

# VIP Mentoring E-Update



VIP MENTORING

November 7, 2007



*Caroline Kennedy, daughter of the late President John F. Kennedy, met with VIP youth at the Ann Arbor, Borders Book Store.*

*Caroline Kennedy (Top)*

*Top row ( L to R) Charles Penn, Kamera Holliday, Brianna Rowe, Sarah McCoy*

*Bottom row (L-R) Destiny Williams, Jocelyn Hall, Jhari Hall, Kiersten Akins (Not in photo) Angela Harris, Dashanay Williams, Shayla Davis.*

## A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

VIP Mentoring collaborating with First Book and Borders Book Store helped to kick off the book tour of Caroline Kennedy's book "A Family Christmas". All of the proceeds from Caroline's book sold on Thursday's will be used by First Book to help young people. First book is a national literacy organization that assists low income youth by presenting them with their own new books. VIP Mentoring previous received a "gift" from the organization and was invited to represent Southeast Michigan at the November 1<sup>st</sup> program in Ann Arbor.

At the start of a special program with the VIP youth Caroline Kennedy read aloud a letter she wrote to Santa in 1962. In the letter she asked for a real pet reindeer. The thought brought smiles to the children's faces and afterward questions like, did you ever get everything you asked for, asked Brianna " Ms. Kennedy answered "NO ...but I thought I might as well ask" After several well asked questions the children had an opportunity to impress Ms. Kennedy with their skills.



*Caroline Kennedy personally signed each of the books. Above Charles Penn from VIP Moting's Fleming Academy program receives his book and a smile.*

Four nervous but poised youth took a turn and read aloud to Ms. Kennedy a poem "Little Christmas Tree, by EE Cummings from her book. As several cameras filmed their effort each youth stood and read aloud. As they concluded Caroline voiced her approval and the young people shyly returned her smile.

After the short program the eleven VIP youth received a personalized signed copy of her book. As she signed each book Ms. Kennedy took the opportunity to reinforce the good reading skills the children had demonstrated earlier and encourage their continued study.

After a heartfelt thank you and good bye Ms. Kennedy went off to sign books for hundreds of waiting admirers. Each VIP youth was provided with a twenty-five dollar gift card which they used to purchase an additional new book of their own to take home.



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