



October 15, 2007
Impressions: 26,500

<http://www.neworleanscitybusiness.com/viewStory.cfm?recID=24566>

Twenty-five young adults will get a head start on their entrepreneurial careers thanks to National Basketball Association star Allan Houston.

One of the most comprehensive young entrepreneurship programs in the country is coming to New Orleans through the partnership of the Allan Houston Legacy Foundation, financial specialists Citigroup/Smith-Barney, computer maker Lenovo, the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship and the Harlem YMCA.

Designed for young adults ages 18 to 25, the Allan Houston/Citigroup Business Education and Development Program is a free 24-week training program that consists of twice-weekly evening courses for 25 young adults at the Dryades YMCA in New Orleans. Another program will help 50 young adults in Harlem, N.Y.

The objective is to develop entrepreneurs in these communities. Each participant is given the tools, resources and guidance necessary to build a successful business plan.

At the conclusion of the educational and instruction stage, two entrepreneurs are chosen to enter the Allan Houston/Lenovo Small Business Incubator to receive an additional year of support including free office space, a team of advisers to help guide implementation of business plans and up to \$20,000 in startup capital.

Through the incubation process, entrepreneurs will receive resources needed to build sustainable businesses with lasting economic benefit to their families, neighborhoods and larger communities.

The application deadline is Friday. For more information or to apply, visit www.AllanHoustonFoundation.org. Those interested in being a sponsor, partner or mentor can call (800) 806-8647, ext. 5.