

Caribbean Life

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\$1.4 million for youth development programs

The All Stars Project held its National Gala Benefit entitled: "Changing the Meaning of Fame" - on Tuesday April 21, at the David H. Koch Theater at Lincoln Center. Four hundred and seventy five people attended and the event raised \$1.4 million for the privately-funded non-profit.

The 2009 Bridge Building Award for Leadership in Community Relations was presented to youth leaders of the Ramaz School and the All Stars Project by Howard Teich, Esq, past president of the American Jewish Congress of the NY Metropolitan Region. The 10 African-American, Latino and Jewish youth, who performed at the Gala, are part of the All Stars Project initiative "Together and Giving Back" which brings together youth of color and Jewish Youth to create new kinds of performances both on stage and off.

The All Stars Project received a special message of congratulations from Mayor Michael Bloomberg, "On behalf of the City of New York, I com-



Youth from the Ramaz School and the All Stars Project receive 2009 Bridge Building Award for Leadership in Community Relations at Lincoln Center gala benefit. Youth pictured with Pamela A. Lewis, Director of All Stars Youth Programs, (4th from left), and Gabrielle L. Kurlander, All Stars President and CEO (second from right) and Howard Teich, Esq, past president of the Jewish Congress of the NY Metropolitan Region (right).

mend everyone involved with the All Stars Project for their commitment to young New Yorkers. I especially applaud this year's Bridge Building Award winners for their exceptional leadership and invaluable contributions to their communities and our City."

Lenora Fulani, Ph.D., was presented the Grassroots Educator of the Year Award, in recognition of her extraordinary work bringing innovative educa-

tional approaches and developmental opportunities to thousands of poor and minority youth, by Maria Morris, All Stars Project Board Member and Senior Vice President, Employee Benefits Sales and Service, MetLife.

The All Stars Project's Hall of Fame was established and members including Mr. and Mrs. James Turley, Ernst and Young; Hunter Hunt, Hunt Oil; C. Michael Armstrong; Bank of America Securities/Merrill Lynch; SourceMedia, an Investcorp Company; Ernst & Young and D&B were inducted for the significant investments they have made in the growth and development of inner-city youth through All Stars Project programs over the last decade.

The Gala was hosted by Kemberly Richardson of ABC Eyewitness News. Special guests included two time Tony Award winner, Donna Murphy; Tony-nominated actress and All Stars alumnus, Daphne Rubin-Vega; the founding director of the New Federal Theater, Woodie King, Jr.; and choreographer and dancer Desmond Richardson.



John and Madlyn Singer, Art Advisors, LLC (second row 3th and 4th from left) present \$1,000,000 check to youth of the All Stars Project at 2009 gala benefit at Lincoln Center. All Stars Project President and CEO, Gabrielle L. Kurlander (second row, 5th from left) with All Stars Project Hall of Fame Honoraries, Lynne Turley (second row, left), Edward C. Malmstrom, Bank of America Securities/Merrill Lynch & Co., (back row, partially obscured) and James Turley (second row, second from left), Chairman and CEO of Ernst and Young looking on. Photos by Errroll Anderson