

University of the District of Columbia

Office of Communications and University Spokesperson
4200 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

Telephone: (202) 274-5685
Fax: (202) 274-5384
www.udc.edu



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a new opportunity"*

August 23, 2006
Ser 006-036

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mike Andrews
University Spokesperson
(202) 274-5685

Washington Nationals Donate Tickets to Students in University of the District of Columbia's Work Force Development Program

Washington, D.C. – In a strong demonstration of support of the DC community and the University of the District of Columbia, the Washington Nationals will present 500 tickets to an upcoming baseball game to the University for distribution to students currently enrolled or planning to enroll in the UDC Workforce Development Program. The tickets for the September 18 game pitting the Nationals against the Atlanta Braves at 7:05 p.m. will be presented by Alphonso Maldon Sr., the National's Senior Vice President of External Affairs, to UDC President Dr. William L. Pollard during a ceremony at the Patricia Roberts Harris Learning Center, located at 4600 Livingston Road in Southeast Washington, DC next Monday, August 28 at 2:00 p.m.

"We couldn't be more pleased with this generous gift from the Washington Nationals," said Dr. Pollard. "This donation clearly demonstrates that the Nationals not only recognize the importance of developing a skilled work force from the citizens of the nation's

capital, but also demonstrates their strong support of quality education in the District of Columbia.”

“The Washington Nationals are committed to being a good community partner,” stated Mr. Maldon. “We are dedicated to supporting youth and educational programs and initiatives, as well as those that improve the health and quality of life of our community.”

The objective of the University’s Work Force Development program is to provide easy access for District of Columbia residents who have the greatest need of the kind of education and workforce development services that will enable them to acquire and retain good paying jobs. The Council of the District of Columbia approved an appropriation of \$3.7 million for FY 2005 to enable the University to establish a pilot program to provide college and workforce development courses to District residents. As the Workforce Development Program is primarily targeted to low-income District residents in Wards 5, 7, and 8, the centers have been placed at satellite sites conveniently located in low income areas of the City. Over the past year, UDC has enrolled nearly 500 low income adults - most unemployed or underemployed and many single mothers - in courses designed to provide them with skills to enable them to acquire good paying jobs. Many of those who complete the courses have been employed following their participation in the program.

The University views this ticket donation as an incentive for first time participants in the Work Force Development program to not only sign up for courses, but also stay in the program. The program is designed for people out of high school and includes university classes in a variety of areas, such as Reading Improvement, English Composition, Literature and Advanced Writing, Basic and College Mathematics, General College Mathematics, Spanish, Public Speaking and U.S. History. Work Force Development class offerings in Nursing Assistance and Home Health Aide, Emergency Medical Technician, Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning, Carpentry and Drywall, Introduction to Computers, Food Sanitation and a Literacy Lab are also available at the satellite sites.

Prospective students to the Work Force Development program are admitted to the University and registered for courses at the satellite locations. Students are permitted to take up to 4 three credit hour courses free of charge, and then are encouraged to continue their education and training on the University of the District of Columbia campus located at 4200 Connecticut Avenue in Northwest Washington, DC. Financial aid counseling is provided to students at the satellite locations who wish to continue their education and training at UDC. Job placement advising is also available. The objective is to provide education, training, and student support services at a site convenient to DC residents in low income areas of the City. Work Force Development Program classes are offered at the following satellite locations in the District of Columbia:

P. R. Harris Learning Center
4600 Livingston Road, SE
Washington, DC 20032

Ferebee Hope School
3855 8th Street, SE
Washington, DC 20032

Marshall Heights Community Development Organization (MHCDO)
3939 Benning Road, NE
Washington, DC 20019

(Note: classes sponsored through the MHCDO are currently being offered at the Michaux Center in the Mayfair Mansion housing development, 3700 Hayes Street, NE, Washington, DC 20019, and 1 at Meadow Green, 3425 A Street, SE, Washington, DC 20019).

Friendship Collegiate Academy
4055 Minnesota Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20019

McKinley Tech High School
151 T Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002

Tickets to the Washington Nationals game with the Atlanta Braves on September 18th will be provided to the University's Work Force Development students via a coordinator at each of the program sites listed above. Prospective students interested in enrolling in the

University of the District of Columbia's Work Force Development Program should contact Sherman Cook, site coordinator at (202) 645-8480.

NOTICE TO MEDIA: Media are welcome to observe and report on this event. They are asked, however, to arrive prior to the start of the presentation at 2:00 p.m. The presentation will be made at the P. R. Harris Learning Center, 4600 Livingston Road, SE, Washington, DC 20032. Please Mike Andrews, Senior Director for Communications at (202) 274-5685 should you have any questions.

The University of the District of Columbia is the fully-accredited sole public source for accessible, inclusive, affordable, and comprehensive public higher education in the District of Columbia and provides additional life-long learning opportunities. The University delivers quality instruction and uses student-centered approaches to empower and benefit both individuals and its local communities. The University, an urban land grant institution, is a very diverse community, a gateway to the world, and a significant investment engine for the District of Columbia. The University is located at 4200 Connecticut Ave, NW Washington, and is conveniently located at the Van Ness/UDC stop on the Red Line of Metro. For more information on other University activities, contact Mike Andrews, Senior Director for Communications and University Spokesperson at (202) 274-5685 or visit the University's web site at www.udc.edu.

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