

LAPTOPS for DC's 70 TOP GRADUATES-

Local Non-Profit reaches out to Microsoft, Wal-mart, DC Mayor, DC City Council, DC State Board of Education for Support of DC's FINEST STUDENTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – MAY 20, 2012

Washington, DC ---As a part of their Successful Peaceful Youth Initiative, **Total Sunshine, Inc.** (TSI) will host its' **4th Annual School Grade Rewards Ceremony** to support top graduates from all high schools in our nation's capital. Laptop computers, congratulations, advice, and educational tools will be given to **DC Valedictorians and Salutatorians** for their diligence in academics to prepare them for success in college. The ceremony will be held in *Washington, DC* on **Thursday, June 21, 2012 @4:00PM**. TSI is currently working with DC Mayor Gray's Deputy Mayor of Education's office on securing a location within the city limits.

This year marks a milestone for TSI, as 70 top graduates citywide from public and charter schools will be supported towards college readiness. Last year, all public school top graduates, and one charter school (by lottery) were supported with refurbished laptops. TSI has been conducting outreach to Wal-mart and Microsoft locally to rally support for DC's Valedictorians and Salutatorians for new laptops to be presented at their 4th Annual Rewards Ceremony.

The President of TSI, Merilyn Holmes has conducted a massive campaign for outreach since December 2011. She has attended and testified at the Public Hearings of the DC State Board of Education, produced a television show special edition for support, contacted the entire DC City Council, met with representatives from DC Mayor Gray's office, **received letters of support from many elected officials (DC Mayor, Chairman Brown, SBOE collectively, CM Barry)**, and is still in the process of conducting outreach to others including **Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes-Norton**. **The Keynote Address for the event will be given by Robert Gomez of the US Department of Education, and several DC City Council Members, DC State Board of Education Representatives, and Community Leaders have confirmed their schedules to attend.**

"Our goal is to show youth that if they strive for excellence in scholastics, they will be supported regardless of their socio-economic backgrounds. We're still in the trenches, and are working determinedly to support these stellar students...I'm hoping Wal-mart and Microsoft will be able to show their support for all of the top graduates of our great city-regardless of their attendance at public or charter schools."

Merilyn Holmes, TSI President/Founder

Donations to TSI are tax deductible and can be made online at www.totalsunshine.org

For more information call (202) 575-0462, or e-mail TSI at: info@totalsunshine.org



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"Promoting Smiles in ANY Community"

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