

## **Nine Education and Military Leaders Graduate from Urban Superintendents Academy**

**For Immediate Release:  
Thursday, Dec. 17, 2009**

**Contact: Erica Lepping  
310-954-5053**

LOS ANGELES – Nine senior education, business and military leaders have graduated from the 2009 Broad Superintendents Academy, and six are already working at the highest levels of urban school systems to improve student achievement, The Broad Center for the Management of School Systems announced today.

The Broad (rhymes with “road”) Superintendents Academy is a 10-month executive management training program run by The Broad Center to prepare working CEOs and other top executives from education, military, business, nonprofit and government sectors to lead urban public school systems. The [Broad Superintendents Academy](#) is the only program in the country that recruits and trains non-traditional superintendent candidates as well as stand-out career educators. To date, graduates of the program have filled 67 superintendent positions and 88 senior school district executive positions.

“These graduates join a growing trend of talented American leaders coming forward from diverse sectors to dedicate their skills and experience to the most important civil rights cause of our time: dramatically improving public education for inner city students,” said Eli Broad, philanthropist and founder of [The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation](#), which funds The Broad Center.

A complete list of this year’s graduates is below, and full biographies can be found at <http://www.broadacademy.org/fellows/2009.html>.

Graduates of The Broad Superintendents Academy currently work as superintendents in 38 cities in 24 states. For a list of cities, please visit <http://www.broadacademy.org/fellows/map.html>.

This marks the eighth class to graduate since The Broad Superintendents Academy was founded in 2002. In the last year, nearly half of all new superintendent positions in large urban districts were filled with graduates of the academy. Based on analysis of publicly available student achievement data for Broad Superintendents Academy graduates who have served as superintendents for three or more years, nearly three-fourths are improving student achievement faster than the state and faster than demographically similar districts.

- more -

Broad Superintendents Academy participants keep their current jobs and attend seven extended-weekend training sessions covering CEO-level skills in education, finance, management, operations and organizational systems. They study best practices and lessons learned from current and historical reform efforts in large urban American school districts, particularly those that are the most effective at improving student achievement and closing achievement gaps.

Only 2 percent of applicants were accepted into this year’s program, making it the most selective of its kind in the country. The 2010 class will be announced in January. For more information, or to apply for the 2011 class, please visit [www.broadacademy.org](http://www.broadacademy.org).

The Broad Center for the Management of School Systems is funded by The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation, a national venture philanthropy established by entrepreneur and philanthropist Eli Broad to advance entrepreneurship for the public good in education, science and the arts. The Broad Foundation’s education work is focused on dramatically improving urban K-12 public education through better governance, management, labor relations and competition. For more information, please visit [www.broadacademy.org](http://www.broadacademy.org) or [www.broadfoundation.org](http://www.broadfoundation.org).

### **The Broad Center for the Management of School Systems 2009 Broad Superintendents Academy graduates**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Current title and former title</b>	<b>Current Organization</b>
Thomas Darden	Deputy for process improvement & compliance <i>(former co-founder, Reliant Equity Investors, former Fortune 100 manager)</i>	School District of <b>Philadelphia</b>
Garth Harries	Asst. superintendent for portfolio & performance management <i>(former chief exec. for portfolio development, NYC Dept. of Ed.)</i>	<b>New Haven</b> Public Schools, Conn.
Dorene Hurt	Retired military <i>(former chief of staff, Army’s Service Chair and faculty, Industrial College of the Armed Forces)</i>	Retired
Pedro Martinez	Deputy superintendent of schools <i>(former chief financial officer, Chicago Public Schools)</i>	Washoe County School District, <b>Reno, Nev.</b>
Heath Morrison	Superintendent <i>(former community superintendent, Montgomery County, Md.)</i>	Washoe County School District, <b>Reno, Nev.</b>
Steven Lepper	Staff judge advocate, Air Mobility Command <i>(former chief counsel to senior Air Force commanders and deputy legal counsel to chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff)</i>	Scott Air Force Base, <b>St. Louis</b>
Eileen Rudden	Member, board of directors <i>(former executive at Avaya, IBM and Lotus Development)</i>	KnowledgeWorks Foundation & Brown Univ., <b>Cambridge, Mass.</b>
Robert Runcie	Chief administrative officer <i>(former chief information officer for Chicago P.S.)</i>	<b>Chicago</b> Public Schools
Anthony Tata	Chief operating officer <i>(former deputy commanding general., 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division and Joint Task Force of 25,000 U.S. military in Afghanistan)</i>	<b>District of Columbia</b> Public Schools