

● SPOTLIGHT

**National Mentoring Month ~
January 2009**

Ring in the new year by honoring the commitment, energy, and enthusiasm devoted by mentors across the nation in



helping the next generation of Americans reach their full potential. Mentors help to shape character, teach skills, and instill compassion and responsibility in young people; they serve as motivators and guides that can encourage youth to do well in school and make their way into a healthy and successful future.

Are *you* a mentor? Can you think of someone who mentored you and made a difference in your life? To read compelling commentary or watch short videos of well-known personalities – such as Quincy Jones, Clint Eastwood, Oprah Winfrey, Colin Powell, and others – talking about their own mentors, go to the [Who Mentored You](#) website. This site also includes information and ideas about how to participate in “Thank Your Mentor Day” on Thursday, January 22, 2009.

For more inspiration and information, visit the websites of the organizations who spearheaded the National Mentoring Month campaign: [Harvard Mentoring Project](#), [MENTOR](#), and the [Corporation](#)

● RESOURCES

**Mentoring Matters:
Connecting for Success**

Being a mentor involves more than leadership – success comes from making personal connections and building trust. Use the following resources to strengthen relationships between mentors and mentees as well as offer better support to mentors in the field.

**Effective Practices**

- [Building strong relationships in mentoring programs](#)
- [Using ten techniques to sustain a successful mentoring relationship](#)
- [Understanding mentoring opportunities](#)

Lending Library

- [Mentoring for Meaningful Results: Asset-Building Tips, Tools, and Activities for Youth and Adults](#)
- [Handbook of Youth Mentoring](#)
- [Stand by Me: The Risks and Rewards of Mentoring Today's Youth](#)

Other Resources

● ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Speakers Available to
Discuss Analog-to-Digital TV
Conversion**

Volunteer representatives from TV stations across the country are available to speak about the February 17, 2009, digital television (DTV) transition and how it will affect your community. Senior Corps programs are encouraged to educate senior citizens about the federal converter box program and how to apply for coupons to offset the cost. Find a local broadcaster to help educate your members about the transition by contacting the DTV Speakers Bureau toll-free at 877-MY-DTV-09 (that's 877-693-8809) or at DTVSpeak@crosbyvolmer.com. Learn more at the [DTV answers](#) website. The Resource Center's "[Lessons Learned](#)" document can help guide you in engaging RSVP volunteers in the analog-to-digital initiative.

**Digital Youth Research
Project: Findings Now
Available**

Kids' Informal Learning with Digital Media: An Ethnographic Investigation of Innovative Knowledge Cultures is a three-year collaborative project funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Researchers at the University of Southern California and University of California, Berkeley, explored how kids use digital media in their everyday lives. Visit the [Digital Youth Research](#) website to read findings from the three-year study of 800 youth and young

[for National and Community Service.](#)

Each of us — individuals, businesses, government agencies, schools, faith-based organizations, and nonprofits — can work together to increase the number of mentors and ensure a brighter future for our nation's children and youth.

- [National Mentoring Month Toolkit](#)
- [LEARNS: Mentoring Resources](#)
- [Mentoring School-Age Children: Relationship Development in Community-Based and School-Based Programs](#)
- [National Mentoring Center](#)

adults, which indicate that youth use online media to extend friendships and interests.

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Simple tech tip:

When reading through a long document, hold down the **Ctrl** key and use the **Page Up** or **Page Down** keys to skip up or down exactly one page.

MLK DAY IS JANUARY 19, 2009

Get excited about MLK Day 2009, and [start planning!](#)

EFFECTIVE PRACTICES COLLECTION

Effective practices define good ideas, successful strategies, and studied findings to help your program thrive. Featured practice: [Establishing a responsible mentoring program.](#)

ABOUT THE RESOURCE CENTER

The Resource Center is a training and technical assistance provider funded by the [Corporation for National and Community Service](#) to support volunteer and service programs across the nation. Visit us today to search, browse, download, order, and borrow from among thousands of specialized resources. Click here to [subscribe](#) to this e-newsletter. To [unsubscribe](#), send an e-mail to lyris@lists.etr.org with ***unsubscribe nsrcnews*** in the body of the message.