

## *Achievement in Education Award*



Community for Education Foundation is pleased to honor the New York City Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Readiness (OPSR) and Office of School and Youth Development (OSYD)

with the 2011 Achievement in Education Award for their commitment to the academic and social development of New York City's students.

OPSR's mission is to ensure that all students are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and competencies to graduate high school and successfully pursue a rigorous postsecondary education that meets their interests and needs. OPSR provides important programming throughout the city that helps students get back on track toward graduation, attain a high school diploma or GED, explore college and career opportunities, and receive extra support with school work or issues that prevent regular school attendance.

OSYD helps schools create and maintain a safe, orderly, and supportive school environment for students, as school safety, climate, and culture have a profound effect on students' academic achievement and behavior. OSYD works with the Children First Networks of educators and directly with schools to establish and implement integrated safety, discipline, and intervention policies and procedures; promote respect

for diversity; and take a proactive role in nurturing students' pro-social behavior by providing them with meaningful opportunities for social/emotional learning.

Through the Gifting Initiative, Community for Education Foundation is working closely with both offices to oversee the implementation of the Overcoming Obstacles Life Skills Program in all middle schools and high schools in New York City. The dedicated efforts of OPSR and OSYD are invaluable to the success of this initiative, as the offices help Community for Education Foundation coordinate districtwide communications, engage network leaders, and arrange the teacher training workshops that prepare educators to teach the Overcoming Obstacles curriculum. Together, we will ensure that over 450,000 students in New York City each year learn the communication, decision making, and goal setting skills they need to succeed inside and outside the classroom.