



ST. HOPE

# Pipeline

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[www.sthope.org](http://www.sthope.org)

FINAL EDITION

## 2008 St. HOPE Dinner Big Success

Raising more than \$300,000, the 2008 St. HOPE Dinner that took place on Friday, September 26 is proclaimed to be one of the best of all time! There were several highlights throughout the evening including a dance performance and a video produced by Sac High students, the student diarists and of course Shaquille O'Neal. Ronnie West who once again served as the event's MC, began the event by announcing that each table would be joined by two St. HOPE students or teachers in honor of the public education theme.



Sac High student volunteers prepare for guests to arrive.

Once again, the personal stories of the three St. HOPE diarists stole the show before a silent and captivated audience. Their tremendous courage was recognized by a standing ovation. Mother Rose was pleased to announce this year's Beacon of HOPE recipient as none other than St. HOPE Development Company board member Dan Cole. Dan, who has been a dedicated St. HOPE supporter for many years and also serves on the Board of Directors and the Dinner Committee. This year's Educator of the Year was a special surprise as the Sac High co-principals PK Diffenbaugh and Ed Manansala were recognized for their commitment and dedication over the past 5 years. 8<sup>th</sup> grader Jordan Giles was accepted the PS7 Student of the Year award, followed by Sac High Senior Kathy Saechou who gave a moving speech as the Sac High Student of the Year.

Before introducing Shaq, St. HOPE's founder Kevin Johnson addressed the audience with a passionate speech about St. HOPE's accomplishments and asked the more than 50 students in the audience to join him on stage. To close-out the event, Shaq appeared from behind the stage wearing a 70's afro wig and lip-synching to a Jackson 5 song as Sac High students danced in the background. His speech drew much laughter from the audience as he thanked Sacramento for a good time and also made his fair share of digs on the Sacramento Kings.

St. HOPE Would like to thank all of the many sponsors and supporters who made this Year's Dinner a special event.

## Event Photos



PS7 Student of the Year, Jordan Giles.



Shaq warms up the crowd.



St. HOPE students from New York attend Dinner.



Shaq gives Mother Rose a Rose.



Shaq and Kevin have fun with the media.



MC Ronnie West presents student of the year award to Kathy Saechou.



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**EVENT PROGRAMS and DVD's are now available for purchase!**

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<http://www.sthope.org/StHOPEDinner.php>