



Entrepreneurial Spirit To Be Honored at the 18th Annual “Dare to Dream Gala” presented by Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) in partnership with Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses and OppenheimerFunds, Inc.

“Global Young Entrepreneur of the Year” Awards Go To 25 Biz-Savvy Teens from All Over The World; Enterprising Educators To Be Celebrated

Special guest, NBA legend and entrepreneur Earvin “Magic” Johnson to attend

NEW YORK, April 13, 2011 -- The Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) will host its 18th annual “Dare to Dream Gala” on Wednesday, April 13 at the New York Marriott Marquis. As an international non-profit organization, NFTE is dedicated to using entrepreneurship education as a means to engage youth in low-income communities around the world to stay in school and find their own paths to success. The event will recognize 25 Global Young Entrepreneurs of the Year, 23 Enterprising Educators of the Year from local NFTE offices around the world, and two stellar executives for their entrepreneurial success. NBA legend and entrepreneur Earvin “Magic” Johnson will also be in attendance to honor the young people and teachers.

“By bringing together the brightest students and educators from around the world, we have proof positive that students can take ownership of their futures and create opportunities for personal and academic success,” said Amy Rosen, President and CEO of NFTE. “Exposure to entrepreneurship education can inspire youth to stay in school and as a result be better prepared to succeed on whatever path they choose to follow. These students and alumni are a testament to the notion that hard work and measurable goals will lead to success.”

The 2011 NFTE Entrepreneurial Spirit Awards honor Anthony Scaramucci, Managing Partner for SkyBridge Capital and Eric V. Standifer, Founder and CEO of Blaylock Robert Van, LCC, for their contributions and excellence in the field of entrepreneurship. The Global Enterprising Educators of the Year, sponsored by OppenheimerFunds, come from NFTE’s offices around the world, and it is through their inspiration, encouragement and insights that many of these young people are able to succeed.

Finally, the Global Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards, in partnership with Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses, honor 25 young people who have shown extraordinary drive and perseverance despite the obstacles in their path. The following four students are examples of participants in this year’s event program:

- **Jerome Smalls, 14 HandyKid (North Charleston, SC)**

Jerome Smalls describes himself as “the hardest working teen you’ll ever meet.” Jerome changes brakes, fixes appliances, hangs drywall, cleans gutters, and does yard work. Jerome believes he can be a role model.

- **Ryan Lewis, 17 Jeff Dranks All Natural Homemade Lemonade (Chicago, IL)**
Armed with his grandmother’s secret recipe, savvy marketing instincts, and some NFTE know-how, Ryan has turned his childhood lemonade stand into a bonafide business.
- **Jalin Sead, 18 JCA Outreach (Norwalk, CT)**
Jalin Sead’s drug-addicted father was absent, and his mother struggled to raise five children. After Jalin got into trouble, he realized that college offered a way out. JCA Outreach employs forty mentors.
- **Shomari Patterson, 18 Shamazzle's Dazzles, (Port Hueneme, CA)**
Shomari Patterson always knew she wanted her jewelry-making business to incorporate an element of social responsibility so she decided to donate ten percent of her sales from Shamazzle’s Dazzles to FOOD Share after a year of volunteering there.

About the Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship

Too many young people today drop out of school and struggle to break the cycle of poverty. Since 1987, the Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) has been inspiring young people to pursue educational opportunities, start their own businesses, and succeed in life. By providing entrepreneurship education programs relevant to the real world, NFTE empowers students to own their educations in and out of the classroom and to find their own path to success. Hundreds of thousands of students have discovered opportunity all around them through entrepreneurship via thousands of certified educators worldwide. NFTE supports active programs in 21 states and 10 other countries through our network of program offices and licensed partners. Entrepreneurs are a powerful driver of economic growth and NFTE sows the seeds of innovation in students worldwide. For more information, visit www.nfte.com.

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