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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York, NY – November 17, 2009 – Fantasia Harvey entered the gymnasium at Riverbank State Park hoping to meet with representatives from a few of the top colleges she is interested in attending in the fall. She left that afternoon with acceptances to seven colleges and universities, including her top choice, Virginia Union. Fantasia Harvey was not alone in this experience, many students gained on-site admissions and college scholarships at the 38th Annual HBCU Fair hosted by the New York Urban League and Children’s Aid Society. Amanda Scott-Anita, a senior at Garden City High School, can now look forward to graduation in June as she was awarded a \$10,000 scholarship to attend Livingstone College in Salisbury, N.C. Along with Fantasia and Amanda, over 2,000 students came out, despite harsh wind and rain, on Saturday November 14, to attend the Historically Black Colleges & Universities Fair. This fair, which featured 46 schools, allowed students a chance to meet with college recruiters and for some, gain college admissions and scholarships, with on-site provisional acceptances. Joining students and parents, were Congressman Charlie Rangel, Assemblyman Keith Wright, City Councilmember Robert Jackson, Deputy Mayor Dennis Walcott, and representatives of Malcolm Smith, Eric Schneiderman and Inez Dicken's office.

This day was more than just a college fair. Students also had the opportunity to attend workshops hosted by members of the New York Urban League’s Young Professionals. These workshops, which covered topics from “Why Should I Attend an HBCU?” to “SAT Test Strategies” and “How to Complete the FASA Form” allowed students a chance to discuss real questions with young men and women who not long ago were in the same position as these students today. Akil Kamau, Director of Education at the New York Urban League and a workshop host, remarked on the importance of this event, “As a NYC student years ago, my parents and I were unaware of the wealth of HBCU information that was available. Having the New York Urban League as a link in the resource chain that provides answers and direction through this event and its workshops is a crucial ally for students and their parents – especially for those students who will be the first in their family to attend college.”

The 38th Annual HBCU Fair allowed over 2,000 students a chance to see the options that lie ahead and begin to plan for their future goals. Some students,

like Fantasia Harvey left with college admissions, while others left with a better understanding of which college was right for them and why.

About The New York Urban League: (www.nyul.org) The New York Urban League (NYUL) has a rich history and long legacy of service to New Yorkers. The NYUL was founded in 1919 by an inter-racial group of concerned New Yorkers in response to the difficulties faced by African Americans migrating from the agricultural and rural south, to the industrial, urban centers of the north. Today, the mission of the New York Urban League (NYUL) is to enable African Americans and other underserved communities to secure a first class education, economic self-reliance and equal respect of their civil rights through programs, services and advocacy. Some of their signature programs include the Frederick Douglass Awards Dinner, the Whitney M. Young Classic and the Champions of Diversity Breakfast. The New York Urban League, Inc. is one of the local affiliates of the National Urban League, a nonprofit, nonpartisan, multi-ethnic, social service organization celebrating its 90th anniversary this year.

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