FROM THE DIRECTOR

CAHN FELLOWS PROGRAM CELEBRATES ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY AT OCTOBER 3RD RECEPTION AND DECEMBER 5TH AUCTION

Happy September and Welcome Back to School Cahn Fellows and Alumni!

Believe it or not, it has been over ten years since the first cohort of Cahn Fellows was inducted into the program founded by The Charles Cahn Family at Teachers College in 2003. Over the past decade, 275 distinguished principals and over 225 aspiring principal Allies, who have successfully lead public and charter schools in New York City, Newark and Chicago, have been named Cahn Fellows and participated in this national leadership development program.

On October 3rd, Cahn Fellows Board member Carmen Fariña will host a reception at her Brooklyn home (kindly RSVP to cahnfellows@tc.edu) to celebrate the program’s anniversary and honor the vision and generosity of founder and Chairman of the Board Charles “Chuck” Cahn.

Cahn Fellows and guests who attend the anniversary reception will support the program with a $75 ticket donation. Over the past month, Cahn Alumni cohort captains have contacted Fellows to encourage them to donate and become the cohort with the highest number of contributions to be saluted at the reception.

The 2013 anniversary fundraising campaign will continue throughout the fall in anticipation of a December 5th Holiday Silent Auction in Manhattan that will feature auction items from Cahn Fellows, Alumni, their schools and communities. So be sure to save the dates on your fall calendar and we will look forward to seeing 10 years of Cahn Fellows and Alumni in celebration of the mission and history of the Cahn Fellows Program.

Please contact us or go to our website (http://www.cahnfellows.org) to purchase your October 3rd reception ticket, donate items for the December auction, click on “Support Cahn Fellows” and please spread the word! All the best, Bill
CAHN BOARD REPORT: Carmen Fariña

CAHN FELLOWS PROGRAM TO HONOR CHUCK CAHN AT 10TH ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION ON OCTOBER 3RD

Ten Cohorts of Cahn Fellows to Celebrate at Anniversary Fundraiser

On October 3rd from 5 to 8pm, it will be my pleasure to host an anniversary reception at my home honoring Program Founder and Chairman of the Board Charles “Chuck” Cahn as well as the ten cohorts of Cahn Fellows.

This anniversary reception, along with a December 5th silent auction, will be our 2013 cornerstone fundraising events to reach the Board’s fundraising goal of $10,000. Each cohort will be represented at the reception by Cahn Alumni captains who will compete for the largest cohort donation. At the holiday auction in December, Cahn Fellows, Alumni, Sponsors and others will donate items to raise funds for the program.

As you may know, The Cahn Fellows Program was founded in 2002 as a result of the vision and generosity of The Charles Cahn Family who wanted to do something to recognize excellence in education.

I encourage all of you to RSVP today and look forward to celebrating 10 years of distinguished fellowship with all of you on October 3rd and in December.
CAHN BOARD REPORT: Sharese Bullock-Bailey

CAHN FELLOWS PROGRAM DEVELOPING
10TH ANNIVERSARY VIDEO AND BOOK JOURNAL

This summer, The Cahn Fellows Program began productions that will chronicle its 10th anniversary with digital photos and videotape for an upcoming documentary and book in honor of the program’s tenth anniversary.

As a new Cahn Fellows Board Member, it is my pleasure to serve as producer of the program documentary along with 2011 Cahn Fellow and Park Slope Elementary School Principal Magalie Alexis who will also serve as editor of the book journal. Magalie and I will work closely with Teachers College videographer Erick Raphael and Park Slope Technologist Terrance Carney, our anniversary photographer and videographer.

If you would like to join our production efforts for the documentary or book journal, please reach out and offer your expertise to us at sharese.bullock@gmail.com or to Magalie at malexis@schools.nyc.gov.

We are planning to include video from past year’s conferences and presentations. If you have video, written reflections or photos that you would like featured, kindly forward them to us. A trailer of the anniversary video will be highlighted at our October 3rd Cahn Fellows Program reception so please stay tuned for more about our production efforts in the coming months.

CAHN FELLOWS PROGRAM
Holiday Celebration
Manhattan

December 5th, 5-8pm

At this holiday celebration, Cahn Fellows and Alumni will bid on auction items donated by members of the ten cohorts. Join us at the home of education philanthropist Ruth Cherry-Brown as we look forward to the new year and celebrate the end of the tenth year of The Cahn Fellows Program.

To attend or donate an auction item,

Kindly RSVP to CahnFellows@tc.edu

Cahn Fellows Program
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Learning for Leadership:
Developmental Strategies for Building Capacity in Our Schools
Preparing Education Leaders to Support Adult Professional Growth

Supporting adult professional development—or capacity building—is a challenge in today’s high-accountability atmosphere, especially with new teacher and principal evaluations. Learning for Leadership is a one-of-a-kind resource that helps prepare leaders to nurture human potential and build internal capacities. Help foster an understanding of adult development that enables education leaders to support professional learning across schools and districts. Based on adult developmental theory and filled with practical, actionable advice as well as takeaways, you will learn to:

- Employ practices that support leadership development in your schools and districts
- Teach on-the-ground applications for effective professional learning initiatives
- Design and implement action plans based on Four Pillar Practices for Growth that comprise a learning-oriented model of school leadership: Teaming, Providing Leadership Roles, Collegial Inquiry, and Mentoring with Developmental Intentionality
- Help leaders bridge theory and practice with first-hand case study analyses
- Build robust and effective professional learning initiatives that increases student achievement
- If you want to improve student achievement, then make schools and districts havens for learning for both students and educators with this comprehensive, highly adaptable, and accessible resource!

Visit www.corwin.com to learn more about Learning for Leadership
CAHN PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: 2012 Cahn Fellow Tara Shelton

Principal, South Loop Elementary School, Chicago

Can a teacher’s awareness of cultural, ethnic and socio-economic factors impact parental involvement and growth among disengaged students?

TARA SHELTON RECEIVES THE 2013 CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS PRINCIPAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Enhancing Achievement By Targeting the Special Needs of Diverse Students and Parents at South Loop Elementary School

When 2012 Chicago Cahn Fellow Tara Shelton decided to focus her Cahn Project on enhancing achievement among her most challenging students, she had no idea that her yearlong fellowship research would result in one of the highest honors in the Chicago Public School system.

In August, Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Chicago Public Schools Chief Executive Officer Barbara Byrd-Bennett have selected 2012 Cahn Fellow Tara Shelton, the principal of South Loop Elementary School, to receive the prestigious 2013 Principal Achievement Award. The award is one of five key levers in the Chicago District’s Principal Quality Initiative.

Mayor Emanuel and CPS CEO Bennett said, “We strongly believe that leadership is a critical lever for success, and this award is a sign that South Loop Elementary School Principal Tara Shelton is providing exceptional leadership for Chicago’s schools and students and we congratulate her on her success.” Principal Shelton was given the Principal Achievement Award of $10,000 for leading her South Loop Elementary students to exceptional growth last year and on building a school environment that drives student success.

Specifically, Principal Shelton’s award qualification was based on her meeting the following criteria: Her students met or exceeded the 90th percentile nationally on NWEA Reading and Math Growth and she narrowed the Achievement Gap by bringing targeted groups at South Loop Elementary School to the 70th national performance percentile.
CAHN ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: 2009 Cahn Fellow Brian O’Connell

SCHOLARS’ ACADEMY BOUNCES BACK UNDER DEDICATED PRINCIPAL

The Rockaway Beach school closed by Hurricane Sandy has roared back under the leadership of principal Brian O’Connell with students posting test scores higher than before the destructive storm

When Hurricane Sandy wrecked The Scholars’ Academy in Rockaway Beach, principal Brian O’Connell, a 2009 Cahn Fellow, did whatever it took to keep his school alive.

For his dedication — waking up before dawn and chaperoning hundreds of weary students to cramped, temporary classrooms in far-away neighborhoods — he was nominated for a Hometown Heroes in Education award.

After eight months of ceaseless toil and relentless heartbreak, O’Connell has rebuilt the school and his home, which sits just three stoplights away from the Academy and was also nearly destroyed in the deadly superstorm.

And amazingly, O’Connell’s school not only survived the ordeal — but the incredibly resilient students there performed better this year than ever.

“Our staffers and kids are real heroes. It’s amazing how well they bounced back,” said O’Connell, 46, who has worked in city schools for 22 years and founded the Scholars’ Academy in 2005.

The A-rated school serves grades 6-12 and has posted impressive graduation rates and test scores for years, making it an unusual success story in a neighborhood that’s better known for struggling classrooms. But for the 2012 school year, O’Connell reports that all of his seniors graduated and met state standards for college readiness.

The Academy’s high school students also posted better scores on every Regents exam compared to last year, and members of the graduating class landed more than $6.3 million in scholarships to continue their educations in college.

Not bad for kids coming from a school that was flooded with four feet of water by a storm that left more than 60% of the students and 30% of the staff homeless.

For more than four months, O’Connell was also displaced, living with his wife and two young children in a tiny Bay Ridge hotel room. But he drove out to Scholars’ Academy each day to ride the bus with his students to their temporary classrooms on loan from schools in East New York, Brooklyn.

O’Connell, his staff and students moved back into their school in January and finished out the term in amazing form.

“It was the worst year of my life and the best year,” O’Connell said. “In the end, we have a renewed closeness and appreciation for each other.”
THE ALLIES CORNER:
2012 Cahn Ally Michael West
Principal
East Side High School, Newark, New Jersey

My experience as a 2012 Cahn Ally at Teachers College, Columbia University was truly an honor and a privilege and I am delighted to share a brief glimpse of my fellowship year.

The intensive mentoring and meaningful project development with my 2012 Cahn Fellow and Principal Dr. Mario Santos, as well as the exposure and guidance from the Cahn team, has helped me grow immensely as a school leader. Moreover, the purposeful knowledge gained from my Cahn fellowship has had an enormous impact on my career.

I was recently promoted to Vice Principal at East Side High School in Newark, New Jersey. I am convinced that the diligent work put forth on our Cahn project - Creating An Early College Program and Talent Development Opportunities for Students - certainly made me a stronger candidate for promotion.

Furthermore, the many well organized and detailed Cahn activities left an indelible mark on me and will forever guide me when leading school initiatives. For instance, during the Fall Summit at the Edith Macy Conference Center in Briarcliff, New York, I was moved so much by the event and spectacular Girl Scouts campground headquarters that I planned a similar retreat for a group of East Side High School students.

My time spent as a Cahn Ally will always be appreciated as I continue the important work of improving student achievement and fostering student growth.
CAHN ALUMNI JOIN THE 2013 COHORT ON THE GETTYSBURG BATTLEFIELD

By 2007 Cahn Fellow Jeff Scherr

For the first time as part of the Cahn Fellows Program’s 10th anniversary activities, Cahn Alumni joined the 2013 cohort for the Summer Leadership Institute and the Gettysburg Alumni Retreat.

The opportunity for Cahn Alumni to refresh their own leadership skills while serving as mentors for the new cohort made this a most productive and enjoyable experience.

As guest speakers presented on Civil War leadership, both groups brought to the table their own perspectives, and then applied them to leadership in the school setting.

Cahn Alumni (pictured left) had the opportunity to share how being part of the Cahn Network had specifically enhanced their on-the-job effectiveness.

The new cohort’s fresh eyes on an issue was blended with the leadership experiences of the alumni.

In addition, down time on the bus and at meals provided the opportunity for both groups to ask questions of each other and share strategies to tackle pressing instructional, administrative and supervisory challenges.

Cahn Alumni who attended the first annual Gettysburg Alumni Retreat: (L-R) Randy Asher (CF 10), Erica Zigelman (CF 10), Linda Beal Benigno (CF 10), Jeff Scherr (CF 07), Peggy Wyns-Madison (CF 12), Bill Moore (CF 07), Magalie Alexis (CF 11), Alice Hom (CF 09), Rosemarie Nicoletti (CF 10) and Giselle McGee (CF 10).
2013 SUMMER LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
CAHN-GRATULATIONS ON YOUR DOE APPOINTMENTS

MUSA ALI SHAMA  
2012 Cahn Fellow  
Former Principal  
Francis Lewis High School  
DIRECTOR OF PRINCIPAL EVALUATIONS  
KING OF QUEENS Champions Award Event  
September 26

JOSHUA LAUB  
2005 Cahn Fellow  
Former Principal,  
Banana Kelly High School  
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
Office of Youth Safety and Youth Development

LARRY WOODBRIDGE  
2009 Cahn Fellow  
Former Principal  
Secondary School of Law  
DIRECTOR  
Leaders In Education Apprenticeship Program (LEAP)
CAHN-GRA T U L AT I O N S ON YOUR DOE APPOINTMENTS

FRED WALSH
2008 Cahn Fellow
Former Principal

LASHAWN ROBINSON
2013 Cahn Fellow
Former Principal
Brownsville Academy
High School

CARMEN PINTO
2012 Cahn Ally
Former Assistant Principal
High School for World Cultures

TALENT COACH
Office of Teacher Effectiveness

INSTRUCTIONAL COACH
Office of Teacher Effectiveness

DIRECTOR OF QUALITY CONTROL
CAHN-GRATULATIONS ON YOUR CSA APPOINTMENTS

HENRY RUBIO
2007 Cahn Ally

Former Principal
A. Phillip Randolph High School

SANA NASSER
2006 Cahn Fellow

Harry Truman High School

VICE PRESIDENT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FIELD SERVICES
CAHN-GRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT

LINDA SINGER
2006 Cahn Fellow

P.S. 255, The Barbara Reing School

Retirement Party

October 10, 6:30pm
Russo’s on the Bay
162-45 Cross Bay Boulevard,
Howard Beach, NY

VINCENT MANISCALCO
2007 Cahn Fellow

Staten Island Technical High School
Brooklyn School Founder Leong Helps Would Be Dropouts


APRIL LEONG
2011 Cahn Fellow

Principal
Liberation Diploma Plus High School

THE ASSOCIATION FOR BLACK EDUCATORS IN NEW YORK

Educator of the Year Award

RAHESHA AMON
2007 Cahn Fellow

Principal
Frederick Douglass Academy III