PRESS RELEASE

BDPA Announces Education Banquet Keynoter – Ceair Baggett

Supporting IT Professionals from the classroom to the boardroom

Cincinnati (September 17, 2014) - BDPA Cincinnati Chapter is pleased to announce that Ceair Baggett, newly selected principal of Ethel M. Taylor Academy, will be the keynote speaker for its 18th Annual Education Banquet. Before coming to Taylor, Mr. Baggett served as Assistant Principal for Robert A. Taft Information Technical High School and Gilbert A. Dater High School respectively. Ceair participated in BDPA computer camp as a high school student. Baggett will address the theme ‘Race to Innovate’. The event will take place at the Receptions Conference Center; 5975 Boymel Drive, Fairfield OH 45014 on Saturday, October 4, 2014 at 5:00 pm.

The annual banquet honors BDPA Cincinnati corporate sponsors and supporters along with the 18 students who participated in the local Student Information Technology Education & Scholarship (SITES) program. BDPA has always been concerned with current statistics that show people of color lagging behind in the information technology arena. The goal of the SITES program is to provide a foundation from which high school students can explore their talents, and promote interest in the Information Technology field.

BDPA Education Banquet chairperson Brenda Hogan notes, “Our annual banquet provides us the opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of the students, acknowledge the efforts of our volunteers, and thank our sponsors. We all have a crucial role in developing the next generation of IT Leaders. It is important to honor and celebrate those who are making a difference.”

The 2014 SITES students participated in a 30-week program that refined and enhanced their knowledge of computer programming, logical thinking, and presentation skills. Out of the program, four students were selected to represent Cincinnati in the 2014 National BDPA High School Computer Competition held earlier this year in Indianapolis. Two other students participated in the IT and Mobile Application Showcases. Altogether, Cincinnati-area students to bring home $15,625 in college scholarships ($http://betf.blogspot.com/2014/08/cincinnati-students-earn-15625-in-stem.html)! Your attendance is requested to support the program. Tickets for the banquet are $40.00. Proceeds from the banquet will underwrite scholarships and educational opportunities for area youth. For more information on the banquet, SITES or BDPA Cincinnati chapter, call (513) 549-6991, email banquet@bdpa-cincy.org or log on to http://www.eventbrite.com/e/18th-annual-bdpa-cincinnati-education-banquet-tickets-12502829299.

About BDPA:
BDPA is the premier organization for African American professionals in the information technology industry. For more than 25 years, BDPA Cincinnati has fulfilled its mission and worked to bridge the digital divide by providing career growth opportunities for its members. BDPA Cincinnati is the fastest-growing of the 46 chapters that exist around the nation.