



## ADULT LEARNERS BENEFIT FROM DELGADO EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FAIR

Delgado welcomed adult learners to the City Park Campus on Saturday, June 6, to “Break Away to Delgado Community College,” an education opportunities fair, free and open to the public, featuring Grammy award winner and Delgado graduate Irma Thomas.

The fair, which was sponsored by the Irma Thomas Center for Women In Search of Excellence (WISE) and the Office of Admissions and Enrollment Services, offered Adult Basic Education (GED preparation), degree, certificate and non-credit program information; admissions and financial aid counseling; and free mini-workshops including How to Pay for College, How to Apply to College, Balancing Family and College, and Choosing a Major and Career Path. A free light lunch was served, and a host of door prizes were raffled to attendees.

More than 100 people attended the fair, gathering a host of program and student services information and benefitting from having their questions answered by the faculty and staff who generously gave their time to participate. The mini-workshops, too, were filled to the brim, and feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive.

Underscoring Delgado and LTC Region 1’s critical importance to regional workforce development, a number of individuals attending the fair had recently been laid off and were exploring short-term training options for viable employment, while several others were seeking to enhance skill sets to upgrade their job status in the new economy. Some were returning to the workforce to support family after years away from school, and some were seeking to earn a GED and pursue higher education as adults.

The highlight of the event was an inspirational presentation by Honorary Chairperson Irma Thomas, who shared her personal story of challenge and success in pursuing her associate degree in Business Management and encouraged everyone to make higher education goals a priority.

Vice Chancellor Deborah Lea wholeheartedly thanked Ms. Thomas for her unwavering support of Delgado and also presented certificates of appreciation to fair organizing committee members Gwen Boutte, Melanie Deffendall, Linda Jackson, Alissa Chambliss, Deborah Kohler, Leslie Salinero, Donna Bayard, Terri Gonzales and Molly Jahncke. Linda Jackson and Deb Kohler received a special round of applause and appreciation for their dedication in continuing to serve Delgado even after their official retirements.



