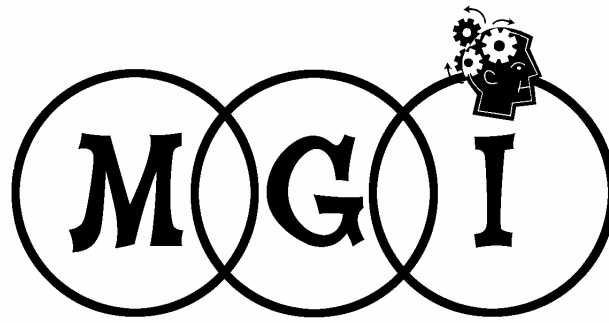




NYC
Department
of Education



Middle Grades Initiative/GEAR UP Monthly News

December 2006

MGI/GEAR UP Program
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Angel Nunes, 6th Advisor
MGI Office
Wed, Thurs, & Fri

Karen Barton, 7th Advisor
MGI Office
Mon, Tues, & Wed

Urine Jean-Baptiste,
English Tutor
Mr. Buchanan's, Ms.
George's, Mr. Hayes', and
Ms. Yosifides's Classes
Mon, Wed, & Fri

Rosa Montalvo, Math Tutor
Ms. Rivera's &
Ms. Sheppard's Classes
Mon, Wed, & Thurs

Christina Powell, ELA Tutor
Mr. Edmond's & Mr. Hayes'
Classes
Mon, Wed, & Fri

Bertha Rodriguez, Math Tutor
Ms. Rivera's Class
Mon, Wed, & Thurs

Jacob Simonds, ELA Tutor
Ms. Michelak's, Ms. Marna's,
and Ms. Acevedo's Classes
Mon, Tues, & Wed

Angelie Solano, Math Tutor
Ms. Yosifides' and
Ms. Sheppard's Classes
Tues, Thurs, & Fri

MGI/GEAR UP Year off to a Great Start!

The Lehman College MGI/GEAR UP Program is off to a great beginning for the 2006-2007 school year. We are working in three Bronx schools – East Bronx Academy for the Future, IN-Tech Academy, and South Bronx Preparatory – and in addition to working with this year's 7th graders (whom we worked with last year as 6th graders), we will also be working with this year's 6th graders.

The focus of our program is academic support and enrichment. To that

end, you will see our math and ELA tutors in your classrooms this year. (For their names, cooperating teachers, and days in the school, see the box to the left.) They are ready and willing to help students in during classes as well as during elective periods, lunch, and even after school. Please talk to them or to Becky Noack, MGI/GEAR UP Coordinator, about working with our tutors this year.

We also have advisors who will work with students on the transition to

middle school, setting academic goals, and early college/career planning.

In addition, we will also have a number of special events, such as trips to music and dance performances, theater programs in the classrooms, parents events, and more.

This newsletter will be published monthly to keep you informed of what's going on with MGI/GEAR UP at IN-Tech. Please get in touch with us if we can provide more information for you. We look forward to a great year together!

Lehman Saturday Academy a Big Hit

This fall, 37 students completed Lehman College's MGI/GEAR UP Saturday Academy. These 6th and 7th grade students attended four weeks of enrichment programming on Saturday mornings, so instead of sleeping in or playing video games, these students got up early to come to campus to learn about robotics, make their own robots, and practice their skills in Microsoft Power Point by making presentations about their life and future goals.

Students also got a taste of campus life. Each morn-

ing began with breakfast in Carman Hall's cafeteria, and after three hours of classes, students came back to the cafeteria for pizza lunch. But it wasn't all work – students got to unwind after classes by playing basketball and volleyball in the gymnasium before heading home. The program culminated on the last day with an awards ceremony for parents and families.

This program was taught by IN-Tech's own Mr. Shyyam Khan and Ms. Cynthia Lopez. Two tutors from East Bronx Academy

& South Bronx Prep also assisted – Mr. Lorent Santos and Mr. Paul Campbell.

After the Thanksgiving break, students had the chance to wrap up their technology learning by visiting the Sony Wonder Technology Lab in Manhattan. They spent the day learning about how we make technology and how we use it, even investigating various careers in technology.

The Lehman MGI/GEAR UP Program will offer more enrichment programs like this in the future!

ATTENTION PARENTS: Save the Date!

GEAR UP Parent Conference

**Saturday,
January 27
9:00 am-1:00 pm**
Hostos Community
College

Join other parents of
GEAR UP students
across New York
City for a day of
workshops,
presentations, and
networking.
Planning for college
begins now!

More details to
come.

College Myths — Debunked!

College Myth #1: College is too expensive.

Don't let this myth keep you from going to college! Most college students receive some form of financial aid from the government, the colleges they applied to or private scholarship programs. Talk to your MGI/GEAR UP Advisor or guidance counselor for more information.

RESOURCES

Dial-a-Teacher Homework Help Line

Have a question about your child's homework? Need a quick answer? Want to encourage your student to take responsibility for finding the answer to his toughest school work questions?

Parents and students alike can call **212.777.3380** to contact a UFT teacher that can answer questions

Monday-Thursday 4:00-7:00 PM. The call center can handle questions on reading, mathematics, writing, and science.

Center staff speak Spanish, Italian, Chinese, French, Haitian-Creole, Greek, Hebrew, Korean, and Russian in addition to English. Teachers can also answer questions about

how to help students study at home.

Try this free service today and see what a difference it makes in your child's school work!

**Dial-a-Teacher
Homework Help Line:
212.777.3380**

Parents: Further Your Own Education at Lehman College

Parents: If you are interested in furthering your own education, take a look at Lehman College! Lehman offers Continuing Education, adult degree programs, and graduate programs. Check them out online or stop by Lehman's campus for more information:

Continuing Education: 718.960.8512

www.lehman.edu/ce/

Adult Degree Program: 718.960.8666

www.lehman.edu/deanadult/adultdegree/

Graduate Programs: 718.960.8000

www.lehman.edu/lehman/programs/graduate.html

NYC Public Library Homework Help Site

The New York City Public Library has created a new website to help NYC students, K-12, with homework questions in all subjects. By logging on, students and parents are connected to live tutors that provide one-on-one assistance. The site also provides access to study guides on dozens of

subjects, web guides and research guidance.

Test drive this exciting new website at

<http://homeworknyc.org>

This is in addition to the Library's other resources, including free classes, workshops, and events, as well as the capability to

download music and audio books directly from the library's website:

Classes: nypl.org/classes/

Events: nypl.org/events/

E-resources:

ebooks.nypl.org/

Or call 212.930.0800 for more information.