



# PHASE

## A Newsletter of Skaggs Center Internships

Vol. 2, Issue #2

February 2009

### African Heritage Youth Leadership Conference

Boulder Valley School District  
Office of Institutional Equity and Multicultural Education

**WE ARE THE ONES  
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR**



**African Heritage Youth Leadership Conference**

January 14, 2009  
University of Colorado  
Student Outreach and Resource Center  
Boulder, Colorado

The Boulder Valley School District's (BVSD) Office of Institutional Equity and Multicultural Education held its fifth annual conference at the University of Colorado on January 14th for African Heritage students. The theme of the conference was, "We are the ones we've been waiting for." The ESRL PHASE program along with the BVSD, the University of Colorado Student Outreach and Resource Center (SORCE), and the African American Leadership Institute were major sponsors for the conference that attracted over eighty students and many parents, volunteers and exhibitors.

The conference opened with Malaika Pettigrew

welcoming the students and stating the objectives of the conference: (1) To support youth of African descent, grades 9-12, in developing self esteem, academic excellence and cultural pride that allow them to participate more fully as leaders and productive members of their communities. (2) To inspire youth of African descent to realize their educational and professional potential through individual and group interactions with business, community, educational, and political leaders. (3) To provide youth of African descent with opportunities to understand contemporary issues that are facing African heritage communities.

Malaika welcomed her committee members and recognized the conference coordinator, Daniel Escalante for his efforts to step up and coordinate the conference. Ann Thorne, NOAA/ESRL Student Coordinator along with the other organizing committee members were recognized: Adrienne Bauduit, Dr. Andre Lanier, Dr. Anissa Butler, Cleo Estrada, Curtis Griffin, Daniel Escalante, Debie Frazier, George Crochet, Halade Tashia Asanti, Jack Hadley, Johnna Wynn, Becky Rios, Norma Johnson, Obi Onyeali, Pamela Bauduit, Susan Smith, Teresa Hernandez, Tony Tafoya and Victor Hernandez.

Dr. Andre Lanier, Executive Director of the Department of Institutional Equity stated that this country was embarking on an exciting journey with the election of Barack Obama as President. He encouraged the students to be community organizers and to use the skills learned at the conference when they return to school.

Dr. Chris King, BVSD Superintendent, thanked the students for showing up and said that he realized they would have to make up the time for attending the conference. He encouraged them to explore leadership options and asked them to step up to leadership roles. He said that with President elect Obama as leader of the free world, there would be challenges. He said everyone should step up to those challenges. Dr. King also recognized School Board member Leslie Smith and Deputy Superintendent Dr. Ellen Miller Brown. He thanked them for their support and attendance.

Malaika recognized the Institute for African American Leadership (IAAL) which has been in existence for 14 years and a prime sponsor of the conference. She spoke about their upcoming video and the commemorative quilt.

Obi Onyeali, CU Black Student Alliance Chair, led all in attendance in a group ice breaker which was well received by all the participants. (The ice breaker was the Remove/Catch the thumb in your palm exercise.)

Following the opening activities there was a presentation of "Our Hair." This was a unique and original ensemble presentation piece by five women about Black women's stories as told through the perspective of their hair. Presenters included: Chaunesti Webb Lyon, Norma Johnson, Zewdinesh Gebru, Martine McDonald and Malaika Pettigrew. Students in attendance also shared their particular experiences related to their hair.

DeAndre Carroll led a workshop that examined social and historical influences that have shaped folk and folkloric art in the Black community. The workshop started with the African American movement from its West African spiritual and secular roots and follows its evolution to Hip Hop as a form of modern folkdance.

A follow up presentation on the Hair performance encouraged students to tell their own stories of cultural identity through creative expression.

CU Student, Obi Onyeali, led a workshop which featured five CU students who shared information about the real joys and challenges of college life. The objective was for students to have an opportunity to ask current college students about what they can expect after high school and how to best prepare for the college experience.

Curtis Griffin and facilitators with the IAAL examined the role media and peers play in how they form their identities and how to resist falling into prevailing stereotypes and limits. This standing room only workshop was very popular with input from students, parents and facilitators.

The PHASE program, as a sponsor of the conference, showed students, teachers, visitors, administrators and parents that NOAA/ESRL is interested in the future of students and seeks to offer opportunities for internships in the various ESRL Divisions. It is our hope that students will view the NOAA brand/logo as a positive symbol and as a potential employer. Students were told they could make positive contributions to understanding the dynamics of our planet and the systems that affect weather and climate, and that they can study these without destroying the planet in the process.



One last photo opportunity for Broomfield High School students preparing to depart the AHYL Conference.

## Views from the BVSD AHYL Conference



## Education, Science, and Careers

# Publisher's Notes from Boulder and the African Heritage Youth Leadership Conference



BVSD Superintendent Dr. Chris King, Ann Thorne, NOAA/ESRL Student Coordinator, and Leslie Smith, BVSD Board Member.

## The Objectives of the ESRL Intern Program

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- A. To seek a broad development and expansion of internship opportunities for high school, college and graduate students and high school teachers.
- B. To assist and encourage NOAA organizations in establishing goals and identifying the best possible sources for the recruitment, employment, training and advancement of student Interns.
- C. To encourage and actively support the promotion and advancement of Interns already employed.
- D. To analyze and determine the educational and professional needs of students seeking entry and advancement in employment; and, whenever possible, provide appropriate training and counseling services to meet these needs.
- E. To establish and continually upgrade a broad range of contact with supervisors and Interns across the country via personal visits, telephone calls, e-mails, and periodic newsletters.
- F. To respond to the reasonable requests from non-NOAA groups for student referrals when their objectives are supportable and similar to the ESRL PHASE program.
- G. To enhance the promotion of student excellence, pride, and camaraderie through organized and regular social gatherings which will serve to bind students together.
- H. To provide a forum for major research issues of local and national significance so that students may be better informed and may express their views through seminar presentations before their peers and supervisors.

## Key Advisory Board Functions

The key functions performed by the PHASE Advisory Board include: **Advocacy on Employment and Education Issues**; **Membership and Outreach**; and **Consultation with Students and Supervisors**. The following is a brief description of each function:

### Advocacy on Employment and Education Issues

The advocacy function is performed when advisory board members take a pro-active role in seeing that an employment related issue is addressed by the appropriate community, education or government organization. This function typically involves the following: Assisting students and parents with local school issues, e.g. summer jobs, internships, grades and course requirements; Informing the local community on student internship opportunities; Researching employment opportunities and various employment related topics such as housing, travel, and community demographics.

### Membership and Outreach

The membership committee is charged with an ongoing program of recruiting and retaining members of the Advisory Board. This involves coordinating a yearly membership drive for new members. The outreach function is performed by going out into the community to explain NOAA internship programs and communicating the assistance that can be provided. Typically, this function involves attending meetings and briefings, networking with NOAA agency representatives, providing orientation briefings to newcomers, attending training sessions and education workshops - both as participants and presenters.

### Consultation

Consultation services are typically private and are provided to students, parents and teachers who need explanations related to PHASE documents and procedures. This function typically involves mediating an issue at the lowest level before it escalates and assisting the ESRL Student Coordinator with employee issues.



***PHASE* is a publication  
of the ESRL Student  
Coordinator**

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*PHASE* seeks to inform  
employees and students on  
employment programs and  
internships.

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## **MISSION**

*The mission of the Practical Hands on Application to Science Education (PHASE) program is to have students benefit from a science intern program at a Federal facility.*

*The objectives of the program are (1) for laboratories to identify student projects that provide a learning environment and focus on practical hands-on activities; (2) to provide laboratories with profiles of students who have an interest in considering NOAA and science in general as a positive career choice; and (3) to inform students of career opportunities in NOAA.*

**MARK THE DATE**  
**Workforce Boulder County**  
**Presents**  
**Show Me the Money!**  
**A summer job fair for youth**  
**ages 14—21**

**March 5, 3—6 p.m.**

Spice of Life 5706 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder  
and

**March 11, 3—6 p.m.**

Twin Peaks Mall, 1250 S. Hover, Longmont

For more information contact:

303.301.2900 in Boulder  
303.651.1510 in Longmont

## **COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS**

### **GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:**

NOAA/OAR/ESRL  
NOAA/NWS/SWPC  
NOAA/NESDIS/NGDC  
NIST  
NTIA  
Workforce Boulder County

### **HIGHER EDUCATION:**

University of Colorado/CIRES  
CU SORCE Program

### **COMMUNITY:**

SACNAS  
MESA  
AISES  
National Image, Inc.  
Blacks-In-Government

### **SCHOOL DISTRICTS:**

Boulder Valley  
St. Vrain Valley



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## *A Newsletter of Skaggs Center Internships*

**Please add me to newsletter mailing list. (Please print or type.) Issue #2, 2009**

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Home Address or School Address	
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