

GEORGE WASHINGTON

CARVER CHRONICLE

Providing opportunities for students to gain enriched learning experiences through scientific inquiry & discovery

Volume 15

The Newsletter of the 30th Annual George Washington Carver Science Fair

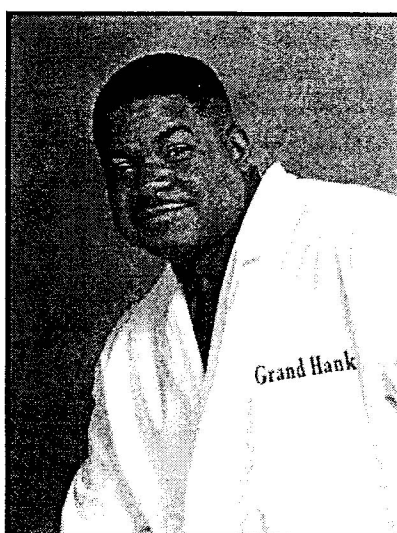
March 2009

*Thank you for
Celebrating our
30th Annual Science Fair
with us!*

TYRAINE "GRAND HANK" RAGSDALE RECEIVES CARVER AWARD

The 2009 winner of the George Washington Carver Award is Tyraine "Grand Hank" Ragsdale. Mr. Ragsdale is the Founder and President of Grand Hank Productions, Inc. (GHPI). He founded his company out of a desire to increase student interest and participation in the educational process. Mr. Ragsdale is a chemist whose first professional role was as a Research Scientist for the R. W. Johnson Pharmaceutical Research Institute Division of Johnson & Johnson. Since 1990, the Philadelphia-based company has worked with schools and organizations throughout the U.S. to make learning more interactive and interesting.

GHPI increases students' interest in education and science by making these areas more exciting, entertaining, and fun! The company offers a variety of professional development workshops for teachers to assist in delivering content to students, as well as student based programs to augment students' understanding of Science, English, and other subjects. The unique niche of GHPI is that its primary mode of content delivery is through the use of hip-hop music and motivational lectures.



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MESSAGE FROM CHAIRPERSON
THOMAS ANDERSON, JR.
Temple University

The George Washington Carver Science Fair has been in existence for the past thirty years, providing students the opportunity to participate in a worthwhile educational program.

The Carver Science Fair started in 1979 with only fifty demonstration science projects, which included plant life, peanut butter samples, volcano models and poster boards.

Today, more than three thousand students from grades four through twelve are participating in science fairs within their schools. Each year, more than seven-hundred of these students make it to the Annual George Washington Carver Science Fair.

In April 2008, we had thirty-six students from our Carver Science Fair (grades seven to twelve) to place as winners in the Delaware Valley Science Fairs. We also had three students participate in the

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Carver Chronicle Editors

Thomas Anderson, Jr., Editor
George Washington Carver Science Fair
University Services Building, Suite 109
1601 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19122
(215) 204-4673

Janice Mininberg, Editor
(215) 750-3100 ext. 241

TYRAINE "GRAND HANK" RAGSDALE (CONTINUED)

Mr. Ragsdale is also the co-founder and host of the "Science of Philadelphia" and the "Science Lab of Grand Hank" television shows. These dynamic programs are utilized by the Philadelphia School District as cable in the classroom programs and also broadcast on Comcast Cable, and WYBE Television Networks reaching an estimated audience of 5 million people across Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland. For the past 14 years, GHPI has had a continually renewed contract with the School District of Philadelphia to provide interactive educational content to its students.

Most recently, the company reached an agreement with VWR Education, a 3 billion dollar company to develop a professional development series that includes a line of science products for both the educational and consumer sectors.

Mr. Ragsdale approached the Wharton SBDC as he sought to expand his company's brand and the marketing of its educational products and services to audiences nationwide. Consultants at the Wharton SBDC helped Ragsdale to create a marketing strategy targeted towards customers who would be interested in his company's new products and services. Moving forward, Mr. Ragsdale will use the assistance received from the SBDC to continually build its

brand and products through the development of strategic alliances.

For his outstanding work in Science Education, Mr. Ragsdale is truly worthy of the 2008 George Washington Carver Award.

The George Washington Carver Award is presented to an individual who has displayed outstanding accomplishment in the fields of Science, Education, Medicine, and/or Community Services. The recipient shows dedication and creative genius with the goal to advance humanity.

MESSAGE FROM CHAIRPERSON
THOMAS ANDERSON, JR.
(CONTINUED)

Intel International Science and Engineering Fairs. The Intel Science Fair was held in Atlanta, Georgia.

I wish to congratulate our three Carver/Temple University Scholarship Awardees, Sudarshan Kandi, Haoxing Ruan and Zhao Lui for their success at Temple University during the past year.

In addition, I would like to congratulate all eight-hundred and eighty students who participated in the 2008 George Washington Carver Science Fair.

We are looking forward to the continued support from parents, teachers and school administrators as we move into our 31st year.

Come visit our
George Washington Carver
Science Fair Web site at

www.temple.edu/carversciencefair

and view
this year's
winners!

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER
Exhibit at
Academy of Natural Sciences
November 21, 2009
to February 28, 2010

The exhibit "George Washington Carver" makes its only East Coast appearance beginning Nov. 21, 2009 at The Academy of Natural Sciences.

What makes a man a legend? In the case of George Washington Carver, it wasn't just peanuts. Born into slavery, he used his gifts to become a groundbreaking scientist, educator and humanitarian with a lifelong mission to bring practical knowledge to those in need. His experiments with plants introduced poor Southern sharecroppers to sustainable agriculture and laid the groundwork for today's research on plant-based fuels, medicines, and everyday products. Through more than a hundred artifacts, along with videos and hands-on interactives, visitors will discover the life, science and mighty vision of this remarkable man.



A special "thank you" to Health Partners
for the printing of our Carver Chronical.

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2009

George Washington Carver Science Fair
Grades 4-6, February 23-27 at Academy of
Natural Sciences
Grades 7-12, March 9-11 at Temple U.

Delaware Valley Science Fair
March 31 to April 3, Greater Philadelphia
Expo Center at Oaks
International Sci. and Engineering Fair
May 10-16, Reno, Nevada