



NYC
Department
of Education

March/April 2007

MGI/GEAR UP Program
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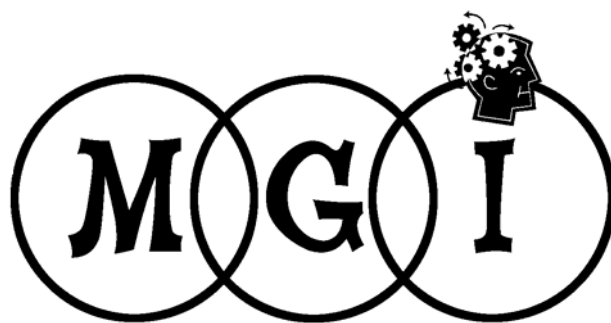
Aisha Barnes, Advisor
Guidance Suite
Mondays & Tuesdays

Angelina Diaz,
Math Tutor
Ms. Clarke's Class
Tues, Wed, & Thurs

Eleni Katechis,
ELA Tutor
Ms. Branch's Class
Mon, Wed, & Fri

Roseanna Sahadeo,
ELA Tutor
Mr. Kolessar's Class
Wed, Thurs, & Fri

Lorent Santos,
Math Tutor
Ms. Tsirkus's Class
Tues, Wed, & Thurs



Middle Grades Initiative/GEAR UP **Monthly News**

MGI/GEAR UP Happenings at East Bronx: C.A.T., After School Tutoring, and More!

The Lehman College MGI/GEAR UP program at East Bronx Academy has a busy couple of months ahead of us! Here are some of the goings-on with MGI/GU for April, May, and June:

Creative Arts Team

The Creative Arts Team comes to East Bronx in April and May! The award-winning C.A.T. consists of two actor-educators who will come into East Bronx 7th grade classrooms this spring for six sessions. The actors will present a story that they began with our students last year when they were sixth graders: the story of Phoenix and Pharaoh, two friends who are trying to break into the

music world. We follow along as they continue their adventures from last year – we visit their homes, go to school with them, see where they work ... and along the way, we learn a little bit about preparing for the future, making decisions, and, of course, college. Students won't want to miss this exciting program!

After School Tutoring

For MGI/GEAR UP students who want help with their homework or a quiet place to get work done before going home, we introduce the MGI/GEAR UP After School Tutoring! Join us every Monday after school from 3:00 – 4:00 in the

Guidance Suite. EBA MGI Tutors Eleni Katechis and Roseanna Sahadeo will be available to work with students on their homework, or students can just come on by to have a quiet place to get some work done before leaving school for the day. We will provide snacks, too! So come every Monday, or just drop in when you have questions, and we look forward to seeing you.

Community Works

EBA students have 2 more exciting arts performances coming up this year through the Community Works program – stay tuned for more info as we book these trips!

Online College Resource for Students: CollegeAnswer.com

There are lots of websites out there designed to help students plan for college, and it can be overwhelming to visit them all! However, check out

www.collegeanswer.com

This site is a one-stop shop for information about discovering your strengths, researching careers, saving for college, and more!

PARENTS: Save the Date!

Join other parents of MGI/GEAR UP students across New York City for our 2nd Parent Conference for 2006-2007!

**Saturday,
May 19**

Time & Location TBA

Watch your mailbox for more info, or contact:

Rosa Cruz-Cordero
MGI/GEAR UP
Parent Services
Coordinator
(646) 344-7332
[Rosa.Cruz-Cordero
@mail.cuny.edu](mailto:Rosa.Cruz-Cordero@mail.cuny.edu)

College Myths — Debunked!

**College Myth #3:
College isn't
possible because
you are not doing
well in school.**

The good news is that you're still in middle school, so there is plenty of time to get your grades up! Your MGI/GU tutors and your teachers are here to help you. By working on your academics now, you're setting the stage for great things in high school and college. Also, keep in mind that there is a place for *any* student who wants to attend college!

RESOURCES

Volunteer This Summer!

What are you going to do this summer? While summer is a time for students and families to relax after a hard school year, it's also a great time to volunteer! For students, volunteering is a great way to learn new skills and gain experience, like office work, computers, and working with people. It's also a great way to meet new people and get involved!

Where can students volunteer? There are lots of places! You can volunteer with senior citizens, younger children, or families. You can volunteer in offices to help with office tasks and mailings, or you can volunteer at a community center. You can volunteer a few times a week, once a week, once a month ... The possibilities are endless!

So where do you find

volunteer opportunities? A great resource is the Mayor's Volunteer Center. This online resource is at

www.volunteernyc.org

You can search by organization, location, hours, etc. You can also call the Center at

(212) 251-4047

There are also opportunities for parents and families.

Happy Volunteering!

Great Parent Resource: ParentJobNet.org

Visit www.parentjobnet.org — a great, free website for parents! On this site you can find:

- Job listings
- Volunteer opportunities
- Job training
- Childcare information
- Service locators (ex: financial advising, tutoring, computing, etc.)
- Event listings
- Networking with other parents and professionals in the City

Check it out today!

High-Quality After School Programming: Beacon Programs

The New York City Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) offers high-quality after school programs in the form of their Beacon Centers. These Centers offer: academic enhancement, career awareness, life skills, community building, Recreation. They also offer such adult programming as: general education diploma (GED), English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), parenting skills, family Relations, tenant education and advocacy.

Beacon Centers exist all over the city, and families have to enroll their students. To find a program near you, visit the DYCD website at:

<http://dycd-app.webscope.com/directory/>

or call

212-788-6754