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Brock welcomes Pathways to Education Program™ graduate

On Sept. 16, a graduation ceremony was held for the first graduating class of the Toronto-based Pathways to Education Program™, which was founded in 2001. The Regent Park Community Health Centre initiative is a community-based program designed to reduce poverty and its effects by supporting the development of youths from economically disadvantaged communities by addressing the two principal social determinants of health: education and income.

Brock is proud to welcome Agazi Afewerki, a graduate of the Pathways to Education Program™, to the University. Afewerki, who started his classes at the beginning of September and is living in residence on campus, is currently enrolled in his first year of study in Brock's Film Studies program. He received a Brock Scholar's Award and Brock is matching the full value of the \$4,000 bursary he earned from his successful completion of the Pathway to Education Program™.

"Based on my personal interest and past experiences in independent film making, Brock's Film Studies program seemed like a perfect fit for what I wanted to do with my education," says the 17-year-old Afewerki.

Pathways to Education provides four integrated supports over four years of secondary school: tutoring four nights per week; TTC tickets earned through attendance, plus a \$4,000 bursary for post-secondary registration/tuition; group and specialty/career mentoring; and Student Parent Support Workers who act as a bridge between the community, parents, students, schools and program.

Students, together with their parent(s), sign contracts to participate in the program and have done so in record numbers. The not-for-profit organization, which is entirely funded by the private sector, is being touted as a "best practice" in youth inclusion work. You can find out more about the Pathways to Education Program™ at: www.p2e.ca

For more information about Brock's partnership with the Pathways to Education Program™, please contact Rico Natale, Student Awards and Financial Aid, at 905-688-5550, ext. 3443; e-mail: rnatale@brocku.ca