Students praised as “Trailblazers”

Young inventors are designing and marketing these products and more. Burton D. Morgan Foundation President Deborah Hoover told an audience at the annual E CITY awareness breakfast this spring. Hoover was the keynote speaker at this year’s annual event.

“For all of the young entrepreneurs in the audience – did you know you are trailblazers for your generation?” she asked. “You are at the forefront of a movement spreading across the U.S. and around the globe that is inspiring young entrepreneurs to achieve and flourish in the world of business.”

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She encouraged the students to be aware that because of programs like E CITY, Northeast Ohio is recognized around the country as a hotbed of innovative youth entrepreneurship programs.

“So while all of you work hard on your businesses, the world is watching and learning from your experiences,” she said.

Good Will on the Green

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HCF President Jim Hackney talked about his organization’s mission. Outgoing Job Search President Joe Rusnak talked about his organization’s efforts to assist job seekers in the Hudson area.

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“It has been our vision for all the nonprofit groups working in close proximity in downtown Hudson to fully understand the missions of these hard-working groups and to find ways we can work together for the betterment of our community,” Morgan President Deborah Hoover said. “This event was an opportunity to learn more about each other and identify ways we can come together.”

Hoover said that the gathering was a great start and that all the attendees expressed interest in making it an annual event. Hoover said she hopes the philanthropic groups can continue to share and promote good will in Hudson.

John Ong and Thom Craig

John Ong, former U.S. Ambassador to Norway, talked about his ICF Foundation, which supports education, the arts, human services, and environmental projects.

To that end, the Foundation invests in projects that fall into three life phases – starting with childhood, continuing through college and then into adulthood business activity.

For more information about deadlines and applying for a grant, visit our Web site.

The Burton D. Morgan Foundation 22 Aurora Street, Hudson, Ohio 44236 330.655.1660 www.bdmorganfdn.org

NEWS FROM THE
BURTON D. MORGAN FOUNDATION

AUGUST 2010

in the pipeline
Grants promote “healthy” economy

A grant to promote the bioscience industry in Northeast Ohio was among funds recently approved by The Burton D. Morgan Foundation. Trustees of the Foundation awarded $290,000 to BioEnterprise during a June board meeting. That grant brings the amount the Foundation has invested in the Cleveland-based organization to $900,000. BioEnterprise works to connect emerging bioscience companies in Northeast Ohio with clinical institutions, commercial partners, and venture capitalists.

The mission of the Hudson-based Burton D. Morgan Foundation is to promote entrepreneurship and the free enterprise system. Foundation President Deborah Hoover said BioEnterprise fits firmly into that mission.

“BioEnterprise is playing a pivotal role in catalyzing Northeast Ohio into the ranks of one of the most fertile places in the nation to grow a biomedical company,” she said.

Hoover said that in addition to supporting individual bioscience companies, BioEnterprise invests time and energy into creating an environment conducive to the growth of a dynamic bioscience community in our region. “The Foundation believes in the leadership of this organization and its consistently solid track record. We are pleased to continue support of its business development and talent retention programs,” she said.

The grant will help support a business development program as well as an internship program.

Other grants recently approved by Foundation trustees include:

- **Akrön Development Corporation** – $15,000 for Web site enhancement and related printed materials for the Akrön Global Business Accelerator.
- **Ashland University** – $38,500 for the Scholarship of Entrepreneurship Engagement high school program.
- **CITY** – $35,500 for two BizCamps this summer for Akron middle and high school students.
- **Hudson Community First** – $10,500 to support two career panels and a one-day student internship program, and to expand the Hudson Young Entrepreneurs group.
- **Invent Now** – $77,000 to provide two Camp Invention programs in summer 2011 and 20 Club Invention afterschool programs in the coming school year for children in the Akron Public Schools and Wooster City Schools.
- **Junior Achievement of East Central Ohio** – Up to $27,500 for high school programs during the 2010-2011 school year in the greater Canton area.
- **Junior Achievement of Greater Cleveland** – $45,500 to support middle- and high-school programs, including the annual Student Company Program Challenge.
- **University School** – $45,000 for the Entrepreneurship Institute and outreach programs for teachers and students in Northeast Ohio.

In addition to grants promoting entrepreneurship, Foundation trustees also approved several smaller grants supporting Hudson. Those grants included $5,000 to the Hudson Community Foundation to help fund this year’s fireworks display in Hudson.

“Mr. Morgan was always a big fan of fireworks and would be pleased that we got back with Green soon,” Hoover said.

The series will kick off Tuesday, September 23 (Thursday) – Greg Graham of the Kent State University School of Business will discuss “Idea Selling.”

**October 18 (Monday) –** John Myers of the Akron ARC Angels Investment Network will explain how angel investors and venture capitalists work as small business funding options.

November 17 (Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.) – Jim Grigg, a business advisor from the Small Business Development Center in Akron, will explain how to read financial statements and approach for helpful comparisons and financial ratios.

All of the programs, unless otherwise noted, start at 7 p.m. in Hudson.
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Library, JumpStart help accelerate business

Gary Green has been a motorcyclist and an aspiring entrepreneur for years. But it took a trip to Hudson to gain some real traction for his plans.

Last fall, he and his partner and fiancée Alissa Harvey drove from Akron to attend the Hudson Library & Historical Society Entrepreneurship Series. He knew he had been trying for years to start a business producing and marketing polymer-based motorcycle saddlebags.

Green spent years in the steel fabricating industry, both on the shop floor and in management. He knows mold-making as well as motorcycling.

He wasn’t happy with the price or the size of the existing motorcycle side carriers on the market, so he made his own set. When another cyclist saw them and offered him $600, Green figured he might just be on to something.

Harvey spent hours at the Akron Summit County Public Library researching the motorcycle accessory market, and together she and Green put together a business plan. But they needed funding.

Then they heard that JumpStart CEO Ray Leach would be speaking at the Hudson Library’s entrepreneur series. JumpStart is the Cleveland-based organization that helps nurture and fund the most promising start-up companies in Northeast Ohio.

“We went up there armed with our ‘roughest brochure,’” recalls Green. “When the speech ended, Green made a beeline for Leach. Leach listened, liked what he heard, and promised someone would get back with Green soon.

Green’s phone rang at 10 o’clock that night and soon Johnny Hutton Jr., vice president of JumpStart Inclusion Advisors, was assigned to work with Green.

Today, Access-O-Ride Technology – AORT, as Green refers to Access-O-Ride – has a building in an industrial area of Tallmadge, six employees, a loan from a commercial bank, letters of intent from dealers, and a shop floor covered with finishing ovens that look like elevated coffins.

The new business even attracted the attention of Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland, who paid a visit in early July.

October 5 (Tuesday) – Greg Graham of the Kent State University School of Business will discuss “Idea Selling.”

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