



## Central Florida YMCA

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CENTRAL FLORIDA YMCA'S ACHIEVERS PROGRAM CELEBRATES  
15<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY AT ANNUAL AWARDS GALA**

**ORLANDO, FL...** The Central Florida YMCA celebrated the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its Achievers Program at its annual Awards Gala at the Rosen Centre Hotel on October 18, 2005. Program participants, volunteers, mentors and sponsors were honored at the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Sixty-seven (67) new Adult Achievers from local companies and organizations, such as Darden, Walt Disney World, Sprint, Turner Construction Company, Universal Orlando, Orange County Government and Florida Hospital, were inducted into the 2005 Class of Adult Achievers.

The Central Florida YMCA Achievers Program includes the YMCA Black Achievers Program and the YMCA Achievers Program - Developing Hispanic Leaders. YMCA Achievers activities and programs are facilitated by Adult Achiever professionals who have been selected by sponsoring organizations. Adult Achievers provide mentoring and guidance to students in grades six through 12, thereby helping them make positive life choices and successfully prepare for the future. YMCA Achievers activities are designed to ignite interest, motivate success and provide exposure to positive and productive life choices.

"For 15 years, the Central Florida YMCA Achievers Program has been caring for Central Florida's African-American and Hispanic youth by inspiring them and impacting their futures," stated Central Florida YMCA President and CEO James W. Ferber. "Many of our Achievers Program participants have gone on to enjoy productive lives and successful careers. It would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of the program's many mentors and volunteers."

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Established in 1942, the Central Florida YMCA ([www.centralfloridaymca.org](http://www.centralfloridaymca.org)) is one of the largest nonprofit community organizations in the Central Florida area. With its 24 Family Centers in Orange, Seminole, Osceola, Lake, Brevard and Marion counties, the YMCA gave over \$8.2 million in financial assistance, membership, and program subsidies to 200,000 kids, teens, adults, and seniors in 2004. Committed to the community, with its nine Neighborhood Centers for Families, 15 middle school after school sites, 12 elementary after school sites, two senior outreach programs and four teen achievers centers, the YMCA maintains its mission to improve lives of all in Central Florida.