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Computers4Kids Graduates 30 more students

CHARLOTTESVILLE (May 2, 2003)— Computers4Kids (C4K) has 30 more success stories to tell. On Tuesday, May 6th, C4K will graduate 30 Charlottesville and Albemarle County youth and community mentors who successfully completed C4K's computer training program.

Established in 1999, Computers4Kids is a local non-profit organization whose goal is to close the gap between area children who can afford to have a home computer and those who cannot. The organization obtains computers from individuals or corporations which are then refurbished and given appropriate software by volunteers before being donated to deserving students who, without the program, would not have a computer in the home. In addition to providing the computer, C4K offers free computer training and matches every youth with a volunteer mentor. Together the mentor and student creatively explore various aspects of the computer and technology. The mentor/student interaction is as much about friendship and support as it is about education.

The Spring 2003 graduating class, consisting of thirteen young women and seventeen young men, attended training sessions at the C4K Lab on Grove Street. Each worked with their mentor on such projects as creating games in Macromedia Flash, using computer software to create music, creating Web sites, designing T-shirts, making movies using iMovie, and using the Internet to research careers and cost-of-living.

The Spring graduation ceremony will be held at Alumni Hall at the University of Virginia. This will be the third class to complete the C4K program. This graduating class is double the size of the previous graduating classes, bringing a total of 59 students who have completed the program.

Computers4Kids is always looking for mentors and volunteers. For additional information on the program, call Computers4Kids at 817-1121 or visit their website: www.computers4kids.net.