

June 2007 Newsletter



KnowHow2GO

KnowHow2GO Launches In the Cornhusker State

"It's not always enough to want to go to college. We need kids to know how to get there," [Gov. Dave Heineman](#) told state and community leaders gathered for the launch of [KnowHow2GONebraska](#). The campaign, he said, is essential to getting more middle and high school students on the path to college.

The June 13 launch was coordinated by [EducationQuest](#) and attended by University of Nebraska President James B. Milliken and members of the state's [P-16 Initiative](#), which aims to increase the success of students at all education levels. Several local newspapers and TV stations covered the launch, including the *Omaha World-Herald* and ABC and NBC affiliates in Omaha and Lincoln.



Gov. Dave Heineman renewed Nebraska's commitment to college access.

Congratulations to Tricia Dunn and her colleagues at EducationQuest for their hard work in executing this successful, local launch!

And the Winner Is...

Aamina
Muhammad,

How Will You KH2G This Summer?

Are you working hard to plan a KnowHow2GO event this summer? Send details and photos to news@KnowHow2GO.org and your event could be featured in an upcoming newsletter.

14, and Shakira Onwuachi, 16, from the [North Community YMCA](#) in Minneapolis, MN, won the *On the Air, Off to Orlando* public service advertisement (PSA) contest sponsored by KnowHow2GO and the YMCA of the USA. Check out their winning spot, *At the Mall*, [here](#).



Fonzworth Bentley leads the crowd in applauding Shakira (left) and Aamina (center).

The girls received a trip to Orlando, FL, to participate in the Southern Regional YMCA Teen Leadership Summit on June 9, which featured a performance by [Fonzworth Bentley](#), former assistant to P. Diddy and the voice of KnowHow2GO's [Wanna Go](#) radio PSA.

The second and third place winners represented the [YMCA of Greater Boston](#) (Jazmyn Malcolm, 10th grade; Avaloi Atkinson, 9th grade; Kristen Cockrell, 9th grade; and Malcolm Grant, 8th grade) and the [Wilmington Family YMCA](#). Click [here](#) to hear their PSAs about the steps to college.

Hey, Girls...

Aamina and Shakira stared at each other in disbelief when their YMCA Black Achievers Director told them they'd won the PSA contest. Shakira joked that they were waiting for Ashton Kutcher to run out and tell them they'd been *Punk'd*. But, one month later, the deserving first place winners were meeting Fonzworth Bentley in Orlando, FL.

The girls spent days after school coming up with a fun PSA their friends would relate to. Then they hit the studio with local DJ B-Right of [B96](#) to record their winning PSA, *At the Mall*. After they won, community radio station KMOJ 89.9 invited the girls to their studio to play the PSA and take calls from listeners who praised their creativity and bright future.

Shakira, a rising senior, will head to college in the fall of 2008 and major in pre-medicine. She jokes that another KnowHow2GO contest is the only thing that could distract her from her goal. Inspired by their PSA, Aamina, a rising freshman, plans to pursue a degree in fashion or public relations.

Under His Umbrella

[Fonzworth Bentley](#), P.Diddy's former assistant and one-time umbrella handler, earned degrees from both [Morehouse College](#) and the [Fashion Institute of Technology](#). Fonzworth is proud of his work for P. Diddy because it ultimately helped him achieve his dream of launching his own music career. He is now signed to Kanye West's G.O.O.D. Music label and working on his first album.

Fonzworth offered this advice to teens attending the Southern Regional YMCA Teen Leadership Summit who want to go to college: Do at least one thing every day, no matter how small, toward achieving your goals.



Fonzworth Bentley impressed students with his college degrees and down-to-earth advice.

Fonzworth joined the KnowHow2GO campaign because he was shocked by reports on the high number of high school dropouts. He came from a family where going to college was expected, but he knows that other kids need adult role models to help them achieve their dreams. Fonzworth encouraged students to reach out to the adults in their lives who *have* been to college. He then told them to think hard about what they love to do and work every day toward a career in that area.

Fun and Games

This summer, help students in your area get acquainted with the four steps to college by hosting a KnowHow2GO workshop. We created a student-friendly game for the Southern Regional YMCA Teen Leadership Summit modeled after the Nickelodeon game show, *Double Dare*. Like the show, our game rotates between questions and "physical challenges." The true/false questions are based on information from www.KnowHow2GO.org, especially the [Myths](#). The four physical challenges are based on the four steps to college and involve a word scramble, wheelbarrow race, puzzle-assembling competition and ball throw.

For more instruction on this workshop, contact the partner helpline at 1-888-716-6382 or e-mail partnerhelp@KnowHow2GO.org. Or, better yet, use our idea to come up with your own KnowHow2GO game for local students.

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