

# INTRODUCING THE HIGH SCHOOL FOR CONSTRUCTION TRADES, ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE

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Andrea Baker, Vice President and Project Executive at construction firm Hunter Roberts also serves as Chairman of the Advisory Board for the High School for Construction Trades, Engineering and Architecture (CTEA). Located in Queens, NY, this brand new public high school prepares students for college, technical school, and/or apprenticeships in the fields of construction management and the building trades, as well as engineering and architecture. Founded in 2005, CTEA has a current student population of 625 students and 45 teachers, and is planning to graduate its first senior class in 2009.

"Our school is committed to providing young men and women of diverse cultural, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds with a sense of belonging" explains Principal Quintin Cedeno. "This is conducted in an educational environment that allows them to explore their talents and interests while receiving a solid academic foundation that prepares them for post-secondary education, as well as careers in construction, engineering and architecture."

The instructional program is supported by a new stand-alone state-of-the-art facility designed by renowned architecture firm Arquitectonica in association with STV Architects. The exciting 155,000 square foot building houses classrooms, a 300-seat theater, a double-height lobby and specialized laboratories for computer-aided design, mechanical drafting, model building and construction technology. The school is partnering with the New York City construction and trade communities and engineering and architecture firms to facilitate the integration of classroom based educational initiatives with input from industry professionals. The learning environment is specifically designed to promote academic achievement through the assimilation of the students' career interests while making connections of that learning to real world applications.

"We are actively reaching out to our colleagues in the industry to ask for their help hosting field trips, summer and winter internships, curriculum development or participating in our Career Fair on January 16<sup>th</sup>," explains Andrea Baker. "This is a great opportunity for all of us in the construction

industry to participate in a local community organization located right in our own backyard." For additional information please contact Andrea at 212-792-0329 or e-mail [abaker@hunterrobortscg.com](mailto:abaker@hunterrobortscg.com).

CTEA has partnered with The National Academy Foundation (NAF), an acclaimed national network of high school career academies predominately based in urban districts—schools within schools—with rigorous, career-themed curricula created with current industry and educational expertise.

Each year, NAF serves more than 50,000 students in over 500 Academies in 40 states and the District of Columbia through Academies in the fields of Finance, Engineering, Hospitality & Tourism, and Information Technology. It is noteworthy that CTEA was one of only twelve schools nationwide invited to participate in the pilot program for the Academy of Engineering created in 2008. NAF was founded by Sanford I. Weill, Chairman

Emeritus of Citigroup Inc. as a partnership between business leaders and educators. Employees of more than 2,500 businesses support NAF students by securing paid internships, volunteering in classrooms, acting as mentors, and serving on local Advisory Boards.

"Hunter Roberts is proud to support the extraordinary work of the faculty and students at CTEA," says Larry Petretti, President of Hunter Roberts Interiors. "We like the idea that a student can choose to pursue a college degree or can join the construction trades immediately following graduation. It feels good and it makes good business sense to invest in the bright young minds that represent the future of our business." ■

