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**URSINUS COLLEGE GRAD STRENGTHENS PHILADELPHIA'S  
NON-PROFIT SECTOR  
Ursinus Alumna Begins Challenging Non-Profit Fellowship Program**

A 2009 graduate of Ursinus College recently began her fellowship at Philly Fellows, a year-long program which offers top first-year graduates of local colleges the opportunity to serve in Philadelphia's non-profit sector and engage in the city's vibrant culture. Amy Kiyota and the 19 other fellows live in Philly Fellows houses across the city. She is now working full-time as the Research and Communications Fellow at the Philadelphia Education Fund.

The Philadelphia Education Fund is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of public education for underserved youth throughout the Philadelphia region. As the Research and Communications Fellow, Kiyota is developing the necessary tools to effectively communicate how the organization's work, as demonstrated by its data, impacts the quality of public education.

Philly Fellows connects motivated graduates with meaningful positions where they can make a difference in their city. In addition to working 40 hours per week at partnering non-profits in positions where they can build capacity and develop new skills, fellows have regular opportunities to participate in programs, events, and projects which build community while helping develop leadership skills and a network of social and professional connections in Philadelphia.

Philly Fellows has become increasingly competitive, as more college seniors develop an interest in living and working in Philadelphia. The challenging non-profit positions available through the program and the community living component are highly appealing to college students about to enter the work force. For the 2009-2010 fellowship year, the program received 257 applications for 20 fellowship slots.

The Ursinus alumna is excited about the opportunity to make a difference in the area she attended college. "I was really torn when deciding which career path to choose as I was finishing school," says Kiyota. "However, I knew that I wanted to choose something that was not only important to me, but important for social justice and education. Philly Fellows has opened the door to non-profits for me and has made living in Philadelphia feasible and fun because of the friendships and connections that are made available to us." The non-profits where the fellows work are equally enthusiastic about having them on board; Philly Fellows help their agencies to start new projects and strengthen existing initiatives, ultimately helping to alleviate conditions of poverty in the communities they serve.

Amy Kiyota is the first Ursinus alum to participate in the program. Philly Fellows looks forward to building a relationship with Ursinus College and working with more talented graduates in the future. Philly Fellows will be back on campus in November to hold information sessions for seniors about applying to the program for the 2010-2011 fellowship year.

For more information about the program, visit [www.phillyfellows.org](http://www.phillyfellows.org).

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