

## Higher Learning Goes Even Higher

by Rolanda Williams Baldwin

The second year of the Higher Learning Institute is well underway! The twenty-eight students have already completed three Saturday sessions and two college tours since February. For 2003, there are eleven returning students, seventeen first time students, three returning mentors, and five first time mentors. The Saturday sessions consist of joint and separate activities for the old and new students. The new students are covering the topics that the returning students covered last year such as discovering your interests, selecting a potential career, setting goals, learning how to chose a college, learning how to apply for scholarships and financial aid, and preparing for standardized tests. The returning students are covering some of the same topics at a deeper level than last year. They are also learning how to cope with change, write essays for college and scholarship applications, and how to take standardized tests.

The students have many more activities to come. The last Saturday session will be held on May 17. There will be a Graduation Ceremony on Sunday, June 8th, a Job Shadow Day on Friday, August 1st , and a Back To School Pool Party in late August.. The biggest activity for this year will be the Southeastern College Tour. This will be a 5 day/4 night trip that will allow the students to visit up to ten college campuses from South Carolina to Florida. The students are in the midst of fundraising for this project, so please show your support by participating in the fundraisers.