

MTI Students Join National Honor Society

MTI inducted 20 into the Adult Education Honor Society

(Bradenton, FL—May 14, 2010) The Induction Ceremony of the Lee Carter Brown Chapter of the National Adult Education Honor Society at Manatee Technical Institute was held last evening, May 13, 2010, in the Leatherman Auditorium at MTI's Main Campus.

Twenty students were inducted. Family members joined the students on stage to pin them, and School Board member Bob Gause and Adult Career and Technical Education director Doug Wagner awarded them their certificates. MTI director Dr. Mary Cantrell made opening and closing remarks.

Suzanne Paul, the retired coordinator of the adult education program, shook students' hands as they were inducted. It is her deceased daughter for whom the chapter is named. Assistant director Linda Agresta and teacher Mia Hildebrand read the nominations.

The Manatee adult education program serves over 2,000 students. The ones chosen for this honor are an elite group. Inductees must meet membership standards of attendance, cooperation and self-reliance.

Students ranged in age from 20 to 70. Some had professional careers in their countries of origin; some are learning English so they may begin new careers. Some are co-enrolled in university or other postsecondary education; others are aspiring to enroll. Some are achieving in spite of disabilities. They are all an inspiration.

The MTI Chapter is one of only nine chapters in the state of Florida. Ernie Bishop is the faculty sponsor for the honor society at MTI. About half the inductees are working towards their GEDs, and the other half are learning English as a second language.

The mission of Manatee Technical Institute is to meet and exceed our community's training and educational expectations. MTI is a 2007 Tampa Bay Business of the Year and has won more SkillsUSA medals than any other school in the nation for the past six years.

PHOTO: Twenty GED and English-as-a-second-language students were inducted into the National Adult Education Honor Society at MTI. From left to right (front row) are Luis Carreno, Dora Bueno, Adline Auguste, and Ramiro Santana; (second row) Marisela Nunez, Joel Castillo, Lynn Cenobio, Mika Chea, Cecilia Contreras-Carrillo, Reta Drabandt, Mary Fifield; (back row) teacher Mia Hildebrand and assistant director Linda Agresta, Daniel Gaure, Doris Rodriguez, Idmar Hernandez, Dieuceline Joseph, Edgar Lopez, Desiree Matos, Celeo Mendez, Soban Sok, and Veronica Rodriguez.

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