



MEDIA ADVISORY

Who: The Franklin Institute
The Please Touch Museum
The Academy of Natural Sciences
The Philadelphia Zoo

What: “Students Making a Difference” event

For the past 4 years, the Franklin Institute’s signature youth program, Partnership for Achieving Careers in Technology and Science (PACTS) has hosted an event called “Students Making a Difference.”

In response to the extraordinary level of violence affecting the young people of Philadelphia, this year The Franklin Institute is extending the celebration to include other notable programs for youth offered by renowned cultural institutions of the city. On June 13, **The Please Touch Museum, The Philadelphia Zoo and the Academy of Natural Sciences will join the Franklin Institute to celebrate the power of youth programs and to recognize the outstanding contributions young people are making to the City of Philadelphia.**

The event will be **hosted by Philly’s own Q Deezy, radio DJ from Power 99.**

When: Wednesday, June 13
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Where: The Franklin Institute
Harcourt Education Center, First Floor
222 North 20th Street

Why: “Students Making a Difference” acknowledges and encourages the positive activities of Philadelphia youth, creating examples for us all. During a time in our city’s history when youth violence and violence in general has begun to define our city, efforts such as these are particularly significant.

These programs provide support and offer not only academic preparation, but real world career experience as well as opportunities for personal growth, and community service.

The programs that will be featured at the event include:

Achievement through Community Service, Education and Skill-building (ACES) is Please Touch Museum’s educational program for students, grades 9-12, from inner city Philadelphia high schools.

The Junior Zoo Apprentice Program (JZAP) offers area teens - many from challenged urban communities - the opportunity to explore a career in science and animal biology by giving them hands-on experience at the Zoo.

Women in Natural Sciences (WINS) is a science enrichment program conducted by The Academy of Natural Sciences in collaboration with the School District of Philadelphia. WINS provides female public-school students with hands-on science classes, scientific literacy and skill-building activities and opportunities for personal growth.

Partnership for Achieving Careers in Technology and Science (PACTS) is the Franklin Institute's signature youth leadership program designed for motivated, underserved students primarily from the School District of Philadelphia, grades 4-12. PACTS provides hands-on science workshops, career guidance, field trips, and junior staff positions in departments throughout the museum.

For more information contact:

Thresa Grady
Grady Communications
gradycom@comcast.net
215-504-0909

Lynda Bramble
The Franklin Institute
LBramble@fi.edu
215-448-1176

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