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## **New Orleans Outreach and Young Leadership Council Expand New Orleans Outreach Power Ties® Program with Fall Career Day**

*Successful career awareness program for 8<sup>th</sup> graders offers workshops, professional mentors*

*New Orleans (October 27, 2010)* - The Young Leadership Council (YLC) and New Orleans Outreach are expanding the New Orleans Outreach Power Ties® Program by hosting a fall Career Day with 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from Langston Hughes Academy on Friday, Oct. 29. The morning event will take place at the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA), followed by a power lunch at the Intercontinental Hotel featuring guest speaker and YLC Role Model LaVerne Saulny, regional manager for the Office of Senator Mary Landrieu.

Led by YLC volunteers, students will participate in a series of four workshops at NOCCA from 9:15 – 11:45 AM focused on etiquette, office skills, thank you cards and interviews. The power lunch will take place from 12:00 – 1:00 PM and will encourage students to begin thinking about their own career paths through a motivational speech given by Saulny.

The New Orleans Outreach Power Ties Career Day, originally offered in the spring, is a career awareness program linking professionals from various backgrounds with 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. It aims to prepare students for internships and summer jobs through a series of career-oriented workshops. Students work hand-in-hand with the various professionals to develop their skills, uncover new job opportunities and discover their occupational strengths.

"New Orleans Outreach Power Ties Career Day offers 8<sup>th</sup> grade students the opportunity to work with professionals to help build a strong educational foundation to attain their career goals," said Claudia Barker, executive director of New Orleans Outreach. "This program is extremely beneficial for students as they become aware of different occupational fields and make valuable connections with members of the business community. Because of its success, we've decided to expand the program into the fall with the hope of reaching more students over the course of the academic year."

Saulny, who was recently named a YLC Role Model, joined Senator Landrieu's team in 2002. Additionally, she founded "Write For You," a firm providing management and development

consulting to nonprofit organizations and corporations, and authored two books, *Tips for Successful Grantwriting* and *Steps on How to Run a Profitable Home-based Business*.

“LaVerne Saulny is an excellent speaker and will be able to share anecdotes and advice from her successful career with the students,” said Amy Boyle Collins, executive director of the YLC. “The YLC is proud to support New Orleans Outreach Power Ties Career Day through our volunteers, alumni and Role Models as the students will be the future young leaders of New Orleans.”

The YLC operates the New Orleans Outreach Power Ties Career Day program in partnership with New Orleans Outreach. Participating schools include Langston Hughes Academy, McDonogh City Park Academy and Arthur Ashe Charter School.

For more information on the YLC, please visit <http://www.youngleadershipcouncil.org/site.php>. For more information on New Orleans Outreach and the New Orleans Outreach Power Ties Career Day program, please visit <http://www.nooutreach.org>.

*The Young Leadership Council is a non-profit, non-partisan civic organization created to develop leadership through community projects. Through volunteer-created community projects, the YLC recruits and retains young professionals to New Orleans, creating a positive impact on the quality of life in the region. The oldest, independent YPO (young professionals' organization) in the country, the YLC has raised more than \$25 million to support community projects in and around the New Orleans area since 1986.*



*New Orleans Outreach is a United Way Partner Agency.*

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