

Platinum Minds *Update*

Issue 7

Summer/Fall 2014

Graduating Seniors

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2014– Our four graduating scholars achieved an overall A average cumulatively, garnishing full or nearly fully paid academic scholarships to colleges.



Summer Camp Program

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Spring Fundraiser - raised \$18,000

The Olde Mill Inn did a terrific job once again hosting our event. The food and service was impeccable.

FUTURE LEADERS

Thanks to our loyal supporters we continue to be able to support talented graduates from Seton Hall Prep and other terrific Schools

Recent & Upcoming Events

Monthly Arête Leadership Workshops

Start date Sept. 27, 2014

5 Focus areas of the Arête Leaders

Curriculum

Life Skills

Entrepreneurship

IT- skills & knowledge

Financial Literacy

Community Action

College Prep/ Financial Aid-Scholarships

Oct. 25, 2014

College Tours: New York

November 2014

October 4th Walk/Run

Delbarton School from 1 to 4 PM

We are excited. Our 2nd annual walk/run will be held at Delbarton's Ryan Family field. This will be our second annual fundraiser. An event where we hope to engage the entire community as we empower our youth from urban and suburban communities to think about the future of our society and how great leadership is crucial to the equation. We are hoping many come out with their families to support youth leadership and Platinum Mind's mission of strong communities through ethical, intelligent, and compassion leadership.



Platinum Minds

Soar to Your Highest Potential!

Our 2014 Graduates not only beat the mean streets – they graduated with top grades and thousands of dollars in scholarships.

Anthony Rios

Anthony is an Eagle Scout and an honor student who maintained a high B average during high school. He has been active in student government and was treasurer of the senior class.

Daquane Bland-Bennett

An Honor Roll student, Daquane ranked in the top 15% of his class. In 2014 he achieved recognition as All-Shore Academic Team, National Society of High School Scholars and West Virginia Wesleyan College Merit Scholar.

Nasir Woodson

Nasir has been accepted at and will attend Seton Hall University in the fall. In recognition of his fine career in high school, Seton Hall has granted him nearly a full academic scholarship. He is interested in pursuing a career in sports law.

Mario Williams

An outstanding student and athlete, Mario was a team leader in high school. He has captained both the outdoor and indoor track & field teams and the football team.



What we've accomplished?

- To date 300 plus boys have benefitted from the program and evidence from surveys indicates that the program is meeting its short and mid-term outcomes. Scholars participating in the program demonstrate growth in the key attributes that will enable them to achieve their full academic potential and become leaders in their communities.
- The four core-programs that Platinum Minds uses to deliver its results continues to be relevant and widely appreciate by parents and scholars.
- Fredrick Douglass reading component has been effective in fostering an interest in reading. We are able to reached young boys from grades 1st – 5th and year over year their reading levels continue to show improvement.
- Through surveys and one-on-one conversations with parents and scholars alike, we have seen very high levels of satisfaction with the programs from both groups.
- Of our scholars, 100% have taken on positive leadership roles in their schools and/or community.
- Of our scholars, 100% report enjoying giving back to their communities.
- Of our scholars, 100% report they feel valued and useful to our society
- Of our scholars, 100% report our program encourages them to achieve, they feel smart
- Of our scholars, 95% report they plan to help their community in the future
- Of our scholars, 100% plan to go on to college
- Of our scholars, 98% share a belief in God with a desire to fulfill their purpose.

The Platinum Minds a 501(3)c Non-Profit strives to improve the life of young urban boys with few resources!

Our Mission is to collaborate with other community organizations to assist academically motivated young men from environmentally challenged neighborhoods with achieving their full academic potential and becoming leaders in their communities to effect positive change.

Our vision is to have more educated leaders from our inner-cities, to assist these young men in acquiring long-term academic success and the attainment of critical leadership and entrepreneurial qualities necessary for community revitalization.

Our April 2014 Fundraiser

Super Bowl Champion Perry Williams was our honoree this year. Perry Williams played for the New York Giants for 11 years and earned two Super Bowl rings during his career. He has been the Director of Outreach Programs for the Petrocelli College of Continuing Studies at Fairleigh Dickinson University since 1995.

He delivered a heartfelt inspirational message which exemplified determination, hard work, and perseverance. Our scholars and guest were impressed by not only his two Super Bowl rings, but also by his humble beginnings, how he triumphed over inconceivable challenges, many similar to those of our scholars and with guidance and support he achieved his dream.

The event raised \$18,000 to support our Arête Leaders Workshops, Summer Camp, Education Scholarships and Mentoring Programs. After seven years, we are happy to say we are still changing lives and giving young men a chance for a better future. Thank you for your trust and belief in our mission.



SUMMER CAMP

Through the generosity of our donors we were able to send nine scholars to Watonka Science Camp, Alamuchy, and Basketball Camp where they were able to explore academic stimulation and enjoy outdoor activities in a safe environment and get to know young men from different communities and cultures. These experiences are of immeasurable value in opening their eyes to their potential and possibilities. We thank all our supporters for their continued generosity during these tough economic times.



Thank you

As the Executive Director of Platinum Minds, juggling a multitude of complex and differing tasks it's easy to not always get it right, but we do get it right the majority of the time and our accomplishments tell the story.

I sincerely thank those who are always there offering encouragement, suggestions and help when needed.

We continue to get better, more efficient and knowledgeable in how to deliver the best possible services to those in need.

Looking to the Future

We are very excited about the longtime supporters, volunteers and staff for without them we couldn't do this work. With a strong team we can continue to accomplish our mission

Our monthly Arête Leaders Program begins on Sept. 27th, and with a new partnership, The Boys & Girls Club of Asbury Park, we will be having an even greater impact in that community.

This year we are adding two college tour dates along with our college, financial aid, and career days, as a way to assist our scholars with the daunting college preparation process.



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