



Connecting Generations

Creative Mentoring® Seasons of Respect Creative Transitions

Helping adults and children reach their full potential

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Local Mentoring Program Coordinator to be honored at National Mentoring Month event

Wilmington, Del. – Barbara Derby, an employee at BlackRock Investment Management Corporation, Wilmington, will be honored by **Senator Tom Carper** and Connecting Generations for her exemplary work as a volunteer mentoring program coordinator at Connecting Generations' annual celebration event, "Jazz in January" during National Mentoring Month. Exemplary Mentoring Program Coordinators were nominated and selected based on their outstanding volunteer service and helping Connecting Generations, home of the Creative Mentoring program, achieve its mission to help Delaware's children reach their full potential. **Lt. Governor Matt Denn** will also participate in the ceremony, announcing his new mentoring initiative.

Barbara Derby has been a mentor for 6 years at Wilmington Manor Elementary. This year she led the effort to get her employer, BlackRock Investment Management Corporation, to partner with the Creative Mentoring program to start their own workplace mentoring program. Together, with her co-coordinator, Camile Palmese, they have recruited 13 new members who began mentoring this fall at P.S. DuPont Elementary, Springer Middle, Wilmington Manor and Mt. Pleasant Elementary. Barbara's enthusiasm for mentoring and her hard work at recruiting has made the new Creative Mentoring business partnership one of the strongest!

A total of seven exemplary mentors and program coordinators will be honored on January 31st in addition to three other distinguished honorees: **Jane Maroney, Edward F. "Mike" Eaton and James Patton, Sr., who will receive the 10th Annual Robert A. Kasey, Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award.** This award is presented each year to individuals who have distinguished themselves through personal growth and contributions to individual and community development.

Connecting Generations will host "Jazz in January 2009" on Saturday, January 31, from 6:00 to 11:00 p.m. at the DuPont Country Club. January is National Mentoring Month and Jazz Education Month, and this annual event celebrates mentoring and raises funds for its mentoring and education programs, Creative Mentoring, Seasons of Respect, and Creative Transitions. Jazz in January, designed around a Jazz theme, will include an exciting silent auction, heavy hors d'oeuvres, and dancing to the Tim Laushey Jazz and Swing Band, which is back by popular demand. AstraZeneca, a long time supporter of Delaware children and education, is sponsoring the event.

Connecting Generations is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, offering the programs Creative Mentoring, Seasons of Respect, and Creative Transitions in all three counties in Delaware. Our mission is to help Delaware's children and adults lead purposeful, fulfilling and self-directed lives through mentoring and other programs. The website is www.connecting-generations.org.

Tickets for the event start at \$75, with a discount for active mentors. Sponsors are welcome. Donations can be made in honor of any of the awardees. Information about tickets, sponsorship, and donations is available at (302)656-2122, on the web at www.jazzinjanuary.org, or by mailing Connection Generations, 100 West 10th Street, Suite 1115, Wilmington, DE 19801.

Event and award information is available on the web at www.jazzinjanuary.org.

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Not for print. For media information only:

A digital photo of the award winner is available. Please contact Stephanie Ferrell at sferrell@connecting-generations.org or (302)656-2122 ext. 14.