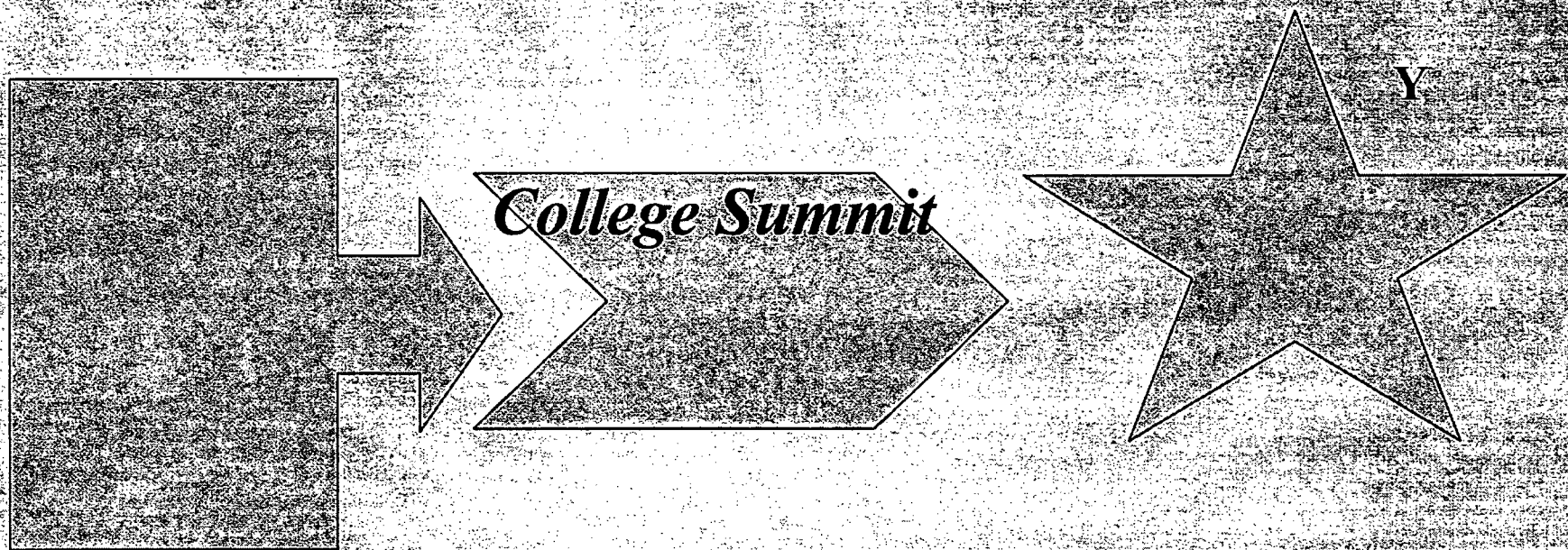
— Samantha Chang, Lecturer, Stanford University

College Summit

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But most importantly, College Summit transforms students like Jahi



College Student

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College Summit partners with local schools, agencies, colleges and corporations

- High Schools and Youth Agencies
 - Actively screen and nominate worthy candidates
 - Institute mentor program
- Colleges and Universities
 - Provide campus facilities for 4-day workshops
 - Review and recruit screened applicants from College Summit pool
 - Enhance relationships with community partners
- Corporations
 - Partner with universities, schools, and youth agencies
 - Provide volunteer mentors and workshop faculty

Bridging the college counseling gap

Looking forward, *College Summit* has ambitious plans for expansion

2000 Projected Outcomes

- 800 students
- 22 workshops
- 220 trained mentors
- 2 key hubs
 - Chicago
 - Colorado
- 2 seed regions
 - Florida
 - Washington, D.C.

College

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