



ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS News Release

March 16, 2007

For Information Contact:
Joe Manguno
APS Media Relations Specialist
(404) 802-2829
jmanguno@atlanta.k12.ga.us

Two APS students named winners in Wal-Mart Student Achievement Month Contest for poetry

ATLANTA – Parks Middle School sixth-grader Iyonna Little and James Lewis, a 12th-grade student at West End Academy Performance Learning Center, were awarded \$1,000 laptop computer prize packages for their poetry Friday by Wal-Mart.



Parks Middle School sixth-grader Iyonna Little and James Lewis, 12th-grade student at West End Academy Performance Learning Center, show off the laptops and accessories package they won in Wal-Mart's annual Communities in Schools Student Achievement Month (SAM) Contest.

Office of Communications
Atlanta Public Schools, 130 Trinity Avenue, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
404-802-2800

Chuck Rushing, manager of the Wal-Mart at Howell Mill Rd. in Atlanta, presented Little and Lewis each with a laptop, leather carrying case, PC microphone, headset and flash drive.

The Student Achievement Month (SAM) Awards, a statewide competition sponsored by Communities in Schools (CIS) of Atlanta and Wal-Mart, recognize talented students from across Georgia who overcame considerable challenges to achieve success.

Little and Lewis, participants in CIS programs, won for their poetry – Little’s an original poem about the impact the programs have had on her life, and Lewis’ a poem titled “Inspiration,” expressing his desire to be inspired to achieve.

Lewis says he’s now on the right track with support from CIS. “They are helping me realize the importance of education,” he says. “Right now, they are helping me take the steps to get into college after I graduate in May.

Communities in Schools of Atlanta was founded in 1972 for the purpose of keeping children in school. Now, through a partnership with APS, Project GRAD and DeKalb County Schools, CIS provides services to 48 schools in the metro Atlanta area. The organization brought more than \$2.7 million in donations, volunteer hours and cash grants to its partner schools last year.