



Philadelphia Education Fund  
Seven Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Suite 700  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

# NEWS RELEASE

## Philadelphia Education Fund Announces Awardees Of Eddys 2006

*Jill Scott, Eagles Youth Partnership, GlaxoSmithKline, Kappa Alpha Psi to be honored.*

CONTACT: **Diana Rodriguez Wallach**  
Philadelphia Education Fund  
(215) 665-1400 x3312  
[dwallach@philaedfund.org](mailto:dwallach@philaedfund.org)

---

**PHILADELPHIA (October 3, 2006)** – The Philadelphia Education Fund has announced the recipients of the **2006 Eddy Awards: Jill Scott, the Eagles Youth Partnership, GlaxoSmithKline, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity (Philadelphia Alumni Chapter), and a current Philadelphia Scholar.** All awardees will be honored at a celebration on October 24, 2006 at WHYY, Independence Mall West. The event will include live interviews with the award winners by WHYY's Tracey Matisak.

The Eddys recognize the individuals, organizations and businesses that have made an impact on public education in our region. The awards were inaugurated in 2005 during the Ed Fund's 20th Anniversary Celebration.

**This year's Star Alumnus Eddy Award is being presented to Grammy Award Winner Jill Scott.** Ms. Scott, born and raised in North Philadelphia, is a graduate of Thomas M. Peirce Elementary School, Albert M. Greenfield School and Philadelphia High School for Girls. She began her performing career writing and reading poetry, and released her debut album *Who Is Jill Scott? Words and Sounds Vol. 1* in July 2000. She won a Grammy Award in 2005 for Best R&B Solo Vocal Performance for "Cross My Mind," and her book of poetry, *The Moments, The Minutes, The Hours*, was released in April 2005. In addition, Ms. Scott is the founder of the Blues Babe Foundation, which offers scholarships to students between the ages of 16-21 residing in the Philadelphia region, among other philanthropic interests.

**Eagles Youth Partnership is being honored with the Star Commitment to Education Eddy.** Eagles Youth Partnership (EYP) was founded in 1995 by the Philadelphia Eagles to tackle education and health issues faced by the region's youth. The nonprofit organization meets the critical and urgent needs of more than 50,000 underserved children in the Philadelphia region each year. Signature programs include the Eagles Book Mobile, Eagles

Eye Mobile, annual Eagles Chess Tournament, Eagles Top Achiever Awards and the annual revitalization of public school playgrounds. The Eagles Eye Mobile provides free comprehensive eye examinations and prescription glasses to students in the school districts of Philadelphia and Chester-Upland; while the Eagles Book Mobile spreads the joy of reading and provides brand new books to children at schools, libraries, recreation centers and shelters throughout the region. Cecil Martin, former Philadelphia Eagles fullback, will be accepting the award, along with EYP's Executive Director Sarah Martinez-Helfman.

**Receiving the Star Business Commitment to Education Eddy is GlaxoSmithKline (GSK).** The pharmaceutical company is being honored for its continued support of education programs in under-served communities. GlaxoSmithKline, like the Ed Fund, believes that academically achieving students will become engaged and productive members of society and it has demonstrated its beliefs through funding for teacher development, middle-grades education and its flagship Science in the Summer program. GSK understands the value of having a highly educated workforce and, towards that end, has invested wisely in public education in the Philadelphia region. GlaxoSmithKline's Director of Community Partnerships, Mary Linda Andrews, will be on-hand to receive the award.

**The Philadelphia Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity will be honored with the Star Community Commitment to Education Eddy Award.** The fundamental purpose of the international fraternity, which is headquartered in Philadelphia, is achievement in all fields of human endeavor. The Philadelphia Alumni Chapter is very active in the city working with young African-American male students to combat the negative influences in their lives through programs like *Guide Right*, which stresses positive values, direction and self-esteem. The chapter also motivates students to assume responsibility for their future success through various other mentoring, counseling and training initiatives consistent with its "Training For Leadership" theme. Louis Williams, Polemarch, will be accepting the award for Kappa Alpha Psi.

In addition, a promising participant from the Ed Fund's College Access and Philadelphia Scholars programs will be honored with the **Rising Star Eddy**. The recipient of this award, who is a current college student and graduate of the School District of Philadelphia, will be announced in the coming weeks.

"These distinguished honorees all represent the successes of public education," said Carol S. Fixman, Executive Director of the Philadelphia Education Fund. "This celebration recognizes the achievements of the Ed Fund and of those individuals and groups whose accomplishments and commitments symbolize our vision."

The 2006 Eddy Awards are being sponsored by Fox Rothschild LLP, IBM, the Philadelphia Eagles and WHYY. An open nomination process was conducted by the Ed Fund in June 2006. Anyone in the greater Philadelphia

community was welcome to submit a nomination. The 2006 Eddy Awards Committee reviewed all nominations and made the final decisions.

For more information about tickets or tables, please contact Jenifer Trachtman, Director of Development, at 215-665-1400 ext 3309, [jtrachtman@philaedfund.org](mailto:jtrachtman@philaedfund.org) or visit [www.philaedfund.org/eddys2006](http://www.philaedfund.org/eddys2006).

---

**The Philadelphia Education Fund** is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of public education for underserved youth throughout the Philadelphia region. For more than 21 years, the Ed Fund has been working in partnership with school districts, universities, non-profit organizations and businesses to initiate and implement innovative educational programs, improve teacher quality, engage the community in school reform and conduct research. The Ed Fund is one of the largest of 86 education funds affiliated with the national Public Education Network. The Ed Fund's programs include: Small Schools Community Engagement Project, Middle Grades Matter, Student Teacher Pipeline to the Future, College Access Program, Philadelphia Scholars, GEAR UP, Education First Compact, Philadelphia Math & Science Coalition, along with citywide research studies. Visit [www.philaedfund.org](http://www.philaedfund.org).

# # #