



NJDOE News

For More Information Contact the Public Information Office:
Kathryn Forsyth, Director
Jon Zlock
609-292-1126

For Release: May 13, 2004

JPMORGAN CHASE & THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CELEBRATE A PIECE OF AMERICAN HISTORY

Students From New Jersey Honored For Art and Essays Developed Around "Keeping The Promise: 50 Years of Brown v. Board"

Today's Event Planned by JPMorgan Chase and the New Jersey DOE

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education, JPMorgan Chase today partnered with The New Jersey Department of Education (DOE) to present "Keeping the Promise: 50 Years of Brown v. Board," one of a series of events the DOE has held since May 2003.

More than 1,200 students from across the state are attended the event, held at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Julian Bond, chairman of the NAACP, served as the event's keynote speaker and helped present awards to 10 students from New Jersey's public school system for their participation in a statewide art and essay contest. Participants were encouraged to submit pieces that expressed the historical significance of the landmark decision and how it has affected society as a whole.

"At JPMorgan Chase we are proud to be in such esteemed company as Julian Bond and New Jersey education officials to provide today's students with a deeper understanding of the impact this decision has had on society and more specifically on their educational system," said Lewis Jones, President of The J.P. Morgan Chase Foundation.

"We have worked throughout this past year to recognize and honor one of the most important legal cases in history — one that made sure every child, regardless of his or her race, receives the education he or she deserves," Commissioner of Education William L. Librera said. "We have partnered with others who see the benefit of recognizing both the work completed over the last 50 years, and the need for more work to come.

"We are so very pleased to partner with JPMorgan Chase and to welcome Julian Bond in sharing his experiences," Dr. Librera said. "We continue to stress that the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision is as important a legal decision in shaping public education as there ever was. Such events present the unique opportunity for all of us to learn from past lessons and make sure the students of today and tomorrow do the same."

Today's celebration was held at the Rutgers College Avenue Gymnasium in New Brunswick from 9 a.m. to noon. The kick-off celebration was held in Trenton on May 14, 2003 at the War Memorial. There, students and educators alike celebrated the decision, while at the same time acknowledged that it is vital to share past experiences with future generations.

Recognizing the critical role of education for the well-being of our society, JPMorgan Chase has a long tradition of actively partnering with government, organizations and schools directly, to build meaningful programs that can prepare students to be productive citizens, actively engage them in the learning process and provide for opportunities to advance their knowledge and skills to succeed in the 21st century. Through its corporate philanthropy and sponsorships efforts, JPMorgan Chase seeks to impact the teaching and learning process by focusing on teacher professional development, building leadership capacity within school systems, and by

NAACP Chairman Julian Bond addresses the nearly 2,000 in attendance for the DOE and JPMorgan Chase's joint Brown v. Board event Thursday morning at Rutgers University in New Brunswick.

supporting programs that research has shown, can lift achievement in areas such as arts education, technology and project-based learning. Where possible, the intellectual capital of the firm is leveraged through volunteerism, to support various educational initiatives. In addition to today's 50th anniversary observance of "Brown v. Board," JPMorgan Chase is proud to be presenting sponsor through October 2005 of the Newark Museum's "Once Upon a Dime" exhibit, which provides important financial education to youth.

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