

## **Green Energy Technologies Collaboration with Boys and Girls Club of Lansing Receives Outreach Scholarship Community Partnership Award**

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EAST LANSING, Mich. – Angela Calabrese Barton, professor in the College of Education, and the Boys and Girls Club of Lansing were named co-recipients of the Outreach Scholarship Community Partnership Award during the annual MSU Awards Convocation on Tuesday, February 14, 2012.

Calabrese Barton and Carmen Turner, Boys and Girls Club of Lansing’s President, were recognized for the project “GET City” (Green Energy Technologies in the City), a collaboration that engages at-risk youth in science, technology, engineering and math, and encourages them to become community science experts who can bring about change by linking green energy technology with local environmental health, responsibility, and practice.



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“We designed the model to link out-of-school science investigations with in-school activities,” says Calabrese Barton. “We have discovered new insights into how and why youth engage meaningfully in community-based science, and how they develop science and engineering identities.”

The Boys and Girls Club of Lansing, with Turner’s leadership, has been the primary partner with Calabrese Barton since 2007.

“The GET City program gives our children the opportunity to strategically think beyond what they thought was possible. Dr. Calabrese Barton and her staff set high expectations for the kids, which they meet and most often surpass. They understand how to apply what they learn in GET City into making better decisions about life. That’s what learning is really about,” said Turner.

Calabrese Barton, along with her husband, Scott Calabrese-Barton, a professor in the College of Engineering, and Turner oversee year-round programming in advanced science and engineering to provide opportunities for disadvantaged and underrepresented middle school and high school youth with an interest in science, engineering and IT career and college preparation. (more.....)

Experienced GET City students can become “Green Ambassadors,” charged with working with school leaders and teachers to help their school meet the new challenge of going green. One notable effort led to changing incandescent light bulbs in Pleasant View Magnet School in Lansing to more energy efficient compact fluorescent lights (CFLs). Students conducted research, made movies that illustrated the research findings, designed experiments, and produced raps to educate teachers and fellow students about the changes.

“What stands out most to me about the GET City project is the stance they take on ‘educated action,’ knowing not only how to green the world, but learning the science behind it,” said Ruth Daoust, manager of the MSU Surplus Store and Recycling Center.

“The GET City project is an outstanding example of university-community collaboration. Dr. Calabrese Barton has achieved a significant amount of support in a short amount of time, including participation from the Boys and Girls Club of Lansing, interdisciplinary teams at MSU, Lansing and Waverly school students, teachers, and administrators, the Mayor’s office, Lansing Board of Water and Light, Dart Foundation, Lansing Community College Alternative Energy Center, TechSmith and the National Science Foundation,” said Hiram E. Fitzgerald, associate provost for University Outreach and Engagement. “The model is now being piloted in other states, and we look forward to GET City partnerships that continue to evolve and positively impact youth and the communities in which they reside.”

MSU’s Outreach Scholarship Community Partnership Award is conferred annually and provides University-wide recognition of highly engaged community-based research collaborations that positively impact both the community and the scholarship of MSU faculty work.

Learn more about the Outreach Scholarship Community Partnership Award and recipients at <http://outreach.msu.edu/awards/oscpa/>.

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