



WWW.GPUAC.ORG

# VOICES

## Connecting the Coalition

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 10

NOVEMBER 2008

### GPUAC PRIORITIES:

- **GPUAC** improves life chances for youth and young adults, with a special emphasis on African American boys and men, through programs, services, and advocacy.
- **GPUAC** builds wealth in urban communities through workforce and business development, and improving access to fairly priced goods and services.
- **GPUAC** strengthens the non-profit sector through excellence in service delivery, with a focus on grass-roots-lead organizations.

## National Experts Discuss Race and Class at Annual Meeting

By Mary-Anne Smith

"It is a time when citizens across this country must talk about race." With these words, GPUAC President and CEO, Sharmain Matlock-Turner, introduced a panel discussion on race and class at the 2008 Annual Board of Directors Meeting on October 16th.

An audience of almost 200 came out to celebrate the **Power of Coalition** that included board members, staff, program partners, and friends in the region.

Moderator E. Steven Collins of Radio One led a spirited conversation with panelists Dr. Bernard Anderson,

economist, Patricia DeCarlo of the Norris Square Civic Association, Dr. Marc Lamont Hill of Temple University, and Chris Satullo of The Philadelphia Inquirer.

During the meeting, GPUAC Board member Councilwoman **Marian B. Tasco** recognized GPUAC's top individual donors: **William P. Becker, Carolyn L. Green, and Grant Rawdin**; most increased

gifts: **Bill Ewing and Grant Rawdin**; and top corporate donors: **Wachovia and PECO**.



Sharmain Matlock-Turner (center) with panelists (left to right) Chris Satullo, Dr. Bernard Anderson, Patricia DeCarlo, Dr. Marc Lamont Hill, and moderator E. Steven Collins. View more photos at [www.flickr.com/photos/gpuac](http://www.flickr.com/photos/gpuac).

## Sharmain's Message



Last month, at GPUAC's Annual Board of Directors Meeting, we asked our expert panelists whether they thought we as a nation were close to realizing Martin Luther King's dream, that people would be judged not by the color of their skin but the content of their character. Two hours later, the panelists and the audience were still passionately debating the question.

As we reflect on this historic election, I believe we are at a turning point. Our democracy has never been healthier and our citizens so actively engaged. President Elect Barack Obama was truly judged by the content of his character, confirmed by a momentous coalition from across the country.

Americans from all political parties and walks of life can take pride in our achievement as a democracy.

Perhaps it is just coincidence, but I see even greater possibilities for 2009. It is fitting that this new year

will mark not just the beginning of a historic presidency but also the 40th anniversary of the founding of GPUAC. We are living in a time when the "Power of Coalition" is all around us. I recently heard someone make the following statement that I feel sums it up perfectly, "Rosa sat so Martin could walk...Martin walked, so Obama could run... Obama ran so our children could fly." So let's fly!

GPUAC President

Join us for  
**GPUAC's  
39th Anniversary  
Breakfast**  
*Getting It Done On  
The Ground*

November 21, 2008  
Crystal Team Room  
Wanamaker Building  
7:45 to 9:30 a.m.

Contact Tswana Sewell to  
purchase tickets at  
215-851-1712.

# November Dates

- 4 – Election Day
- 7 - 9 – Explorers Sans Frontières at African American Art Expo
- 11 – Veterans Day (GPUAC Closed)
- 11 - 13 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gathering of the National Network of Fiscal Sponsors
- 13 – GPUAC Sexual Harassment Training (last session)
- 14 – PDP 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of Success
  - GPUAC Health and Wellness Fair
- 15 – Explorers Sans Frontières Social Fundraiser at XIX
- 21 – GPUAC 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Breakfast, *Getting It Done on the Ground*
- 24 – GPUAC Annual Turkey Basket Giveaway (Brown's ShopRite, 52<sup>nd</sup> and Jefferson)
- 27 – Thanksgiving (GPUAC Closed November 27 and 28)

**We wish a Happy Birthday to all those celebrating a birthday this month!**

Want to know if you can participate?  
 Want to submit program listings and photos?  
 Contact Jennifer Banks at [jbanks@gpuac.org](mailto:jbanks@gpuac.org) or 215-851-1887.

# GPUAC-at-a-Glance



*Explorers Sans Frontières (ESF) Student Leader and Peer Mentor, Chiara DeLeon presents certificates to children during the ESF Health and Wellness fair at Macy's Shop for a Cause. ESF hosted a Social Fundraiser on at Bistro Roussin in Society Hill; (left to right) ESF's Tri Huyen, Lara Lechtenberg, Klu Ledgister, Bridgette N. Nelson, Olivia Horston and Esther Oweke, Charles Williams, and Prebellu Nantseh.*

*On October 25, Sharmain Matlock-Turner served as Co-Chair of the Walk to End Domestic Violence (left to right) State Senator LeAnna Washington, Sharmain Matlock-Turner, Carol Tracey, Women's Law Project, and Linda Miller, the Philadelphia Parking Authority.*

*Financial Voices' hosts Sharmain Matlock-Turner, Steve Sanders and Bill Anderson celebrated their 3rd anniversary, live from the African-American Chamber of Commerce. View more photos from this event at [www.flickr.com/photos/gpuac/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/gpuac/).*



## Guess Who???

*Which GPUAC employee eloped in Iceland and returned to the United States happily married?*



A:

**Janine Glathar**  
 Research and Evaluation, GPUAC

B:

**Lisa Ashton**  
 Economic Development Projects (EDP)



C:

**Maria Walker**  
 After School Activities Partnership (ASAP)



Answer on page 2