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## BDPA CINCINNATI

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"Advancing careers from the classroom to the boardroom" is the main focus of the Black Data Processing Associates (BDPA) of Cincinnati. One of over fifty (50) national, BDPA chapters in the United States, BDPA Cincinnati is a volunteer organization that offers adult professional development and student programs focused on information technology (IT). Per the BDPA Cincinnati chapter's website, BDPA Cincinnati's goals are to "help strengthen the expertise of minority members in the information technology community, offer this expertise to those minorities evaluating information technology for career or business potential, and broaden the information technology knowledge of the Greater Cincinnati community as a whole."

"BDPA Cincinnati Chapter is a leader within BDPA [national]", said Janice A. Lee, immediate past BDPA Cincinnati Chapter President. The award winning BDPA Cincinnati Chapter has been recognized by the national BDPA organization for numerous merits including Chapter of the Year, IT Showcase High School Winners, Chapter Community Service Award, and Professional Services Award. Since chapter chartering in 1989, BDPA Cincinnati has awarded an estimated \$37,500 in scholarships to high school students. Since chapter inception, over 970 IT professionals and students have been a member of the organization.

BDPA Cincinnati offers an array of adult professional IT programs, development, and opportunities including:

- monthly program meetings on a variety of technical, career, and social topics;
- access to quarterly technical and professional workshops and seminars;



### Cincinnati Chapter

*BDPA Cincinnati is one of fifty (50) national BDPA chapters in the United States.*



*BDPA Cincinnati wins the 2009 Professional Development Award at BDPA Annual Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina. The Cincinnati High School Computer Competition (HSCC) Team poses with chapter award.*

- invaluable opportunities for networking with a variety of industry and non-industry professionals; and
- opportunities for leadership development and engagement on both the local and national level;

In addition, the BDPA Cincinnati Chapter, under the auspices of the National BDPA, is a Project Management Institute Registered Education Provider. In February 2010, BDPA Cincinnati will offer a six week Project Management Professional (PMP) workshop learning series. Open to members and non-members, the series is designed to build PMP knowledge and prepare those enrolled for the PMP exam. To date, twenty-one (21) corporate IT professionals have participated in BDPA Cincinnati's PMP workshop.

For area youth, BDPA Cincinnati offers opportunities for students considering a future in IT or who want to learn more about technology. Through a variety of programs, BDPA helps students develop technical skills, and connect with role models. Student programs include:

- High School Computer Competition (HSCC), an instructional computer competition program that emphasizes the development of team-building skills, logical thinking skills, presentation skills and programming;
- Introductory website development, and

- IT Showcase, a showcase of college and high school students (at the local and national levels) demonstrating their research and theories in the fields of advance information technology.

"Throughout my BDPA journey, there were a lot of opportunities for me to learn and experience new things," said Ramala Andemariam, HSCC Alumni (2003-2005) and University of Cincinnati Class of 2010. "It is by far the best educational and fun experience I've had to date."

Since 1989, BDPA Cincinnati envisioned "advancing careers from the classroom to the boardroom". The Cincinnati chapter's success has resulted from the tireless efforts of members and volunteers to build IT knowledge among members and the community, professional mentoring and networking, collaboration with and support from corporate sponsors, and the steadfast commitment to build IT knowledge and career interest among students.

To learn more about BDPA Cincinnati, join, or register for classes/events, visit [www.bdpa-cincy.org](http://www.bdpa-cincy.org).

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