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## Graduate! Philadelphia in running for national Lodestar award

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Philadelphia Business Journal - by Peter Key

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Reporter

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A collaborative effort among Philadelphia nonprofits to help area residents with college credits complete their work for a degree has been named a semifinalist for a national award.

Graduate! Philadelphia is one of 20 semifinalists for The 2011 Collaboration Prize, which will be awarded by The Lodestar Foundation. The semifinalists were selected from more than 800 nominees. Early next month, eight will be named finalists and awarded \$12,500. The grand prize winner will be selected in April and receive an additional \$150,000.

Graduate! Philadelphia is a joint initiative of the **Philadelphia Workforce Investment Board** and the United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania. It is operated in partnership with the Philadelphia Education Fund and is funded by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and the city of Philadelphia. It has teamed up with 15 Philadelphia-area colleges and universities that offer courses that are convenient for adults.

In September, [Graduate! Philadelphia](#) received an \$800,000 from the [Lumina Foundation](#) to replicate its program in at least three other cities.

The Lodestar Foundation of Phoenix is devoted to maximizing the growth and impact of philanthropy.

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