

ANNUAL CONSORTIUM AWARDS ANNOUNCED - November 2011

The "Leadership and Advocacy Award" was presented for 2011 to the Coleman Foundation of Chicago, IL.

The "Outstanding Entrepreneurship Educator Award" was presented to Ilona Marie Figat of Delaware State University, Dover DE.

Cincinnati, OH The Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education's "Leadership and Advocacy Award" was presented on November 6, 2011 to the Coleman Foundation of Chicago, IL. This award is open to individuals or organizations that have demonstrated sustained and outstanding national/international leadership and advocacy for entrepreneurship education. The leadership and advocacy is awarded to organizations that benefit entrepreneurship education at a level beyond a specific community, institution or state/province and their advocacy supports the Consortium's Vision and Mission.

According to Generation E, the Consortium member nominating this year's winner, "The Coleman Foundation is committed to the principles of self-determination, self-reliance, self-respect, and individual initiative. The Coleman Foundation believes these characteristics are essential to the development of entrepreneurs and their pursuit of self-employment and has worked to establish entrepreneurship as a career option and field of study for individuals of all ages. The Coleman Foundation's work to advance entrepreneurship has included the establishment of *Coleman Chairs in Entrepreneurship* at colleges and universities across the nation, and the creation of the Council for Entrepreneurship Awareness and Education (CEAE). The Coleman Foundation provides support for key partners with whom it is helping to create entrepreneurs and develop entrepreneurship as an academic discipline" The Foundation has been a long-term supporter of scholarships for teachers to attend the Consortium's "Annual Entrepreneurship Education FORUM." (<http://www.colemanfoundation.org/entrepreneurship.html>).

Accepting the "Leadership and Advocacy" Award on behalf of the Foundation was Rosa Berardi, a great friend to Consortium members as well. (left to right: Ronni Cohen, President; Rosa Berardi, Coleman Foundation; and Diane Sabato, past president.)



The Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education's "Outstanding Entrepreneurship Educators Award" was presented for 2011 to Ilona Marie Figat of Delaware State University in Dover, DE. This award recognizes an entrepreneurship educator who has provided outstanding service to the field of entrepreneurship education through activities that align to the Consortium's Vision and Mission. Ronni Cohen, Consortium President, and Diane Sabato, Past President presented the "Outstanding Entrepreneurship Educator" Award to Ilona Marie Figat of Delaware State University. One of her

nominators from Delaware said, "Ilona is a real leader and a "go to" person if you want things organized. From business presentations and workshops she can get things done. She is always available for chairing a committee, organizing the program, and mentoring others.

Having been a business owner, Ilona knows what it takes to successfully run a business. From sweeping the floors, training the employees, and planning for the end of the payroll requirements, she has done it all. She has been there done that, as it is said. From an educator to a director for a small business institute, a manager, a technician, a trainer, an owner of a family day care, a mentor, a judge in business plan contests, a teacher, and a presenter, what else can you ask for in order to be awarded this prestigious award."

"Ilona is also a humanitarian, serving on the board of directors, at the House of Pride, in In Dover, Delaware; a shelter to homeless men. When we needed an experienced, organized, business person, we called on Ilona."

Since its beginning in 2006, the Consortium has annually announced these two outstanding awards at the annual Entrepreneurship Education FORUM. They were initiated by the Consortium Board in honor of the contributions to the field of its founder and executive director.

HATS OFF TO OUR PREVIOUS WINNERS:

- 2006 - Cathy Ashmore, Consortium Founder and Executive Director
- 2007 - USA Today - Education, represented by Shobha Giordano
- 2007 - Rosalind Denning - Detroit City Schools
- 2008 - Buchholz Entrepreneurship Academy, Dianne Lauramoore
- 2008 - Cora Mae Haskell - Four Bands Community Fund, Eagle Butte, SD
- 2009 - Nebraska 4-H (Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension) represented by Diane Vigna
- 2009 - Mary Ellen McCormick - T C Williams High School, Alexandria, VA
- 2010 - Burton D Morgan Foundation, Hudson, OH, represented by Leslie Nelson
- 2010 - Greg Malkin, University School, Hunting Valley, OH

For additional information about the Consortium check out the website at <<http://www.entre-ed.org>> or contact Dr. Cathy Ashmore at <cashmore@entre-ed.org>.

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