

Science PA Bulletin

Parents' Association of the Bronx High School of Science

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MESSAGE FROM THE PA CO-PRESIDENTS



PA Co-President Jon Roberts



PA Co-President Mike Strauss

Welcome back to school! We hope you had a wonderful summer. A special welcome is extended to our incoming families. We look forward to meeting you and your children—the newest members of our Bronx Science family. The school is bursting with energy this year! Even the building has undergone some changes—the auditorium has been improved, and windows have been replaced.

Our children are receiving a uniquely high-quality, well-rounded education at the best high school in the country. With this experience, they will become leaders of business, industry, and the arts and sciences. They will join Bronx Science alumni who are currently in leadership positions in many fields. Our faculty and administration are top-notch, passionate educators who strive for our children's success.

They are working with insufficient resources, however, and they can't do it all. That's where we come in. We parents can and do make a difference in the education our children get. Through the Parents' Association, we provide much-needed resources to the school to fund essential programs and to purchase necessary textbooks and equipment. Money raised by the Parents' Association has been used for upgrading computer facilities, maintaining lab equipment and materials, purchasing Advanced Placement (AP) textbooks, sponsoring college programs, supporting math and science research projects, supplying uniforms for the sports teams, upgrading the school's security systems, etc.

You can see from this abbreviated list the importance of what we do. Although the state pays for regular textbooks, it does not pay for many AP textbooks; if we don't supplement the school's budget, our children won't get enough of them. Our children get the best education available, but without help through the college process, they're at a competitive disadvantage in getting into the best colleges compared with their peers from other high schools. We sponsor college programs that provide much-needed advice and information. Led by two very capable parents last year, we published a College Handbook to help parents and students navigate the process. We also have purchased a new SAT tutorial program, which is available online for all our students.

We could go on and on about old lab equipment, tattered team uniforms, and the like, but, in short, our children need us, our time, and our financial resources. There is a lot to be accomplished. We have been busy this summer even before the school year began. The senior portion of the College Handbook was published, along with Chinese and Korean translations. We have been working on improving our communication with parents. Using the database of students' names and addresses, we are helping families organize in certain areas to arrange transportation to school.

We need your help. Our major fund-raising event of the year, the Phonathon, will be held November 9 and 10 at the UFT headquarters. We need volunteers to make phone calls those evenings, and we need your financial support. You should have received a letter about the Phonathon, and we hope you will respond by sending a check before the event. We're asking for an annual contribution of \$450 per student, but this is only a suggested amount. If you can give more, please do! The more we can give the school, the more the school can give our children. Please make your check payable to the Parents' Association of the Bronx High School of Science, and print your student's name on it. Ask your employer whether corporate matching gifts are available. Send your check to:

**Parents' Association
Bronx High School of Science**
75 West 205 St., Room 134
Bronx, N.Y. 10468-1052

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2005-2006

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Be sure to visit the PA website at www.bxsciencepa.org!

Please note: Publication of an advertisement in this bulletin does not signify an endorsement by the Parents' Association.

RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

Announcements about routine school events and activities are often made over the school's public address system during third period or home room, but with their growing sense of independence, few students share this information with us. So how can parents keep in touch?

The school's website, www.bxscience.edu, is one very comprehensive tool, with coverage of events, academic and administrative departments and their staff, as well as key publications and forms.

Our Parents' Association also has its own website at www.bxsciencepa.org, where in addition to viewing the latest news on PA and other school events, you can also access past and present issues of the *PA Bulletin*.

Attending **Parents' Association meetings**, and if possible becoming involved in one of the **PA committees** or the **School Leadership Team (SLT)**, is an ideal way to learn more about the school's daily routines as well as its special events. The insights gained can help you partner more effectively with your children to guide their choices regarding academics, extracurricular activities, and college applications.

In addition to raising parents' awareness of various happenings around the school, the *PA Bulletin* aims to provide information on everything from report cards and attendance records for incoming parents to the college process for those approaching graduation, plus electives and independent research projects for those somewhere in between. We also have a regular advice column for parents of Bronx Science students. Our featured expert, Larry Zelnick, Psy.D., is a psychologist who works with children, teenagers, and adults in New York City. If you have a question about how to handle a problem you're facing with your teenager, please e-mail it to meganruther@aol.com.

PARENT COORDINATOR

Our school is very fortunate to have Cindy Golan as its Parent Coordinator. Active in the Bronx Science community since 1995, first as a parent and then working in the school's computer department, Cindy was well-qualified to take on the role created by the Schools Chancellor to ensure that there is effective communication between a school and the families of its students. She e-mails all the families, informing them of school goings-on. She even has her own Bronx Science web pages, full of useful information and accessed from the link at the bottom of the school's home page or via the link provided on the Parents' Association home page. Cindy is available every day in school to help families whenever they have questions or concerns. She can be reached on her office phone, (718) 817-7705, on her Department of Education cell phone, (347) 563-4846, or by e-mail at golan@bxscience.edu.

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THE BRONX SCIENCE ALUMNI MENTOR PROGRAM

BY ABBA LEFFLER '05

Out of all of a student's experiences at Bronx Science, arguably the college process is the most terrifying. It forces students and parents alike to make important decisions, often without much information, in a short period of time.

However, there are certain resources at Bronx Science that can make this process easier and more informative for students.

The Alumni Mentor Program (AMP) meets a few times per year in the fall and spring in the teachers' cafeteria, located down the hall from the guidance office. The goal of AMP is to help Bronx Science students in all grades through the college process by giving them the opportunity to work with accomplished and successful Bronx Science alumni. The alumni help students with interviewing techniques, essays, scholarships, and applications. The program is entirely free because the alumni generously volunteer their time.

I have found the alumni to be uniformly excellent, both in a larger group setting and one on one. At one particularly helpful session, an alum who is now an admissions officer at a prestigious university led the group through the actual applications of students who were accepted, wait-listed, and rejected at his university. This type of inside look at the college process is absolutely incredible because it allows students to see the admissions process in action through the eyes of an actual admissions officer.

An alumna who works in the finance industry personally helped my parents fill out the bewildering array of financial-aid forms with their seemingly endless array of acronyms—FAFSA, CSS Profile, etc. Without her help it is doubtful that my parents would have been able to fill out the forms as completely or effectively as they did. I received exceedingly generous financial-aid packages from all the schools I applied to.

In addition, as a sophomore I found my supervising scientist for the Intel Science Talent Search through an AMP alumna who worked as an associate dean for graduate studies at a very prestigious research hospital in Manhattan. When I approached her at an AMP meeting and explained my interest in volunteering in a laboratory, she immediately gave me the

THE AMP— PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Since fall 2002, alumni have been returning to our school to work with students on college and career choices as part of the Alumni Mentor Program (AMP). Alumni panels also present Getting Started in the College Process—an annual event held on a Saturday afternoon in March for both students and parents. "I like the comparison to seeing a movie together and discussing it afterwards," says alum Bryan Choi. The fall 2005 schedule of alumni meetings will be posted soon, and although the focus is on seniors and juniors, all students and parents are welcome.

Bryan considers overall college-acceptance statistics for the Bronx Science class of 2005 to be the best in five or 10 years. "I like to believe alumni had a contributing role in the favorable numbers," he says.

As the program enters its fourth year, however, Bryan considers that two factors will determine its continuing success—on the supply side, returning alumni, and on the demand side, participating students. "Although we have had our share of regular alumni mentors, each making an impact on many students over the years, promoting the program to current students has been a greater challenge," he says. "We have students who are repeat customers, attending multiple alumni meetings (10 or more times in a few cases), others who attend only one meeting or, most commonly, none at all. Those who attend multiple meetings benefit the most from the knowledge and life experience that alumni have to offer."

To get involved in the Alumni Mentor Program, contact alumnus Bryan Choi ('78) at alumni@bxscience.edu

names of two scientists and told me to use her name when contacting them. I worked with both scientists for the following two years, and in addition to successful Siemens Westinghouse and Intel projects, I developed a close enough relationship with both scientists to ask them to write letters of recommendation for me.

I would like to point out that my AMP experience was not unique. Many of my classmates who attended AMP regularly formed similarly productive relationships with alumni. These students were accepted to Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Stanford, MIT, Cornell, Columbia, Brown, University

of Chicago, Brandeis, Duke, Carnegie Mellon, Amherst, and others. Many also received prestigious scholarships.

The AMP is truly an invaluable resource that Bronx Science is privileged to have. It can greatly help demystify the college process and guide students through a somewhat difficult period. I strongly encourage current students—in any grade—to attend all meetings.

For more information, please visit <http://www2.bxscience.edu/alum/2006/> or email alumni@bxscience.edu

Abba Leffler, who graduated from Bronx Science in June 2005, will be attending Princeton University this fall.

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家長協會新聞文章 撰寫人 Abba Leffler, 2005 年

在布朗克斯科技高中 (Bronx Science) 的所有學生體驗中，爭論最大的是大學入學程序。它以同一方式強制學生與家長在短時間內做出重要決定，通常卻不提供足夠的資訊。但是，在布朗克斯科技高中仍然有幾種資源可協助簡化這個過程，同時學生也可以得到更多資訊。

校友指導計畫 (Alumni Mentoring Program, AMP) 每年於春秋兩季在位於輔導室走廊盡頭的教師餐廳召開幾次會議。如今已是第四屆，AMP 的目標是透過與畢業的成功校友的合作，協助布朗克斯科技高中所有年級的學生通過大學入學程序。校友們可告知學生面試技巧、寫文章、獲得獎學金以及申請入學。由於校友們均為義務參加這個活動，因此整個計畫都是免費的。

我發現這些校友們的幫助非常有益，無論是透過集體還是一對一的協助。在一次特別的指導會上，現已成為一所著名大學行政官的校友帶領這個團隊處理已被他所在的大學接收、登記或拒收學生的實際入學申請。這種大學入學程序的內情完全可信，因為它允許學生透過現行的招生負責人的眼睛看到正在進行的招生程序。

一位現任職於財經業的校友幫助過我的父母填寫有大量縮略語 FAFSA、CSS 簡介等的複雜資金援助表。沒有她的援助，我的父母就無法完整、有效地填寫這些表格。我已經從申請的所有學校收到了極其豐厚的大學助學金。

此外，我在二年級時，透過曾在曼哈頓一家非常著名的研究醫院任職為畢業生研究助理校長的一位 AMP 女校友找到了我的英代爾科學人才探索獎 (Intel Science Talent Search) 的監督科學家。當我在一次 AMP 會議上找到她並說明我對實驗室的義務工作相當感興趣時，她立即向我提供了兩位科學家的姓名，並告訴我用她的名字與他們聯絡。接下來，我與這兩名科學家共同工作了兩年，除了獲得西屋 (Siemens Westinghouse) 與英代爾 (Intel) 專案獎外，我與兩位科學家相處融洽，他們還為我撰寫了舉薦信。

我要指出，我的 AMP 體驗並不是非常獨特的。我的許多定期參加 AMP 的同學都從校友們受益良多。後來，這些同學都進入了哈佛大學、耶魯大學、普林斯頓大學、斯坦福大學、麻省理工學院、康乃爾大學、哥倫比亞學院、布朗大學、芝加哥學院、布蘭迪斯大學、杜克大學、卡內基梅隆大學、阿默斯特學院及其他大學學習。許多學習還收到了豐厚的獎學金。

AMP 是布朗克斯科技高中特有的無價資源。它不僅可以極大地幫助你揭開大學入學程序的神秘面紗，而且還有助於學生渡過困難時期。我強烈建議現在所有年級的學生都來參加每次的會議。

有關更多資訊，請造訪 <http://www2.bxscience.edu/alum/amp/2006> 或傳送電子郵件至 alumni@bxscience.edu
Abba Leffler 是布朗克斯科技高中畢業班學生，將於 2005 年秋季進入普林斯頓大學 (Princeton University) 學習。

학부형회 신문 기사 애바 리플러 ('05) 씬

브롱스 과학고등학교의 모든 학생들이 가장 힘들게 겪는 일은 대학 지원 과정입니다. 학생과 학부모가 짧은 시간 안에, 때로는 충분한 정보도 없이 중요한 결정을 내려야 되지요. 그러나, 브롱스 과학고등학교는 학생들이 좀더 쉽게 유의한 정보를 얻을수 있도록 돕고 있습니다.

가을과 봄에 여러 차례, 진학 상담실 근처의 교사 휴게실에서, 졸업생들이 조언을 주는 프로그램 (AMP) 을 진행합니다. 올해로 네번째인 이 프로그램의 목표는 성공한 브롱스 과학고등학교 졸업생과 함께 일함으로써 모든 학생들의 대학 지원 과정을 돕고자 하는 것입니다. 졸업생들은 인터뷰 테크닉, 에세이 쓰기, 장학금 지원, 대학 원서 작성 등을 도와줍니다. 이 프로그램은 졸업생들이 자원하는 덕분에 무료입니다.

이 행사에 참여하는 졸업생들은 단체로 만나거나 일대일로 상담하거나 한결같이 도움이 됩니다. 한 예로, 명성 높은 대학의 입학 심사원인 졸업생이 그 대학에서 입학 허가를 받았거나, 대기자 명단에 들었거나, 입학 거부를 받은 학생들의 각각의 실제 지원 예를 들어 주었습니다. 이러한 조언을 통해, 학생들은 실제 입학 심사원의 입장에서 지원 과정을 이해하게 되지요.

제정 분야에서 일하는 졸업생 하나는 FAFSA, CSS profile 같은 약어 덕분에 한없이 헛갈리는 재정 지원 서류를 저의 부모님이 작성하는 것을 도와주었습니다. 그녀의 도움이 없었더라면 그렇게 완벽히, 효과적인 서류를 작성할수 없었을 것입니다. 그 결과, 제가 지원한 모든 학교로부터 기대 이상으로 관대한 재정 지원 패키지를 받았습니다.

덧붙이자면, 제가 고교 2학년때, 인텔 사이언스 탈렌트 서치 (Intel Science Talent Search) 에 참여하기 위해 저를 감독하고 도와줄 과학자를 찾아야 했습니다. 저는 AMP 미팅에서 만난, 맨하탄의 유명한 병원의 대학원 부학장인 졸업생의 도움을 받았지요. 제가 실험실에서 자원하여 일하고 싶은 취지를 설명하니, 그녀는 당장 두명의 과학자 이름을 알려주며, 그 사람들에게 지원할때, 꼭 자신이 소개했음을 언급하라고 했습니다. 그 후, 2년 동안 저는 그 두명의 과학자들과 일하면서, 성공적으로 지멘스 웨스팅하우스 프로젝트와 인텔 프로젝트를 끝낼 뿐만아니라, 추천서를 써달라고 부탁할수있을만큼 가까운 관계를 만들수 있었습니다.

저의 AMP 를 통한 경험은 유별난 것이 아님을 강조합니다. 정기적으로 AMP 에 참여한 많은 저의 학생들이 마찬가지로 졸업생들과 건설적인 관계를 만들었지요. 이런 학생들은 하버드, 예일, 프린스턴, 스탠포드, MIT, 코넬, 콜럼비아, 브라운, 시카고 대학, 브랜다이스, 듀크, 카네기 멜론, 암허스트 같은 대학에 합격했습니다. 또한, 많은 학생들이 유명한 장학금을 받기도 했지요.

AMP 프로그램은 값을 따질수 없을만큼 소중한 브롱스 과학고등학교의 자산입니다. 이 프로그램을 통해 대학지원 과정을 확실히 이해하게되고, 자못 힘든 이 시기를 이겨낼수 있습니다. 자신의 성적이 어떻던간에 재학생이면 누구나 AMP 미팅에 참석하기를 강력히 추천합니다.

더 많은 정보를 원하시면 <http://www2.bxscience.edu/alum/amp/2006> 에 가지거나, alumni@bxscience.edu 로 이메일을 보내십시오.

애바 리플러는 브롱스 과학 고등학교 졸업반 학생으로, 2005년 가을에 프린스턴 대학에 입학합니다.

CLUBS & SPORTS BEAT

By Joel Chaiken

Parents may wish to look out for details of this year's **Club Fair**, and encourage their children to take the opportunity to sample some of the 70 or more activities available to them. But also keep in mind that it's never too late to join—even if a group has been meeting for a while. Students interested in joining a club should speak to its adviser, any of its members, or the Coordinator of Student Activities, in the COSA office at the back of the cafeteria.

Just a few examples of the innumerable clubs at Bronx Science include the Robotics Club (pictured below), the League for Environmental Animal Protection (LEAP), which organized the school's Earth Day celebration last April, and the Model UN, whose members meet weekly to discuss solutions to problems facing the world. The Model UN also spends time honing parliamentary procedure and public speaking skills in preparation for competitions and conferences. Colleges regard this club highly, according to last year's outgoing president, and with over half the club's past members heading off to college this fall, there should be plenty of opportunity to join. Check out the LEAP and Model UN web pages, reachable through the Student Activities tab on the school's website.

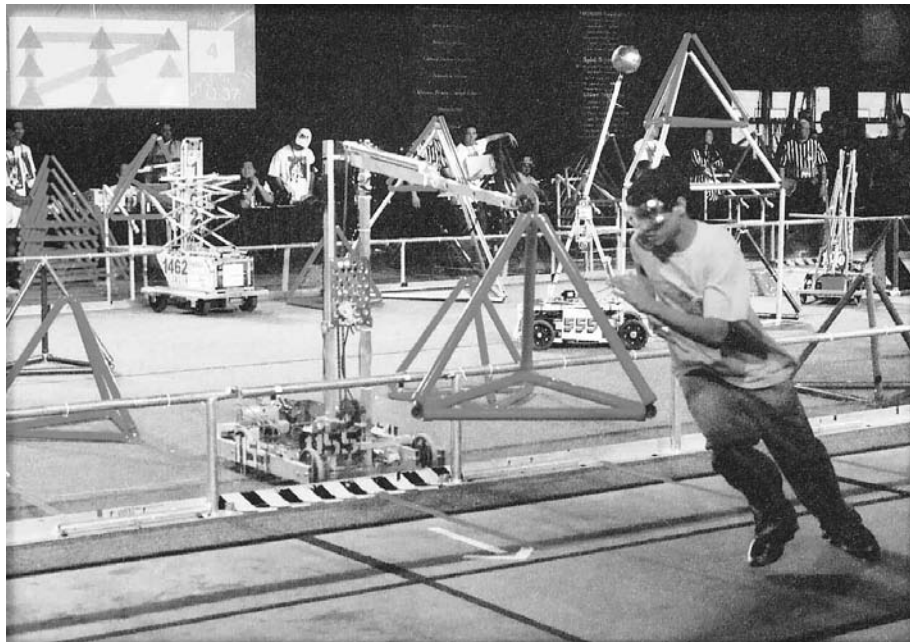
If your son or daughter has an idea for a club that doesn't yet exist, the student should talk to the Coordinator of Student Activities, and ask for a packet with guidelines, an application, and forms for building, budget-allocation, and flyer-posting requests. Basic requirements for club founders: signatures of 20 interested students, along with the commitment of a faculty adviser. Once the application is approved, a temporary charter is granted for the club, which will be visited by the senate chartering committee three times a semester. At the end of the year, the club is evaluated. If it meets all criteria, the club gains a full charter, and writes its own constitution.

Students interested in joining a Bronx Science sports team can find out about tryout dates from the Physical Education department in Room 048D, check out the listings on the school website, and listen for announcements on the school-wide public address system.

Last year many Bronx Science teams scored at or near the top of their division. Some are consistent division winners, like the girls swim team, which completed its fifth undefeated season in five years, and also placed first in the city team championships, again for the fifth straight year. The boys gymnastics team also completed an undefeated season and placed first in the city—the finest showing of its two-decade history. Co-ed bowling, boys jr. varsity basketball, girls golf, and boys handball were among those teams achieving undefeated seasons in their respective divisions.



The boys outdoor track team stays busy competing at large track meets. Last year, the team had 85 members, an all time high. Coach Cesar Gracia says that everyone gets a chance to run and compete.



Every year, the Robotics Club competes in the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) robotics tournament. At this year's event the Bronx Science team won the Kleiner, Perkins, Caufield & Byers Innovative Business Structure award for its business plan and entrepreneurial spirit.

**Stay tuned for
additional club news
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Arie	All Subjects / Tests, College Adm. Advising	National Merit Finalist, Williams, Middlebury with scholarship
David.	SAT I: 1300s, SAT IIs: 600s, College Planning	SAT I: 1570, SAT IIs: high 700-800, Full Scholarship to NYU Stern
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MESSAGE FROM THE PA CO-PRESIDENTS (CON'T.)

Also, please complete our online survey at: <http://www.bxsciencepa.org/survey.html>

On the survey, don't forget to:

- ✓ indicate your ability to volunteer for our Phonathon on the evenings of November 9 and 10
- ✓ give us permission to include contact information in our Parent-Student Directory
- ✓ vote for your preferred PA meeting location
- ✓ tell us your skills, talents, and ideas about how you could help the school
- ✓ volunteer for a committee: e.g., *The PA Bulletin*, Fund-raising, College, Bylaws, Transportation, Hospitality, and Safety
- ✓ give us suggestions!

The more we know about you, the more we can help the school and our children.

Please join us at our monthly meetings, and attend our various programs. Your time and effort will be greatly appreciated and will benefit our children.

Jon Roberts & Mike Strauss

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BX SCI CALENDAR 2005/2006

2005

October	4 & 5	Tue., Wed.	Rosh Hashanah (school closed)
	8	Sat.	SAT Testing*
	10	Mon.	Columbus Day (school closed)
	12	Wed.	PSAT Testing (daytime)
	13	Thu.	Yom Kippur (school closed)
	20	Wed.	PA Meeting, 7 PM†
	22	Sat.	ACT Assessment**
	27	Thu.	Parent/Teacher Conferences (evening)
28	Fri.	Parent/Teacher Conferences (afternoon)	
November	2	Wed.	PA Meeting, 7 PM†
	5	Sat.	SAT Testing*
	7	Tue.	Election Day (school closed)
	9 & 10	Wed. & Thu.	PA Phonathon (52 Broadway, NYC)
	11	Fri.	Veterans Day (school closed)
24 & 25	Thu. & Fri.	Thanksgiving Recess (school closed)	
December	3	Sat.	SAT Testing*
	7	Wed.	PA Meeting, 7 PM†
	10	Sat.	ACT Assessment**
	26-Jan. 2	Mon.-Mon.	Winter Recess (school closed)

2006

January	3	Tues.	School Reopens
	4	Wed.	PA Meeting, 7 PM†
	16	Mon.	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (school closed)
	24-27	Tue.-Fri.	New York State Regents Exams
	28	Sat.	SAT Testing*
	30	Mon.	Fall Term Ends (students not in attendance)
31	Tues.	Spring Term Begins	
February	1	Wed.	PA Meeting, 7 PM†
	11	Sat.	ACT Assessment**
	20-24	Mon.-Fri.	Midwinter Recess (school closed)
March	1	Wed.	PA Meeting, 7 PM†
	23	Thu.	Parent/Teacher Conferences (evening)
	24	Fri.	Parent/Teacher Conferences (afternoon)
April	1	Sat.	SAT Testing (SAT I only)*
	5	Wed.	PA Meeting, 7 PM†
	8	Sat.	ACT Assessment**
	13-21	Thu.-Fri.	Spring Recess (school closed)
May	1-12	Mon.-Fri.	AP Tests
	3	Wed.	PA Meeting, 7 PM†
	6	Sat.	SAT Testing*
	29	Mon.	Memorial Day (school closed)
June	3	Sat.	SAT Testing*
	7	Wed.	PA Meeting, 7 PM†
	10	Sat.	ACT Assessment**
	15-22	Thu.-Fri.	Regents Exams
	28	Wed.	Last Day of School

* SAT test dates and registration: www.collegeboard.org (School code: 333480; Test site: 33-170)

** ACT test dates and registration: www.act.org (School code: 333480)

† PA Meeting dates are subject to change. Please refer to the PA website at www.bxsciencepa.org for the most up-to-date information.

SAVE THE DATES!

BRONX SCIENCE PA PHONATHON

Wednesday evening, November 9, 2005

and

Thursday evening, November 10, 2005

at

UFT Headquarters at 52 Broadway in Lower Manhattan



Parent volunteers raise money at the 2004 Phonathon.

- Each evening of the Phonathon, parent volunteers call other Bronx Science parents to solicit donations
- Some parents volunteer for one night only, others for both nights
- A light dinner is provided
- Volunteers fluent in Korean, Mandarin, and Cantonese are especially needed

Please volunteer, by completing the Parent Survey (on the PA website at <http://www.bxsciencepa.org/survey.html>) or by calling the PA Office at (718) 817-7739.

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