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PUBLIC EDUCATION NEEDS COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & LEADERSHIP

A LITTLE NIGHT OF MUSIC... ANOTHER BIG HIT

A LITTLE NIGHT of MUSIC proved to be another spectacular event this year, drawing music lovers and PENCIL supporters who enjoyed an evening of acoustic performances by Trace Adkins and special guest Kellie Pickler.

Special thanks to Co-chairs Darin Murphy and Betsy Walkup and to Honorary Chairmen The Honorable Barbara Haynes and Ken Levitan. The night began with a silent auction and cock-



Trace Adkins



Kellie Pickler

tail reception before guests were won over by sweet and spunky Kellie Pickler, whose music career took off after becoming a finalist on American Idol.

Leading our night of entertainment was country superstar Trace Adkins, who had recently made the final two in Donald Trump's Celebrity Apprentice. Trace performed several of his hit singles, including "You're Gonna Miss This," from his latest release *American Man, Greatest Hits Volume II*.

In all, the event raised over \$80,000 for PENCIL's educational programs. Thank you to all who made this evening such a success! 🍷

CHAIRMAN SEAT CHANGE

Outgoing board chairman Ric Pennisi welcomes PENCIL's 2008-2009 Chairman Bob Fisher, president of Belmont University. PENCIL thanks Ric for his strong leadership for the past two years and for his continued support of PENCIL and public education. 🍷



OUR MISSION LINKING COMMUNITY RESOURCES WITH NASHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE ACHIEVE ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND PREPARE FOR LIFE

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JOB FOR TENNESSEE GRADUATES CELEBRATES SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Five of our JTG schools received national recognition for outstanding program results this year thanks to the commitment and dedication of our job specialists.

JTG, an affiliate of Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG), provides school-to-career and dropout prevention services to high school students who are in jeopardy of leaving school before graduation and not making a successful transition into the workforce. These five schools receive the 'Five of Five' Award – meaning they exceeded all JAG benchmarks in graduation rate, positive placement rate, full-time placement rate, full-time job placement rate:

- ◆ Glencliff, job specialist Al Westbrook
- ◆ Hunters Lane, job specialist Lori Sharpe
- ◆ McGavock, job specialist Sandra Owens
- ◆ Stratford, job specialist Kimberly Washington
- ◆ Dickson, job specialist Cheryl Windsor

This highly successful program continues to see graduation rates that exceed JAG standards. Last year, 96 percent of participants graduated and more than half went on to receive post-secondary education.

PENCIL also would like to also recognize Kimberly Washington, job specialist at Stratford High, for her outstanding performance this year. She will be honored at the JAG national convention in New Orleans next month as one of three high-performing specialists in Tennessee. 🍷

STUDENTS HONORED FOR GREAT WRITING



Some students write about their pets. Others write about their parents. Some even touch on tragedies that have occurred in their lives. Student Writers Showcase always brings out the funniest, most heartwarming, clever and quality pieces of writing in Metro Schools. And 2008's competition was no different.

Belmont University again hosted the Awards Ceremony for 218 deserving students, their families

and educators. Co-sponsored by Caterpillar Financial Services and Gannett Foundation/The Tennessean, Student Writers Showcase is a writing competition for Metro students in grades 3-12. PENCIL received 829 entries this year from 39 schools and awards were distributed to first-, second-, third-place and honorable mention for each grade level category. The twelve literary categories included such genres as Children's Story, Poetry, News & Feature Writing, Script Writing and Persuasive Essay.

Check out the best of the best! The collection of first-place winners can be viewed online at www.pencilfoundation.org. 🍷



TRAUGER'S GENEROSITY IS HONORED WITH THE E. BRONSON INGRAM AWARD

He has chaired a Tennessee gubernatorial campaign and two Nashville mayoral campaigns. He is a founding board member of the Governor's Books from Birth Foundation and has served as board chair for the past four years. He initiated the implementation of the Imagination Library in all 95 Tennessee Counties, making the program available to 375,000 children. He is also a founding board member of the Land Trust For Tennessee and has been instrumental in the conservation of nearly 11,000 acres of Tennessee's natural and historic landscapes. You would think that would be enough to win Byron Trauger the E. Bronson Ingram award, an award PENCIL gives each year that honors a community leader whose contributions are long-lasting and meaningful. But his service to the Nashville community doesn't stop there.



Byron has served on the boards of the Nashville Public Library, Nashville Public Television, the Tennessee State Museum, Martin Methodist College, Nashville Alliance for Public Education, Nashville Rotary Club, Historic Nashville, Nashville Children's Theatre, PEACE and the Tennessee Repertory Theatre.

In 2001 he joined PENCIL's board and served as chairman in 2006. Under his leadership, overall donations to PENCIL increased 10 percent. LP PENCIL Box was established in cooperation with LP Building Products and over \$71,000 in free supplies was distributed that first year, impacting 8,000 students. Our JTG program expanded from serving seniors in high school to include at-risk students in grades 9 through 11. PENCIL thanks Byron Trauger for his support of public education and continuing to give to the Nashville community as Bronson Ingram once did. 🏡

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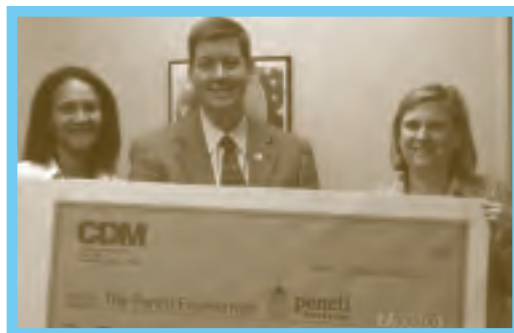
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PENCIL's Executive Director Connie Williams and Math Partners Director Debby Gould accept a check from Jennie Renwick, PENCIL Board member and VP & Manager of Client Financial Services for First Tennessee, to partially fund Math Partners. 🏡

PENCIL PARTNERS GAINS SUPPORT

Donna Morgan and Zack Daniel with CDM make present a check to Suzanne Warner, PENCIL Partners Director, to help support the PENCIL Partners Program. 🏡



PENCIL APPLAUDS PARTNERS & VOLUNTEERS AT BRAVO!

Presented by CVS Caremark

We can't say enough about the businesses, organizations and community volunteers that give their time to support our public schools. Each year we honor this giving spirit at BRAVO! This year's celebration, held at Belmont University, brought together PENCIL Partners, educators, community leaders and volunteers for a day of celebration. Mayor Karl Dean continued the tradition of awarding community involvement with the Mayor's Award for Outstanding School Partner. PENCIL appreciates the PENCIL Partners and partnership coordinators who give so much of their time to our schools.

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A LITTLE NIGHT OF MUSIC SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you to artists **Trace Adkins & Kellie Pickler** for lending your talents to this year's event!

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