

# UofL Engagement

Partnerships for a better community.

April 2010

## UofL named to the 2009 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction

The University of Louisville has been named to the 2009 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction by the Corporation for National and Community Service. The selection to the Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement.

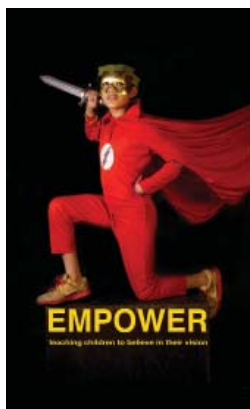
**The University of Louisville was the only university in the state of Kentucky to receive the Honor Roll with Distinction.** In 2008-2009, UofL had a total of 7,917 students who were engaged in community service of any kind, logging over more than 145,000 service hours.

Projects included in this year's nomination were:

**Audiology in Rural Kentucky** - Since October 2008, several students and faculty in the Audiology doctoral program have been involved with a service project in Eastern Kentucky to provide hearing services to adults living in extreme poverty. The group partnered with Hear the World foundation, a non-profit charitable organization, and to date, have fitted approximately 150 elderly adults with hearing aids they otherwise would be unable to obtain.

**Empower** - A project incorporating the efforts of Fine Arts Classes during the regular academic semesters, teaches children growing up in difficult

circumstances the art and skills of photography to encourage them to appreciate the beauty and dignity of their own expression. Under the direction of Associate Professor Mary Carothers, 20 university students work with children at St. Josephs Children's Home to conduct various photographic projects, such as producing studio portraits, and shooting photographs to experience the science and magic of the darkroom. EMPOWER aims to encourage children to use their voices effectively, educate the world about their needs and to inspire change.



Tiyas, resident of St. Josephs Children's Home, poses as Lightning Man, part of the Empower Super-hero series.

**The College Prep Mentoring Program** - This Signature Partnership Initiative program is designed for university students to mentor middle school students. Thirty-five mentors visit Western Middle School once a week for the fall and spring semesters and work with groups of three mentees. The objectives of the program are to motivate, inspire, and expose mentees to education and the importance of enrolling in college. Mentors work with mentees to set personal and career goals, and help expose mentees to college, talking about classes, admissions, scholarships, and campus life. Since the program's inception, attendance among the middle school students has increased and the number of discipline referrals has decreased by 58%.



UofL President Dr. James Ramsey talks with Western Middle School students during a visit to campus.

**Developing Parental Support for Children's Early Language Development** - The objective of this project is to partner with the Volunteers of America Family Emergency Shelter in Louisville, which serves 350 homeless families and their children. The goal is to improve the children's school readiness by providing appropriate screening, monitoring and intervention of their language development through parent education. This project also provides experiences for College of Education and Human Development teacher candidates to demonstrate well-cultivated critical thinking skills while engaging in this service project.

# Signature Partnership

## Nursing Students give H1N1 flu vaccine to Portland Plaza residents

University of Louisville's Community Health nursing students under the supervision of Mrs. Diane Riff worked with residents of the Portland Plaza to increase H1N1 flu awareness. In response to the questions about H1N1 vaccine, students went door to door in mid-January conducting one-on-one teaching. Many senior residents stated they had not received the H1N1 flu shots. Other residents asked if it was safe to receive the H1N1 flu vaccine. One resident, who wanted the vaccine, told the students that he could not leave his apartment due to chronic health concerns.

The ten nursing students involved in the project created a teaching sheet on flu facts and myths and presented the information to the residents of the Portland Plaza. Working with their clinical instructor and Dr. Ruth Carrico from the School of Public Health and Information Sciences, the students were able to obtain the needed flu vaccine and supplies for the Portland Plaza residents. The students coordinated time and location for vaccine administration with John Barrow, Service Coordinator for the Portland Plaza. On January 28, 2010 over 25 residents arrived at the Portland Plaza Community Room to receive the vaccine. In addition, many residents also had their blood pressures checked by the nursing students. One homebound resident received his vaccine in his apartment.



Nursing School student administers H1N1 vaccine to Portland Plaza resident

This experience demonstrates how nurses respond to needs in a community and use collaboration and health education to meet those needs. This is a lesson that may stay with the nursing students who took the initiative to seek out needed resources and then followed through with service.

*By Ermalynn Kiehl, Associate Dean, School of Nursing*

## College of Education and Human Development in partnership with The Academy at Shawnee

The College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) continues to expand its role in the Signature Partnership work through engagement at The Academy @ Shawnee (formerly Shawnee High School), one of the five identified west Louisville schools in the Signature Partnership Initiative. CEHD has been involved at the school since January 2009. As the Academy @ Shawnee moves to become the first K-12 learning campus in western Louisville, CEHD is providing technical assistance to the administrative design team as well as assisting with the immediate re-design work at the high school level. Under the leadership of Shawnee principal Dr. Keith Look, CEHD assisted the administrative team with a reallocation of the physical space of the school as well as a new instructional program for the school. Changes include newly dedicated hallways for specific grade groups, as well as newly organized instructional teaching teams. UofL instructor Debbie Powers is the CEHD liaison at The Academy @ Shawnee and serves as a resource for both the administration and the faculty.

In addition to ongoing technical support for the administration and faculty, CEHD provided a full day of professional development collaborative experience for the entire faculty over the summer hosted at the Student Activities Center on the Belknap Campus. Current plans with CEHD include specialized training for Shawnee faculty in ACT test preparation, instructional teaming practices, reading across the content areas, and embedding the newly named magnet programs, Aviation, Engineering, and Energy Technology, into the curriculum. Given the new program designations, the opportunity exists for even greater engagement from not only the College of Education and Human Development but other university partners. Other University units involved at The Academy @ Shawnee include Urban Planning, Upward Bound, Schools of Nursing and Social Work, and Sports Medicine.

For more information on the work at The Academy @ Shawnee, contact Debbie Powers at 852-2545 or via email at [debbie.powers@louisville.edu](mailto:debbie.powers@louisville.edu).

*By Debbie Powers, Director, KY Principals Academy*



Shawnee Assistant Principal & UofL Doctoral student Matt Kingsley, along with other Shawnee faculty, participate in professional development training during a summer in-service held at UofL.

# Community Engagement

## Drive the Dream: GEAR UP Kentucky Announces \$1,000 Scholarship Winners

Nearly 400 high school juniors across the state were awarded \$1,000 college scholarships in the “Drive the Dream” scholarship program, sponsored by the Kentucky GEAR UP program. Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) is a federally funded program that encourages middle and high school students to stay in school, study hard, and take the courses they need to be prepared for college. **21 scholarships were awarded to students attending Fairdale, Iroquois, and Southern High Schools.**

Students will receive the scholarships when they enroll in college. The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) provided the scholarships.

“We are thrilled to offer this scholarship program to students and hopefully help drive their dream of a college degree,” stated Yvonne Lovell, executive director of GEAR UP. “This scholarship program represents a shared commitment among all our partners and seven host sites to keep the door of opportunity open.”

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must attend a school in the GEAR UP Kentucky program. They must have participated in all the EXPLORE and PLAN assessments and reached the benchmark in at least two of the subject areas of the 2008 PLAN assessments. They also needed to maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average, and submit an essay and references.

The purpose of GEAR UP is to increase the number of students who are prepared to enter and succeed in post-secondary education. GEAR UP provides six-year grants to states and partnerships to provide services. GEAR UP grantees serve an entire cohort of students beginning no later than the seventh grade and follow the cohort through high school. GEAR UP schools have enrollments where more than 50 percent of the students come from low-income backgrounds.

*Council on Postsecondary Education News Release*



GEAR UP scholarship recipients from Fairdale, Iroquois, and Southern High Schools celebrate at the Drive the Dream Scholarship ceremony at the Marriott Hotel.

## Healthy Hoops Kentucky Overview

Healthy Hoops Kentucky is an innovative asthma program sponsored by Passport Health Plan and introduced to Louisville in 2008. The program teaches children between the ages of 7 and 13, their parents and families how to manage asthma through the appropriate use of medication, proper nutrition, monitored exercise, and recreational activities. The program is community based and is open to asthmatic children; it is not restricted to Passport Health Plan members.

The Healthy Hoops Kentucky program consists of asthma screenings and education throughout the community including professional development seminars for nurses, coaches, and a half-day basketball event held each September featuring Healthy Hoops Honorary Chairperson and former University of Louisville Basketball and Utah Jazz Legend Darrell Griffith.

Since its inception in 2008, over 400 children have participated in the Healthy Hoops Kentucky program through community asthma screenings and the annual Tip-Off events. In 2009, Healthy Hoops Kentucky conducted three screenings, participated in the local Asthma Walk and held a half day event on September 12, 2009 at Louisville Male High School. Over 250 children and parents attended the event.

As the number of children with asthma increases locally, Healthy Hoops Kentucky looks forward to working with the community in providing education about asthma in a fun and learning environment.

*By Marcelline Coots, Public Affairs Supervisor and Healthy Hoops Program Manager, Passport Health Plans*



Students participate in asthma screenings



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## Recognition & Awards

**Joe Gutmann, Named 2010 Educator of the Year, by Street Law**  
Joe Gutmann will be recognized in Washington, DC in April as the 2010 Street Law Educator of the Year. Mr. Gutmann serves as the coordinator of Central High School's Law and Government Magnet program. Street Law, Inc. is a national non-profit organization that provides practical, participatory education about law, democracy, and human rights. In 2007, law students from the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law began assisting in teaching the curriculum at Central under Joe Gutmann's supervision. Each year about 15 to 25 law students are involved in the program.

**An article written by Dr. Henry Cunningham, "Signature Partnership Initiative: Enhancing Educational Attainment"**, has been selected to be published in Arizona State University Design Consortium's online Innovation Clearinghouse of Good Practices, accessible to academic leaders and the public worldwide. See it at <http://universitydesign.asu.edu/good-practices>.

**Office of Community Engagement Faculty Grant Program (OCEFG)**  
The OCEFG grants program is an initiative established to foster UofL faculty and staff community engagement projects within the west Louisville community and Jefferson County. Grants may focus on infrastructure development, research and non-research projects which hold a community participatory action perspective. A total of \$25,000 is available for the 2010-11 academic year. Application deadline is April 19.

For the grant application and more information, visit <http://louisville.edu/communityengagement/ocefg-grants.html>

**Outstanding Community Engagement Awards**  
Nominations are now being accepted for the 2nd Annual Outstanding Community Engagement Awards for faculty, staff, students, and community partners who are involved in outstanding community engagement service. Each award recipient will receive a \$2,500 monetary award and allowed to designate a community service agency to receive a \$2,500 match award. The Community Partner recipient of the year will receive a \$5,000 monetary award. Awards will be given at the Outstanding Community Engagement Awards Ceremony in October 2010. Application deadline is May 7. For more information and application materials visit <http://louisville.edu/communityengagement/outstanding-community-engagement-award.html>

### SAVE THE DATES

2010 Community Engagement Showcase  
Monday, April 12, 2010  
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
George J. Howe Red Barn

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5th Annual Kentucky Engagement Conference  
Friday, November 19, 2010  
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
Galt House Hotel & Suites