

Your Time For Creative Empowerment, Inc Community Networking Soirée



The spirit of our unique Community Networking Soirée can be best expressed by a sampling of comments and visuals as follows:

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"Students who attended the Community Networking Soirée had a great opportunity to learn about the road to college and careers from people who shared their insight and personal experiences," said Presiding Officer Gregory. "I commend Your Time for Creative Empowerment for hosting the event to assist young people on their path to success"

Suffolk County Presiding Officer, DuWyane Gregory

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“Recently, I had the privilege of speaking to a group of college-bound high school students at the Community Networking Soirée sponsored by Your Time For Creative Empowerment, Inc. As a Nassau County Legislator, I want young people to see how much I value the importance of education, a good work ethic, and community service.

Sharing my story as well as conveying to them the power of living a goal-oriented, purpose-driven life inspires me in my work as a lawyer and elected official because I am imparting words of wisdom to the next generation of leaders, intellectuals, and good citizens.”

Carrié Solages: Attorney and Nassau County Legislator, 3rd District.

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“Overall, I’d book the Community Networking Soirée was a huge success. By the end of the event, both the attendees and the facilitators walked away knowing more than they had when they arrived,” said Madona Branch, a rising senior and psychology student at Wellesley College.

“Furthermore, as a Resource Person: I was glad for the opportunity to pass along some of the knowledge that would have been immeasurably helpful to me during my high school and college years...to turn my own experiences into something that could very well help my peers on their own respective journeys to higher education. It was also refreshing to be able to offer advice about and address the concerns they had about their futures”, Ms. Branch concluded.

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Resource Person, Ms. Geraldine Gooding, a young female engineer, had this to say: “The Networking Soirée held for high school and college students was successful and a much-needed event. The students were quite inquisitive and asked very insightful questions. Ms. Gooding also had this to say: “On a personal note, as a high school student, I was very shy and asking a stranger a question was out of character for me. Remembering this, I zoned in on the students that stood off to the side quietly. Some students need one-on-one attention and I was happy to offer that! No one should be left out. I truly appreciate the opportunity to be a part of the soirée and to interact with youth. I look forward to being a part of future events!

Geraldine Gooding, MS, MCP

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Mr. Jason Zove, a youthful New York State assembly candidate shared his experience at the networking Soirée in this way: “I want to thank Ms. Madona Cole-Lacy and the ‘Your Time for Creative Empowerment’ organization for hosting this forum for our young people,” said Jason Zove candidate for New York State’s 8th Assembly District.

It is vital that our children can share concerns they have about their future and work together with their peers and professionals to identify solutions to the challenges they face” Zove continued. “As a certified teacher, I fully support all programs that help to create meaningful learning experiences and prepare our kids for their future. I am honored to have had the opportunity to meet and interact with the future leaders of our community,” concluded Zove.

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Corporate recruiter and ‘community contributor’ Ms. Deon Brown-Harrison’s take on the Soirée experience was, “I thought the event was a great idea for the youth. I loved that we were able to talk one on one with the students. It felt more personal for us and especially for them. I thought Seating the young people at tables specially set for them was a great idea. I believe it made them feel special and reminded them that they were there for a purpose that was centered around them. My take away is that needs to be more events like this that cover not only their future career goals, but their comportment, with respect for themselves and others. The forum was informative **to or for? the** youth in terms of getting them to be comfortable with themselves enough to have their voices heard.”

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Fashion Institute of Technology-Bound Marie Saint-Cyr had this to say about her experience: “The community Networking Soirée was a great experience. It allowed me to communicate with people who had the same interests as me, and I was able to communicate with high officials. This allowed me to start networking as an up and coming artist.”

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“Thank you for including me in this event, it was well-organized and attended. I believe that what you are doing is very important to our community in providing exposure to our young leaders of tomorrow with opportunities to develop their “people” networking skills. While the ability to use technology is of vital importance for us and the future generations, people skills must never become a lost art among us. It is also vital that our future leaders learn that social graces along with their education will open doors for them where the lack of social graces in spite of an education will close doors to them. Great job!!!!!!!!!!!!!!”. Vivienne Anderson – psychotherapist -

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