On our way back we enjoyed a great dinner on the bus and you could hear everyone talking about the trip. You also heard students sharing opinions on which professors are good for certain classes. All in all we found things that connected us in many different ways. Although I am sure that a lot of us were stressed out about final papers and projects, this trip helped me relax and enjoy the company of the new friends I made on the trip.

I now understand why gatherings and events of CIT are so important. We network and get to know the people that are going through the same stressors of college life. We make friends and in a way they become our support group.

By Constanza Chiatti ('12)

It was a very cold and early Saturday morning when we all met up in front of Lehman College to start our trip to Philadelphia. Most of us were still half awake but were excited to see what this trip was going to be all about. We knew that we were going to be visiting the historical side of Philadelphia, but I do not think any of us knew how much fun it was going to be to interact with the rest of the CIT students. The ride to Philly was pretty quiet, most of the students slept and a few took the time to make new friends and get to know other students.

Getting to our destination was a good feeling. We were about to start our walking tour of a lovely historical section in an artsy city that has so many hidden beauties. We saw Elfreth’s Alley, a small hidden alley that has historical houses in which people still live. Thanks to our tour guide, Chris, our group was able to also visit the Betsy Ross house and museum to learn a little about her achievements. At the National Constitution Center we were given a presentation about the history of the United States. There were also many interactive and fun activities to do at the Center.

CIT in Philadelphia

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This past semester we were fortunate to have Rick Smith, the author of Conscious Classroom Management, run a workshop for aspiring educators. The workshop also gave experienced teachers a chance to observe new methods to implement in the classroom. The methods focused on adolescent behavior, and how to keep control over the classroom sustaining inner authority. Tools involved ideas on consequences, consequences in action, and building positive connections with the children. The key to all the methods given by Rick Smith was the need for consistency, which is crucial to the classroom environment. The atmosphere in the workshop gave hope and a boost of motivation that teaching is a great career and takes finesse and hard work to be successful. Mr. Smith said that bad days would come, failures will happen, but the key is to keep a level head and always remember the student is there to learn whether their actions say it or not. Teachers need to be there for the students, and the students will respond to the teachers willingness to teach. We were told confidence is important and that the right attitude goes a long way. It was a pleasure to go to a workshop that focused solely on a career in teaching, what it has to offer and what we can offer to students’ education.

By Shanik Carvey ('13)
The Jumpstart Program

If you are someone who is interested in working with young children or just making a difference in low-income communities, Jumpstart is the perfect opportunity for you. For almost twenty years, dedicated college students have joined the Jumpstart Corps to work with preschool children in low-income communities. The focus is on literacy, language and higher-thinking skills, and how to provide an early start in decreasing the achievement gap. For college students seeking internship or work study opportunities, Jumpstart also meets those needs/requirements. In addition, they provide Jumpstart Corps members with an educational stipend at the end of their 300 hour commitment that can be completed over two full college semesters.

Jumpstart has been on the Lehman campus for over one year now. I joined three months after its arrival and it has been nothing short of amazing. As a woman, a student, a mother, a professional and an active community member, I have gained countless skills and experiences that have shown me how important it is to be involved on campus and in your community. I am now serving my second term as the Jumpstart Volunteer Coordinator at Lehman and I am more than proud to call myself a leader on campus and within my community. I recommend any student who is seeking an experience that incorporates education and public service to join Jumpstart.

By Jessica Trujillo ('13)

Winter 2012 Tuition-Waived Courses

This season, CIT counselors’ emails were flooded with student requests for spots in Tuition-Waived Courses for Winter 2012. In conjunction with the TRIO Pathways to Success program, the CIT program offers tuition-waived courses during the Summer and Winter. Based on student surveys, this year four courses were offered for Winter 2012: ECE 300, LEH 300, LEH 301 and Math 104. A higher-than-expected number of students registered for Winter 2012. Many use the opportunity to focus on dreaded math courses (tutoring is included), or to gain credits. Despite the intensity of completing a class in one month, for many students the effort is worth the gain.

Congrats to the following:
Francine Bailey for landing an assistant teacher position with Brightside Horizons.
Jasmin Bourdon for her nomination to the Golden Key Honor Society.
Shanik Carvey, Constanza Chiatti and Jessica Trujillo for being the first students to participate in the CIT News Bulletin.
Ana Hernandez for achieving honors in Sociology.
Renee Ahmad and Awilda Tavarez for their acceptance into the MATH UP program.
Moet Anglin, Jonathan Berenguer, Gregory Castro, Caridad Grijalva, Elizabeth McQuaid, Amanda Rivas and Jessica Trujillo for passing the LAST exam.
Jonathan Berenguer, Roberta Neves and Brian Rivera for passing the ATS-W exam.

*Please contact your counselor advocate if you have passed any certification exams.