

May 31, 2012

DIRECTIVE:	JOB CORPS PROGRAM INSTRUCTION NO. 11-27
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TO: ALL JOB CORPS REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF

FROM: EDNA PRIMROSE
National Director
Office of Job Corps

SUBJECT: Winners in Job Corps' Inaugural Better Occupational Opportunities for Tradeswomen Competition

1. Purpose. To inform the Job Corps Regional Offices of the Better Occupational Opportunities for Tradeswomen (B.O.O.T.) Award recipient, and to provide instructions for notifying all regional winners.
2. Background. The Office of Job Corps established the B.O.O.T. Award to recognize a female student or graduate who shows strength, courage, aptitude and commitment to launching a career in a nontraditional field, and who will represent that trade in a way that encourages other young women to pursue a similar path.

In addition, one female instructor who has dedicated her career to training Job Corps students in a nontraditional occupation will be recognized, through the Paramount Instructor Award, for her contribution to raising females' awareness through mentoring and teaching, and helping them to improve their chances of achieving a higher standard of living.

A committee of five U.S. Department of Labor staff reviewed the applications. Michelle Johnson, a carpentry student at New Haven Job Corps Center, was selected as the first B.O.O.T. Award recipient, based on the following criteria:

- Motivation and self-direction
- Passion for the trade and commitment to following a nontraditional career path
- Commitment to giving back to the community
- Exceeding expectations of self and others

Ms. Johnson, a young mother, has excelled in her trade, earned the respect of her peers, exhibited poise and self-confidence, and demonstrated the skills and abilities necessary to succeed in her chosen field. She recently took the pre-apprenticeship test with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, and is hoping to earn a position with a local union.

Applications for the Paramount Instructor Award were evaluated by the same committee and rated on the following criteria:

- Passion for teaching
- Accomplishments in the field
- Ability to connect with students
- Length of service to Job Corps

Ms. Pam Livingston-Lewis, welding instructor at Weber Basin Job Corps Center, is an example of a woman who faced significant challenges in her early career, but found the strength and determination to break into the field of welding. She triumphed not only as a welder, but as a teacher, mentor, and role model for other women trying to succeed in the industry.

3. Action. Ms. Johnson will receive an upgraded carpentry tool set and \$500 cash prize, along with the hand-carved boot to recognize her outstanding achievement. In consultation with the Boston Regional Office, the National Director will present the award to her during a public forum. Ms. Livingston-Lewis will receive her certificate from the Dallas Regional Office and also receive formal recognition from the National Director.

Diamond Award winners and honorees receiving Certificates of Recognition will be formally acknowledged by the Regional Directors. Regional Directors may choose the best format for making the presentations, i.e., teleconference, videoconference, planned center visit or regional meeting. However, they are asked to complete the presentations before students depart for summer break, which begins June 28, 2012. As stated in Program Instruction Notice 11-20 dated February 21, 2012, plaques and certificates are to be procured by each regional office.

The following students will be recognized as Diamond Award winners in their individual regions:

Student Recipient	Region	Center	Career Technical Training Program
Johanna Clendenning (Graduate)	Philadelphia	Red Rock	Plumbing
Gabrielle Barber (Graduate)	Atlanta	Gainesville	Facilities Maintenance/Advanced Training – Solar
Lateisha Raven	Dallas	Guthrie	Carpentry
Andrea Williams (Graduate)	Chicago	Excelsior Springs	Painting
Alyssa Negrete (Graduate)	San Francisco	Tongue Point	Carpentry

4. Expiration Date. June 30, 2012.

5. Inquiries. Additional questions should be addressed to Tracy Bradshaw-Morris at (202) 693-8000 or bradshaw-morris.tracy@dol.gov.