



For Immediate Release
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MMTI Students Learn Civic Lesson Taping Ward 7 Candidates Forum
Video product will be broadcast on Comcast Cable Channel 77 on April 19

The Deanwood Citizens Association, IDEA Public Charter School, ForWard7, the Rosedale Citizens Alliance, and Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7A partnered to host the first Ward 7 Candidates Forum at IDEA Public Charter School, Thursday March 8, 2007. Candidates are vying to fill the unexpired term of D.C. Council Chairman Vincent C. Gray in the May 1 special election. In addition to an important discussion of issues facing families and individuals residing in Ward 7, high school students from Multi-Media Training Institute (MMTI) gained hands-on skills in video documentation. **The students videotaped the forum for a broadcast that will be aired as a one-hour special on Comcast Channel 77 in DC, Thursday, April 19 at 7p.m.**

The seventeen candidates present at the forum addressed the issues of economic development, education and special education, health, public safety, and elected officials' accountability to voters. As MMTI students were trying to make sure they were getting proper sound, lighting and picture, they were also getting a civic lesson and education on the above issues and seventeen possible solutions to them.

The candidates participating were Mark Long, Yvette M. Alexander, D.L. Humphrey, Greg Rhett, Victor Vandell, Christine M. Tolson, Kirk Adair, Julie Rones, Cleve Mesidor, Iris Toyer, Sam Jordan, Johnnie Scott Rice, Dorothy Douglas, Emily Y. Washington, Eddie Rhodes, and write-in candidates James Jennings and Rev. Delric Pollins. The special election to fill the eighteen months left on the Ward 7 Council member's term will be held on May 1, 2007. Visit the District of Columbia's Board of Elections and Ethics website, www.dcboee.org, or call 202-727-2525 for information about your precinct location or for other election-related questions.

Lyn Dyson, MMTI President affirms, "Our young people are present at the cutting edge of events happening in their community and their education is more than video production, but life production and they are very excited about it." MMTI students also learn how to be account executives through their entrepreneurship workshops to create sponsorships and advertisement for their shows on Comcast. To sponsor MMTI programs, advertise with MMTI, or discuss MMTI students taping your event, please call 202-726-4597.

MMTI is a non-profit, culturally-based educational and training institution whose mission is to empower youth and young adults through the tools of video and computer technology, entrepreneurship and technical and administrative theatre. On Monday, April 23, MMTI students will premiere "Lessons From The Waterfront: The Anacostia" on the Odyssey Cruise Line. For ticket and sponsorship information, please call 202-726-4597 or visit www.mmtidc.org/premiere.

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