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Ald. Ashanti Hamilton  
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## Be the Change Celebrates First Students to Complete Program

**Alderman Ashanti Hamilton**, in conjunction with Dr. Gregory Thornton, Superintendent of Milwaukee Public Schools, is hosting the culmination ceremony for the inaugural class of the **Be the Change** program. The event, which will take place in the **City Hall rotunda TODAY at 5:30 p.m.**, will honor the 72 young men who completed the five-week program.

“I’m so proud to see how the community came together and offered up their knowledge, passion and commitment to create this opportunity for our students. Recognizing the students’ dedication and work is an incredible reward for us all,” Alderman Hamilton said.

The program, launched earlier this summer, brings together community based organizations, Dr. Thornton, MPS and the City of Milwaukee, including the alderman and the mayor, to provide a structured program for young men to study literacy, leadership and life skills. For five weeks, the students met at Washington High School four days a week to study, work together and be mentored.

“Now the work begins,” Alderman Hamilton said. “The core of the program is to follow these students through their school year and to make ourselves and other resources available to them through continued mentoring and opportunities to stay on track.”

The culmination ceremony includes presentations of the work the students did and recognition of the students. The event is open to the public, and the media is invited to attend.