



## Digital Edge's CEO Michael Petrov, named Staten Island's Man of the Year

New York, NY –November 1, 2009- CEO of Digital Edge, named Man of the Year at Wagner College's Mosaic Coalition event Sunday. Post September 11, 2001 civic, religious, and political leaders gathered together monthly to discuss their ideas on how to connect diverse cultures, in order to overcome the ignorance and fear, while trying to promote intercultural awareness. From these gatherings, Wagner College and the NYCID (New York Center for Interpersonal Development) formed the Mosaic Coalition. This Coalition is a collaboration of ethnic cultures showcased yearly at the Spiro Sports Center on Wagner College's Grymes Hill Campus, to enhance a clear view of cultural understanding and to encourage an open-mind for all inherent differences.

On November 1, 2009, music, live performances, a collection of multi-national foods, and games filled up the Spiro Sports Center with vibrant colors and an incredible aroma. Tents lined the gym packed with an inviting appearance garnished with vivid artwork, displayed for guest's enjoyment; the goal... to entice people to walk around gaining knowledge, building relationships, and ultimately strengthening the community of Staten Island.

A crowd of hundreds filled the room, eagerly watching and engulfing themselves into all of the ancient marvels that was surrounding them. Wonder and amazement depict the looks on people's faces as they watched the Egyptian belly dancer balance a sword over her head while dancing and the Ghanaians perform a stomp with Native American drummers. The performances went on as each country's representatives presented an illustration through art and dance to communicate their native heritage.

Towards the end of the event, the board for the Mosaic Coalition presented awards to their honorees for their donations and dedication to Staten Island. Mr. Michael Petrov, honored as Man of the Year received a Certificate of Achievement from Senator Andrew J. Lanza for his unprecedented commitment and multiple contributions to not only the community, but to Staten Island Public Schools. Mr. Michael Petrov, along with his company Digital Edge has continuously been a recognized affiliate for the borough of Staten Island, helping to build up the community through enhancements within technology. Digital Edge hosts yearly sponsorships for Staten Island High Schools, and recently became a Pencil member, one of the only companies to participate within Staten Island.

"As an IT Professional, improving operational strategies is a part of who I am. I believe that changes and improvements should not just be made within the workplace, but everywhere. Every part of your life is based in part on the lives of others that surround you and the environment you are accustomed. People learn from their peers and become part of their communities; entrenching themselves with the influences that are within their perimeter. So I know that by improving my surroundings, I will be improving not only myself, but the lives that circumference me. So I work within my community to improve schools and build up cultural awareness for my children, your children, all people; in hopes that intolerance will be eliminated and that students will push themselves to higher greatness, forging a better tomorrow."

- Michael Petrov

All the works that Mr. Michael Petrov and Digital Edge perform are done with hopes that other companies will join in to assist in the build a stronger future for kids in the Staten Island Community.