

22 YEARS AND GROWING!

# Big NEWS

A COMMUNITY PREPARATORY SCHOOL PUBLICATION

SUMMER 2006

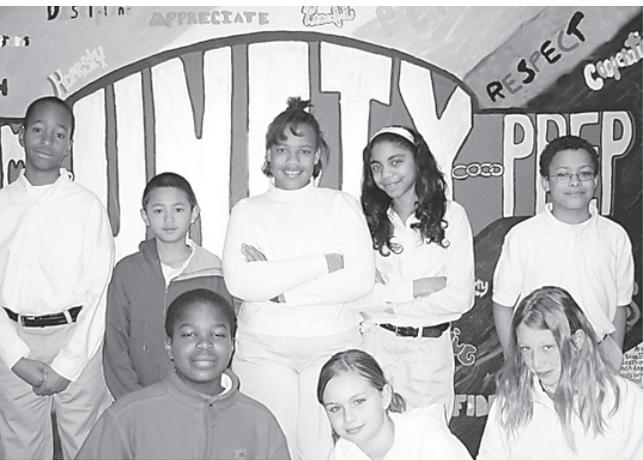
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## R.E.S.P.E.C.T. is a Contract:

LEARNING IS MORE THAN JUST THE "THREE R'S." THERE IS A FOURTH: RESPECT.

**C**ommunity Prep students know about respect. They see it modeled by their teachers and parents, they practice it in their everyday behavior, AND they sign a R.E.S.P.E.C.T. contract at the start of each school year. (Responsible Role Model, Enthusiasm, Support, Preparedness, Effort, Challenge and Communication, and Trustworthiness and Truthfulness) Their parents and teachers sign it, too.

There are dozens of ways that Community Prep teaches respect every day. The whole school starts each day with a pledge of self-respect: "This day has been given to me fresh and clear. I can either use it or throw it away. I promise to use this day to the fullest..." They hold the doors for each other, they listen to each other in class and on the playground, they talk about the diversity of their school, community, country and world through curriculum. They set goals for themselves and then help each other reach them.



Sixth-grade teacher, Cicele Barnes, shares a good example. "One morning during 'sharing time,' one boy said he'd been afraid to wear his glasses at his old school because he'd be teased. His goal for the week, he said, was to wear his glasses every day. The other kids not only agreed it was a great goal, they congratulated him time and again when they saw him wearing his glasses. He felt great: he could see the board *and* knew everyone wanted him to succeed."

**"We have 'positive peer pressure,' where students encourage each other to do their best."**

Respect at Community Prep goes far beyond mere tolerance. Understanding that differences are strengths, the school provides many opportunities to learn about and value each other. "Beloved Community Day," an annual diversity celebration, is based on Martin Luther King's vision of widely different groups

bound together with love and respect. "No-Name Calling Week," sponsored by a national coalition of 40 organizations that work with youth, explores positive ways to deal with the tensions that often accompany early adolescence.

Student-parent-teacher goal-setting, like the R.E.S.P.E.C.T. contract, underlies it all. "When students respect themselves, it is so much easier for them to respect others," explains Judy Ryan, director of education. "We have 'positive peer pressure,' where students encourage each other to do their best and treat each other well."

Read the entire R.E.S.P.E.C.T. contract on-line at [www.communityprep.org](http://www.communityprep.org).

**2006 Community Prep Golf Classic**  
June 20  
Sakonnet Golf Club

**Upcoming Events**  
Call for information

**Art from the Heart – ArtWorks 2006**  
Charity Auction  
Nov. 1, Westin Hotel

## “Meet Community Prep”

Marjorie and Bob Catanzaro, Ruth and Bill Clegg, and Marie and Alan Weiss hosted a “Meet Community Prep” reception at the Catanzaro’s East Greenwich home on April 6.



L to R: Alex Clegg '97, Dan Corley, Ruth Clegg, CP Parent Chrissy DiLuglio, Bill Clegg, Dana DiMarco, Bob Catanzaro, Marjorie Catanzaro, Alan Weiss, Marie Weiss

## Third Merit Scholarship Endowed

Thanks to the generosity of Joan and Paul Sorensen, Community Prep will now be able to offer three Merit Scholarships.

The first scholarship, endowed by David and Susan Hibbitt, was made on the condition that two additional scholarships be endowed. The second scholarship was endowed by Centrum Properties.

In endowing this scholarship, Joan and Paul said, “we believe that Community Prep offers an outstanding education and we would like outstanding students to be able to take advantage of this opportunity through this endowed scholarship.”

## Faculty Profile: Royce Conner

### The Numbers:

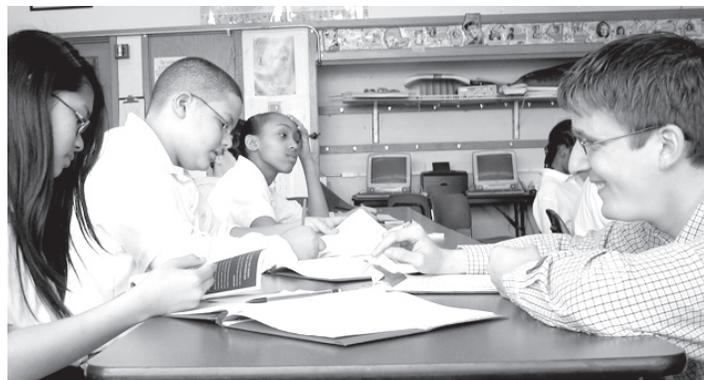
- Rhode Island has the highest childhood poverty rate in New England.
- 41% of Providence children live in poverty and half of those live in extreme poverty (\$15,735/year and \$7,868/year respectively for a single parent with two children).
- In 2000, Providence had the third-highest rate of childhood poverty in the *nation* for U.S. cities with a population greater than 100,000. Hartford was first, Brownsville, TX was second, and Providence tied New Orleans for third.
- In 2000, Rhode Island Latinos had the lowest median family incomes of any Latino population in the U.S.

Source: Rhode Island KIDS COUNT 2006 Factbook and Childhood Poverty in RI: A Statistical Profile, January 2006.

One of the few things that the rural Pennsylvania town where Royce Conner grew up had in common with South Providence was low academic expectations. “I was a good student,” says Royce, “but going to college was the exception, not the rule.” He’d never even heard of Brown University when an application arrived in the mail, but he knew what Ivy League meant and figured he’d fill out the forms.

And, it worked. At Brown, Royce earned a B.A. in English and a teaching certificate, and student taught at Community Prep as the school’s first student teacher. Like many Brown student teachers, he joined the faculty right from college. After five years teaching and ready for a change, Royce took a position at RI KIDS COUNT, a statewide children’s policy/advocacy organization. He loved coordinating a 17-state school-readiness initiative, but “desperately missed working with kids.” And now, armed with the data about what poverty means to CP students, he couldn’t wait to get back.

Royce really seems to “get” 13-year-olds and particularly enjoys working with those who have the toughest lives outside of school. “Knowing about poverty in Rhode Island and how slim the chances for success are for most of our students, it’s unimaginable for me not to be doing something about it. At Community Prep, I know I’m opening doors for students.”



# Creative Giving:

## Your legacy to Community Prep

### Q. Can I leave a bank or brokerage account to Community Preparatory School?

A. Yes. Most bank accounts can be set up with a "pay on death" feature that designates the next owner of the account upon the current owner's death. For a typical brokerage account, you should make a specific provision in your will, naming the account and leaving it to Community Prep. Both of these options also create an offsetting charitable deduction for your estate.

## Committee Spotlight: Special Events



Community Prep's signature auction is just around the corner! If you love art, auctions, and fabulous parties, help us plan *Art From the Heart — ArtWorks 2006*. We're looking for art lovers to help us arrange the art works that will be donated by nationally acclaimed artists, auction lovers who will help us secure dazzling non-art auction items, and party lovers to help us ensure everyone has a great time.

And, if that isn't enough, we're already planning for Community Prep's 25th Anniversary, coming up in 2007-2008!

If you'd like to be involved in the events that make a Community Prep education possible for some of the area's neediest students, please contact Dana DiMarco, Director of Development at 401-521-9697, ext. 2.

## Class of 2006 High School Acceptances

The 8th grade's hard work has paid off in acceptances and scholarship offers from the following competitive college-prep high schools: Bishop Hendricken, Classical, LaSalle, Lincoln, Moses Brown, Northfield Mt. Hermon, Pomfret, Providence Country Day, Rocky Hill, School One, St. George's, St. Mary Academy-Bay View, St. Raphael's, and Wheeler.

# ALUMNI UPDATES

### CHINDA VARELLA '93

After working as a Nursing Student Associate at Hasbro, Chinda (Boungnaseng) earned her nursing degree from CCRI in 2004. She's now a Pediatric Nurse on the adolescent floor at Hasbro. And, congratulations to Chinda and her husband on the birth of their son!

Chinda remembers that CP "made me work really hard and not just get by. And I brought that experience into college," paving her way to success in CCRI's rigorous nursing program.

### KARI OGIDAN '96

Kari learned entrepreneurship at Community Prep. With a BS in information Systems and a minor in Applied Statistics from Bryant College, Kari started her own web design business, [www.kalichedesigns.com](http://www.kalichedesigns.com), to make ends meet while she was job hunting. She found it so enjoyable that she keeps it going now that she's an Information Systems Specialist at CVS/pharmacy. "I don't think I would ever have started my own business if it hadn't been for CP."

Treasurer of RI Young Professionals, Kari says her commitment to community service came from trips to CP's garden. "My experience at CP keeps me challenging myself."

### NOY POLAND '96

Noy (Sinakatham) left CP with a love for education. She earned a dual BS in Math and Economics from Trinity College of Vermont and a Masters of Applied Economics from the University of Michigan.

Noy has been a market, survey, and policy researcher for 10 years. "I remember telling Mr. Frew I wanted to be a detective. My career is sort of like detective work, but without the danger." Ready now for a change, Noy looks forward to following her heart's dream and becoming a teacher in 2007.



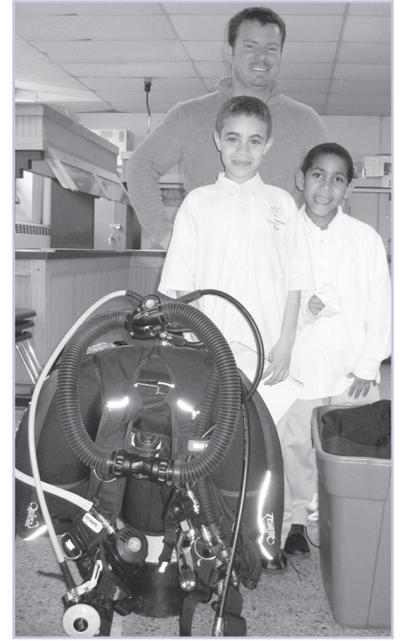
# HAPPENINGS...

## AT COMMUNITY PREP



◀ **SPELLING BEE WINNER** **Evan Fleming** with **Karen Adams** of WPRI-TV CBS 12, who emceed the Spelling Bee.

▶ **DIVE!** **Geoff Gaunt** of **Providence Picture Frame/Dryden Galleries** demonstrated his SCUBA equipment and underwater camera at town meeting.



### CONGRATULATIONS MATH TEAM

CP took 7th place among more than 30 schools at the RI Math Counts Competition, despite having to substitute 6th graders for 8th graders at the last minute.

### CAREER WEEK

Chemist, attorney, professor, urban planner, architect, chef, psychologist, rocket scientist, business owner. These are some of the professionals who visited classrooms to discuss their careers. Students had an out-of-uniform day when they could dress up in their future career clothes.

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