

Talk Up APS

SPECIAL EDITION
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Dr. Hall named National Superintendent of the Year

The American Association of School Administrators Friday named APS Superintendent Dr. Beverly L. Hall the 2009 National Superintendent of the Year, the top professional honor for a K-12 school administrator.

The announcement at the AASA's National Conference on Education in San Francisco capped a year of high-level honors for Hall, who was named Georgia Superintendent of the Year in December by the Georgia School Superintendents Association and one of the 100 most influential Georgians by *Georgia Trend* magazine.

APS Teacher of the Year Charon Kirkland says one reason Hall has been so successful is that she believes in her teachers and students.

"Dr. Hall believes in the system and the students," Kirkland says. "This honor provides other school systems examples of what they can implement (in order to help their

students achieve at the highest level)."

Hall was one of four finalists selected by AASA judges from the 49 state-level and overseas candidates.

The other three finalists were Dr. Suzanne Freeman of Trussville, Alabama City Schools; Dr. Eugene G. White of Indianapolis Public Schools; and Dr. Stu Silberman of Fayette County, Kentucky Public Schools.

In addition to this national recognition, a \$10,000 scholarship will be presented to a high school student in Hall's name; she and the three runners-up will be invited to participate next October in the AASA State Superintendents of the Year Forum to discuss pertinent education issues; and she will receive a jacket emblazoned with the National Superintendent of the Year emblem.

— See photos of Dr. Hall in action.

DR. HALL'S ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Council of the Great City Schools' National Urban School Superintendent of the Year
- The Institute for Student Achievement Distinguished Leadership Award
- The Effie H. Jones Humanitarian Award from the American Association of School Administrators
- Superintendent of the Year Award from the National Alliance of Black School Educators
- Inaugural Administrator of the Year by the Atlanta Urban Debate League
- Winner of the Concerned Black Clergy Education Award
- Winner of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference Ground Crew Service Award for Education
- Winner of the Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Metro Atlanta Legacy Award
- Induction into the Women's Hall of Fame by the Atlanta Business League
- Named one of 100 most influential Georgians in 2007, 2008 and 2009 by *Georgia Trend* magazine
- Named one of the 100 most influential Atlantans in 2007 and 2008 by the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*.
- Board member for the new private, nonprofit Grady Memorial Hospital Corporation

SHORT CUTS

- Students from the Therrell School of Business and Entrepreneurship took their annual job-shadowing trip to UPS corporate headquarters in Sandy Springs. [More](#)

- The Woodruff Arts Center's "Young Audiences" program (YAWAC) is delivering its smART stART early literacy program to five Title I APS elementary schools: Cook, Garden Hills, Heritage Academy, Miles and Scott. [More](#)

- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) at South Atlanta High School engaged in a Junior Achievement job shadowing exercise Feb. 11 at the Social Security Administration Offices inside the Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center.

- "Art of the Ox" essay contest winners were announced during a Chinese New Year Assembly at Toomer Elementary

- The Bunche Middle School Charger Honor Band performed at the state Capitol on Feb. 18 during the legislative session.

- Three APS high school students were named Gold Key winners at the One Academic Fair held this week. The winners advance to the Georgia Science and Engineering Fair competition in April at the University of Georgia.

- The Atlanta Braves will host an essay contest for eighth-grade students to commemorate Black History Month.



One Academic Fair celebrates science scholars

Three APS high school students were named Gold Key winners at the One Academic Fair held Feb. 9-13 at North Atlanta High School. The winners advance to the Georgia Science and Engineering Fair competition in April at the University of Georgia.

From the three winners, one student will advance in May to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Reno, Nev. The winner will be announced at the APS One Academic Fair awards ceremony Feb. 27.

The other students still have an opportunity to compete at the state level in April.

The science winners were Sam Weinstock of Grady High School, Malvina Kowalik (above) of North Atlanta High and Kari Jackson (left) of Mays High. Carver's School of Health, Sciences & Research students and Sharonta Johnson and Maza Rose Tchedo also received honorable



mention for a project they submitted with assistance from Emory University students.

Jackson is shooting for his third consecutive trip to the international competition. His project investigates ways to prevent insect infestation without the use of pesticides or insecticides.

"This gets me an understanding of what other students are applying in their methods of scientific study," said Jackson, who last year earned a \$1,500 scholarship to Kennesaw State University for his winning project.

The Mays student has his sights set on attending Stanford University or the Georgia Institute of Technology.



CENTENNIAL PLACE MAKES HISTORY LESSON FUN

Third-graders at Centennial Place Elementary enjoyed the rich tradition of quilt making as part of Black History Month.

Artistic quilter Mildred Bethel share examples of her work with students in Sharhonda Davies' class.

"We used quilts to keep us warm," she told the students. "We didn't have fabrics like we have now. We used bits of cloth that we found."

Bethel also challenged students to create their own patch that she would use to make a quilt.

Threshing Floor Academy created the partnership with Centennial Place as part of its efforts to promote child development through innovative art and music programs.

— *Don't miss the students' quilt, on exhibit from 7-10 p.m. Feb. 27 at the Threshing Floor Academy Children's Art Gallery. Then it will be donated to Centennial Place.*



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Teach for America Week (Feb. 23-27):

Educators serve as guest lecturers at area schools. Check school Web sites for details.

Fireside Chat (Feb. 23): Parks Middle School hosts a 7 p.m. chat with Superintendent Dr. Beverly L. Hall at the Salvation Army Center, 967 Dewey St.

Berklee College of Music (Feb. 25-26): Representatives from this prestigious school visit North Atlanta High School.

Atlanta Families' Awards for Excellence in Education (Feb. 26):

Ceremony at Atlanta Speech School honors the district's winning teachers and principals. 6-9 p.m.

Quilt exhibit (Feb. 27): Centennial Place Elementary students' quilt will be on exhibit in the Threshing Floor Academy Children's Art Gallery during the Castleberry Hill Art Stroll. 7-10 p.m.

"Romeo and Juliet" (March 8): Therrell High students perform their version of the classic under direction of the Atlanta Shakespeare Company. Shakespeare Tavern. 2 p.m.