

# Environmental Talent Bank Seeks Nation's Best and Brightest For Government Jobs

Blueprint Project Newsletter Outlines Steps to Federal Jobs

The Environmental Talent Bank, a first for environmentalists, is recruiting the nation's best and brightest for careers with the federal government. The Talent Bank's goal is to move troops of environmentally-committed individuals into federal government jobs after the election, the project's spokespersons announced today.

The Environmental Talent Bank is a project of Blueprint for the Environment, a coalition of national environmental groups to enable the environmental community to influence the development and implementation of environmental policies under the next Administration.

Tina C. Hobson, co-chair of the Talent Bank and executive director of the Washington-based Renew America, announced the national distribution today of a new newsletter, "Guide to Federal Jobs," -- a first step in recruitment plans.

"The summer's stifling heat, dirty air and the drought in the nation's breadbasket have heightened concern about the environment and created a groundswell of support for national policies that protect our world -- the air we breathe, the food we eat, and our lakes and rivers," Hobson declared.

Michael McCloskey, co-chair of the Talent Bank and chairman of the Sierra Club, urged the environmentally - concerned to help build a

responsive government by accepting the challenge of public service.

"The legal and legislative gains won by the environmental community may go no where, if we do not assume the challenge of building agencies which believe in environmental programs and want them to succeed," he warned.

McCloskey emphasized the need for committed individuals at all levels of government service.

"We need them as procurement officers who will guarantee that the products the government purchases are energy-efficient. We need them holding political appointments as senior managers and policy experts. We need them in mid-level positions where so much of the work gets done. And we need them at the beginning level where people can build careers and provide for the future," he stated.

Hobson said the Talent Bank's first hurdle is to overcome the disillusionment and negative images created by the Reagan Administration.

"Ideologues who shared President Reagan's conviction that the government was over-regulating environmental protection were appointed to direct the very agencies they despised, and these individuals gutted environmental programs," she noted. "Young people today are reluctant to pursue public service careers because they believe the

government is going no where," Hobson added.

Hobson, a 20-year veteran of the civil service, said the Talent Bank plans to inspire young people to pursue public service careers in much the fashion that the idealism and vision of John F. Kennedy forged the Peace Corps and motivated caring individuals to enlist in public service for the greater good.

The Talent Bank's primary aim is to develop a computerized pool of environmentalists qualified to fill senior level fed-

eral positions in essential environmental areas. However, the "Guide to Government Jobs" released today is directed at young entry-level professionals, 20 to 35 years of age.

The newsletter is unique in its approach, guiding the federal job-hunters around the "bureaucratic maze" through the eyes of another young environmentalist. The simple yet informative approach provides:

\*essential advice on filling out the standard

employment form 171;

\*a step-by-step guide which lists important contacts for employment information;

\*an agency-by-agency guide with specific information to cut through the "wrong numbers" and endless number of departments; and

\*a guide to understanding government service grade levels and helps the job-hunter determine where they fit.

Hobson said the Talent Bank has adopted a unique approach to develop the computerized talent pool it hopes will be used by the next administration. The environmentalists will offer a "Competency Map" on each of the applicants for use to match

senior level jobs with specific skills. The Talent Bank doesn't want to become a "turkey roost" (the phrase give by past transition teams for large computer banks of names), says Hobson.

Project Blueprint, a coalition of the nation's major national environmental organizations, is also assembling a broad range of environmental policy recommendations which will be presented to the new administration soon after Election Day.

Copies of the newsletter or additional information can be obtained by writing the Environmental Talent Bank, 1001 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 719, Washington, DC 20036.

## Facts About Student Voter Participation

Approximately 50 percent of the 18-24 age group voted when the national voting age was lowered from 21 to 18 in 1972. The percentage dropped as low as 39 percent in 1980.

-The student voter trend began to turn around in 1984, thanks in part to the NSCVR and USSA-organized National Student Conference on Voter Registration. The conference attracted 1,500 student leaders from 42 states and resulted in the registration of over 500,000 new voters.

## Educational Loans Still Available

Three educational loan programs for North Carolina residents attending colleges in or out of state and for nonresidents attending colleges in North Carolina are still available through College Foundation Inc. in Raleigh -- for the entire 1988-89 school year or for single terms.

One program is for dependent or independent students and is based on financial need. One is for independent self-supporting students and is not based on financial need. The third is for parents of dependent students and is not based on financial need.

For more information, write College Foundation Inc., P.O. Box 12100, Raleigh, NC 27605-2100 or call 919/821-4771.

-Based on past performance, expert predictions estimate that 15-16 million young people (18-24 age group) will not vote in 1988.

-Once registered, 80 percent of students and youth vote, a percentage equivalent to other age groups.

-Voter registration procedures range from Minnesota, which allows election-day registration, to Arizona, which has a registration deadline 50 days before the election.

-Universal same-day voter registration, in combination with mail-in registration and registration at government agencies, will reduce registration barriers, allowing students greater use of their voting power.

## Joy

by Arnell Anderson

What is Joy?  
Emotion created  
A fountain overflowing...  
Like a cool, crisp water.  
Beautiful sparkling diamonds...  
Good fortune-  
Attained through luck.  
A high degree of gratification?

Joy is being happy,  
Receiving a kiss from someone you love.  
Having high spirits,  
A puppy wagging his tail across your back and licking your legs.  
Feeling great delight,  
Smelling the sweet aroma of honeysuckles  
A strong excitement...  
Producing a magnetic field.  
To life so superb.



## WHAT'S WAR REALLY LIKE?



## Walk a Mile in My Shoes: Interview a Vet

## CONTEST

"I didn't know what really happened in Vietnam. The war started before I was born, and ended before I was five. School history class hadn't caught up with it yet and few people that I knew would say more than it 'was a mistake.' So I called the only Vietnam veteran I knew..."

—Kevin Strauss, \$100 award winner of 1987 "Interview a Vet" Contest.

There's no contest like it! This is *your* chance to sit down face to face with a Vietnam Veteran and hear how the war affected the life of this one person.

This contest has two parts: In the first part we ask you to interview a Vietnam Veteran, and in the second part we ask you to express what you think and feel about what you heard by *writing* something or *making a work of art or music*.

## DEADLINE: March 15, 1989

To Enter: Send for The Interview a Vet Contest Booklet, CCCO, 2208 South Street, Philadelphia, PA 19146; 215-545-4626; or CCCO-Western Region, P.O. Box 42249, San Francisco, CA 94142; 415-552-6433.

This contest is sponsored by Veterans for Peace, Inc., Vietnam Veterans Against the War, Black Veterans for Social Justice, Veterans Education Project, and CCCO/An Agency for Military and Draft Counseling.

AGES 15-23

22 PRIZES

\$500

\$100

## Calendar Of Events

Event	Date	Time
Jamal Koram (Kenyatta's Afro Tales)	Nov. 30, 1988	8 p.m.
"For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When The Rainbow Was ENUF.."	Feb. 2, 1989	8 p.m.
Faith Journey (Tribute to Martin L. King)	Feb. 9, 1989	8 p.m.
Nikki Giovanni (Poet, Essayist)	Feb. 13, 1989	7 p.m.
Hall & Darcell-Jenkins (Art Displays)	February	

RJSC & Chesnut Library

\*Note: All activities will take place in Seabrook Auditorium unless specified otherwise.

\*\*Mark your calendar and please plan to attend.

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