

Crusading for Pawtucket's young writers

College Crusade of RI,
Capeverdean American
Community
Development sponsor
writing workshop

PAWTUCKET — High school students from The College Crusade of Rhode Island are meeting for ten Saturday mornings in Pawtucket this spring to learn how to become better writers. The students, who are all residents of Pawtucket and Central Falls, are participating in a special College Crusade program called "Critical Thinking & Writing Workshop on Media Literacy." The workshop, which helps students sharpen their writing skills and improve their ability to analyze media messages, is being held in the new Chief George L. Kelley III computer lab at the Capeverdean American Community Development (CACD) Corporation on High Street in Pawtucket.

"We are very grateful to Capeverdean American Community Development for donating the use of its impressive new computer facility so that we can hold this workshop for Crusaders locally," said Todd D. Flaherty, President & CEO of The College Crusade. "Proficiency in writing and the ability to do critical analysis are essential skills for our students to develop. This opportunity to use the latest computer technology will enhance their learning experience. We thank Capeverdean American Community Development for its generosity and for supporting the educational aspira-



Romana Ramos of Capeverdean American Community Development (second from left in middle row) joins students from The College Crusade's high school writing workshop.

Submitted photo

tions of Crusaders."

"Promoting education for young people is a central focus of our mission as an organization," said Romana Ramos, President of CACD's Board of Directors. "We are eager to share our resources to benefit the youth in our community, and partnering with The College Crusade's educational programs is a perfect way for us to contribute."

The College Crusade's high

school writing workshop is based on a curriculum originally developed by David Ahlborn, who teaches English at The Wheeler School in Providence. The curriculum combines lessons in grammar and writing style conventions with exercises drawn from print, broadcast, and digital media imagery that high school students are exposed to every day. The workshop instructor this spring is Victor

Omoayo, a former Crusader and Providence resident who holds a B.A. in Journalism from the University of Rhode Island and an M.A. in Visual Media Arts from Emerson College.

Celebrating over 20 years, The College Crusade of Rhode Island is the state's most comprehensive college-readiness and scholarship program for middle school and high school students in low-

income urban school districts. It serves approximately 3,500 students per year and rewards their efforts and achievements with up to four years of college scholarships. From grade 6 through grade 12, Crusaders experience the steady, nurturing presence of caring adults and participate year-round in activities that focus on academic enrichment, social and personal development, career awareness and exploration,

and readiness for college. Since 2001, The College Crusade has awarded over \$22 million in college scholarships to more than 2,800 graduates from Rhode Island high schools.

The College Crusade is a nonprofit organization funded by federal and state taxes, and by private corporations, foundations, and individuals. For more information, visit www.thecollegecrusade.org.