



*For Immediate Release*

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## **CAHN FELLOWS PROGRAM EXTENDS WORK OF NYC LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

### **One-Third of 2009-2010 Cahn Fellows Trained at the NYC Leadership Academy**

Established in 2003, the NYC Leadership Academy is nonprofit organization that recruits, trains and supports visionary school leaders. Today, graduates of its Aspiring Principals Program (APP), which prepares aspiring school leaders to lead instructional efforts in New York City's high-need schools, represent nearly 15% of current principals. The Leadership Academy also offers a range of coaching and support programs for all New York City principals systemwide. Currently, over 375 new and experienced principals are enrolled in our coaching programs.

“We are very pleased that eight of this year’s Cahn Fellows are part of our Leadership Academy family,” said Dr. Sandra Stein, the Leadership Academy’s CEO. “We believe that this is a testament to the fact that our programs enable participants to build a practice of continual individual and team growth on behalf of closing the achievement gap. Congratulations to all of the Cahn Fellows; your accomplishments and dedication to school reform are inspiring”

Founded through the vision and generosity of Charles and Jane Cahn in 2002, the highly-selective Cahn Fellows Program is the only program in New York City specifically designed to support the growth of exemplary school leaders. The program selects principals with a proven track record of high or markedly improved student academic performance, who have implemented innovative school programs and who demonstrate a commitment to ongoing improvement. The 15-month program affords Fellows the opportunity to reflect on their practice through a two-week Summer Leadership Institute, a weekend retreat and five half-day study sessions and each mentors an aspiring principal from within their buildings. Since its inception the Program has provided intensive professional development and support to more than 16% of New York City’s experienced and aspiring school leaders who collectively reach over 170,000 school children.

The eight new Cahn Fellows include three APP graduates, two APP Mentor Principals and four recipients of Leadership Academy coaching:

- **Ken Baum**, principal of The Urban Assembly School for Applied Math and Science (APP Graduate and APP Mentor Principal)
- **Miriam Nightengale**, principal of High School for Law, Advocacy & Community Justice (APP Graduate)
- **Camille Wallin**, principal of Claremont Community School PS 42 (APP Graduate)
- **Larry Woodbridge**, principal of the Secondary School for Law ( APP Mentor Principal)
- **Maria Nunziata**, principal of P.S. 130 (Coaching Program participant)
- **Margaret Choy-Shan**, principal of P.S. 164 (Coaching Program participant)
- **Darlene Miller**, principal of the NYC Museum School (Coaching Program Participant), and
- **Dale Kelly**, principal of I.S. 364 Coaching Program Participant)

Krista Dunbar, Director of the Cahn Fellows Program, pointed out that “providing ongoing professional development and networking opportunities to exemplary leaders keeps them engaged in a system that desperately needs them.” She said that both Programs “offer so much to this City by identifying and increasing the capacity of those who are committed to our schools.”