



# College-ready: Creating Georgia's Future Leaders



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## First-Year Students Take On Leadership Role



### Manik and Gunawork C5 Georgia Class of 2015 Ambassadors

In the spring of 2005 Gunawork's

## Web site and Facebook Page Launched April 19

After months of work and collaboration, our new Web site and Facebook page are live! Like us on Facebook and you won't have to wait until July's newsletter to receive C5 Georgia's updates. Visit our site for more information on C5 Georgia, our students, staff and board members. While you are there, find out how you can become more involved through initiatives like Leadership Lunch hosting and donating. If you do not have the resources to support C5 Georgia with traditional methods, share the link with a friend or post it on Facebook and Twitter.

## Graduation 2011

### Live to Lead

C5 Georgia presenting sponsor GDF SUEZ is pleased to announce the graduation of the C5 Georgia 2011 class. Join us Thursday, May 12 in the Goizueta Auditorium at the Coca-Cola Company Headquarters.

When GDF SUEZ spokesperson, Suzanne Childre, was asked about GDF SUEZ's decision to support this year's graduation she responded saying, "GDF SUEZ commits to solidarity and social integration by helping children in need and associations advocating the social integration of young people in difficulty. We have chosen to partner with C5 Georgia because it is a prime example of an organization that is making a difference in the lives, careers and communities of bright young people growing up in economically-disadvantaged environments."

C5 Georgia Director of Development Rebecca DeYarman said, "GDF SUEZ's continued support over the years has made events like Graduation 2011 possible. The company shares our commitment to serving high-potential students in need of our support. Our board, staff and students are all greatly appreciative of their involvement."

As graduation approaches, Executive Director, Jeff Cohen reflected on the accomplishments of the Class of 2011 saying, "We are extremely proud of our Medallion students' accomplishments over the past five years. In the final weeks leading up to their graduation, we are looking forward to the culmination of these students' community outreach 'Medallion Projects.'"

Recently three students--Vy, Julia and Vesselina--completed their 'Medallion Project,' which addressed the important issue of teen pregnancy. The event was supported by faculty and staff. The cafeteria was filled with fellow Cross Keys High School students. The format was a panel discussion featuring teenage parents.

parents picked up their life in Ethiopia and moved with her and her siblings to the United States. Fellow C5 Georgia "Flint" student, Manik, is also familiar with being "the new kid." Growing up, his family moved several times and he was actually forced once to transfer schools due to intense bullying.

The C5 Georgia staff recognized Gunawork's natural tendency to lead early, referring to her as a "mother hen." Manik, however, began the program with more of a quiet-nature.

"Just the fact that I got elected to go to camp [was empowering]," said Manik.

In the first summer of camp, Manik overcame his quiet-nature and actually participated in a poetry slam.

Manik's mother said about Manik's transition "...the thing about C5 Georgia is that it is a family."

While Gunawork's inspiration to succeed in college, career and life derives from the sacrifices of her parents, she says C5 Georgia has been instrumental in developing her leadership skills.

Gunawork said in her time with C5 Georgia she has learned "[leadership is] important. [Leadership is] helping others and doing good things for your community, yourself and your country."

Gunawork has already applied her newly-developed leadership skills to her school-life as president of her school's student government association.

Despite Manik's quiet nature and the fact that English is Gunawork's second-language, the public-speaking aspect of joining the C5 Georgia ambassador program intimidated neither of the students.

Both Manik and Gunawork applied and were warmly welcomed into leadership roles as C5 Georgia ambassadors this fall.

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Other initiatives led by Class of 2011 students include the student-run newsletter *The Frontrunner*.

For more information about graduation 2011 please contact Pam Rosenthal at [prosenthal@candyberman.com](mailto:prosenthal@candyberman.com) or call 678.553.3151.

## State of C5 Georgia Breakfast



Fifth-year Student Vy Tran and Atlanta City Council President Ceasar Mitchell at the State of C5 Georgia Stakeholders Breakfast

C5 Georgia board members, corporate and nonprofit community leaders and government representatives filled a room at the Buckhead Club the morning of March 28.

Keynote speaker Atlanta City Council President, Ceasar Mitchell, fellow board members Cyril Turner and Robert Farrar, Executive Director of C5 Georgia Jeff Cohen and Medallion student Vy Tran addressed the crowd. They spoke about the philosophy behind the five-year intensive leadership program, the successes of the program and what to expect in the next year.

If you were unable to attend but want to learn more about C5 Georgia, visit our new Web site or like us on Facebook. Those interested in ways to support C5 Georgia donate here or click here to find out how your company can become a Leadership Lunch host.

## College Acceptance Letters Pouring In

C5 Georgia is proud to announce that to-date 23 students of the Class of 2011 have been accepted to 40 universities. Since our last newsletter, 14 students received their first college acceptance letter.

We congratulate Jessica Bassett, Taylor Beatty, Mitchell Braun, Doremus Ellison, Malik Greer, Rufus Huffman, Tiana Johnson, Vesselina Kotzeva, Jacky Kwong, Christi Moore, Andrew Nasser, Kayla Parchia, Alejandra Quijano, Demetrius Relliford and Tameisha Tate on their acceptances. These students collectively received 29 acceptance letters to a variety of institutions including the University of Georgia, Loyola

University New Orleans, the U.S. Military Academy (West Point), Howard University and Georgia Southern University.

Corporate and individual partnerships make our support of these students possible as they excel in high school and compete for highly-desirable scholarships and college acceptances like the ones mentioned in this newsletter. If you or your company is interested in improving lives and communities, please [consider donating today](#).

## "Oh the Places You Could Go"

### Students Explore Career Interests at Recent Pathways Event

Early in March, first-year "Flint" students experienced, first-hand, what it is like to work in their area of career interest. C5 Georgia students met with business owners in the restaurant industry, firefighters at a local fire station, a veterinarian, a marketing professional, two professional basketball players and the head coach of the Atlanta Dream WNBA team.

Students regrouped for lunch to discuss their experiences. As they stood before their fellow C5 Georgia first-year students and spoke about their experiences, it became evident that the students were beginning to see themselves in these business positions.

Pathways events like "Oh the Places You Could Go" help students to envision themselves in college and beyond, on a practical level. Your support makes programs like Pathways events, Leadership Lunches and summer college tours possible. If you or your company is interested in improving lives and communities, please [consider donating today](#).

## C5 Georgia Class of 2016 Selected



Members of the C5 Georgia Class of 2016

After careful consideration and an extensive selection process, C5 Georgia's Class of 2016 was selected in March. We look forward to welcoming 72 new students into the program, April 16, at the first-year student/parent C5 Georgia orientation.

Students were nominated by one of our 23 community partners and will become fully integrated into the program this summer at Camp Adahi atop Lookout Mountain.

Over the next five years, the Class of 2016 will learn to embody the "5 C's" philosophy. Students will become Challenge-ready, Character-driven, Community-focused, College-bound and Committed to a better future.

Your donations support the Class of 2016 as they prepare for college, career and life. If your company is interested in ways it can support C5 Georgia students in their efforts to improve themselves and their communities, please visit our [donation page](#).

### Save-the-Date:

#### 6th Annual C5 Coca-Cola Golf Classic

C5 Georgia and presenting sponsor, Atlantic Packaging, invite you to mark your calendars for our 6th Annual Golf Classic! Thanks to you, last year's tournament was the most successful tournament yet, raising more than \$625,000 nationally for high-potential students living in economically-disadvantaged environments. Join us Monday, October 24 and Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at East Lake Golf Club for this premiere Atlanta-area event.

Jeff Cohen, Executive Director  
C5 Georgia