

2008 New Jersey State Jefferson Awards



BRIAN BLACKMORE YOUR 2008 AWARDS MEDALIST

NOMINATED BY NATALIE MARINO



From left: Sam Beard, co-founder of the Jefferson Awards, medalist Brian Blackmore, and Hans Dekker, from the Community Foundation of New Jersey



From left: Brian Blackmore and his nominator Natalie Marino.

Brian was an aerospace engineer working within the field, when he realized ethnic youth were not well represented in math and science. He decided to change careers and work with inner city youth. Working as a Science teacher at P.A.N.T.H.E.R. Academy in Paterson, he met a diverse population. He was attracted to their diversity and strove to prove that multicultural differences were not a roadblock to success. He started a Robotics club

and his group won honors across the state. He worked with Rotary in Paterson to start an Interact Club. He worked with College Bound, a program which offers tutoring to inner city kids to help with their entrance into college. Most people try to figure out how an "ivy leaguer" can relate to at risk kids and how the kids can reciprocate the good will. However Mr. Blackmore does not see the differences, he just sees the similarities.

Do you know someone who makes a difference in your community?

If you do, then nominate them for the prestigious Jefferson Award by visiting www.nj.com/jeffersonawards

Jefferson Awards honor ordinary people who, through public service, do extraordinary things for other people, their community, their nation, or the environment.



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