

mom CONGRESS™



Educational Provider
GEORGETOWN
UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF CONTINUING STUDIES

WILMINGTON MOM WINS TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C. TO REPRESENT DELAWARE AT *PARENTING* MAGAZINE'S MOM CONGRESS ON EDUCATION AND LEARNING CONFERENCE THIS MAY

DEBRA HEFFERNAN TO JOIN *PARENTING*, U.S. SECRETARY OF EDUCATION ARNE DUNCAN, AND ONE OUTSTANDING MOM EDUCATION ADVOCATE FROM EVERY STATE AT GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY MAY 2-4

Wilmington, Delaware, April, 2010 – *Parenting* magazine today announced that Debra Heffernan of Wilmington has been selected to represent Delaware at the inaugural Mom Congress on Education and Learning Conference at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. this May 2nd through 4th. Debra Heffernan was chosen for her outstanding contributions and dedication to improving local schools. A total of fifty-one moms, representing each state and the District of Columbia, have been selected by *Parenting* as Mom Congress delegates.

Each delegate was selected from applications submitted at Parenting.com, and will receive round-trip airfare, a two-night hotel stay, and the opportunity to connect with other moms from across the country to share success stories, challenges, and concerns as they work to improve our nation's schools.

“It is an honor to be selected to represent Delaware as the Outstanding Mom Advocate for Education” ,says Debra Heffernan of her excitement to be a part of Mom Congress, “As a volunteer, I have been able to create positive change in the Brandywine School District and I advocate for all children, teachers and parents throughout the state of Delaware.”

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan is among the roster of education and advocacy leaders scheduled to address the mom education advocates at the Mom Congress Conference. On Monday, May 3rd, Secretary Duncan will speak to attendees about the crucial role that parents play in helping implement the national agenda for improving the country's school system and the educational opportunities available to our nation's children.

The Mom Congress delegates will work towards creating *Parenting's* “Lesson Plan for Change”, a guide to help empower parents nationwide to get more involved in their children's education. Attendees will work with members of the Mom Congress advisory board, which includes leaders from the National PTA, the National Education Association, PBS, MomsRising, the George Lucas Educational Foundation and others. Faculty members from Georgetown University's School of Continuing Studies – the Mom Congress educational provider – will also lead sessions during the event, and will offer scholarships to 10 outstanding mom advocates per semester.

Driven by the ever-increasing role that parents play in advocating for positive change in the education system, *Parenting* magazine launched the Mom Congress initiative in March 2009 to celebrate and connect moms fighting for better schools. Each month, the School Years edition of *Parenting* gives readers the education news and resources they need to make a difference, and

highlights one of 16,000+ Mom Congress members whose efforts have brought about positive change for students.

For more information, visit Parenting.com/momcongress.