



Bill Purcell, Mayor

# News Release

Metropolitan Action Commission

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Cynthia L. Croom, Executive Director

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## **Metropolitan Action Hosts Annual ‘Cap and Gown’ Graduation Ceremony**

**Nashville---** Approximately 45 students adorned in caps and gowns will receive their GED diploma from the Metropolitan Action Commission’s Adult Education Department at the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual GED (General Equivalency Diploma) Graduation Ceremony on Thursday, June 21 at 11:00 a.m.

Dereck Young, President of Bridges Academy, which will open this fall as Nashville’s first college preparatory school for inner city boys, will serve as the keynote speaker at the graduation. Young also serves as the Chairman of Diversity for the Nashville Chamber of Commerce and Chair-elect of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Concert Committee for the Nashville Symphony Board of Directors.

Young, who describes himself as “a first generation college graduate from a single parent home in a St. Louis housing project development,” was selected as speaker because many students of the Metro Action GED program have chosen to further their education at schools such as Volunteer State Community College, Nashville State Community College, Middle Tennessee State University and Benedict College in South Carolina.

“It is an honor for the Metropolitan Action Commission to witness the accomplishments of the participants in our GED Program. Many of the students have plans to pursue a college degree or are gainfully employed. We are excited about their transformation,” said Cynthia Croom, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Action Commission.

The location of the ceremony is Martin Luther King, Jr. Magnet High School, located at 613 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, North.

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