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Jesse's love of computing began at a very early age. Once during his time in day care we were advised that Jesse's computer privileges were being withheld for a week due to his having "hacked" a teacher's computer. According to Jesse, they used 'teacher' as a password and he thought that was "totally inappropriate."

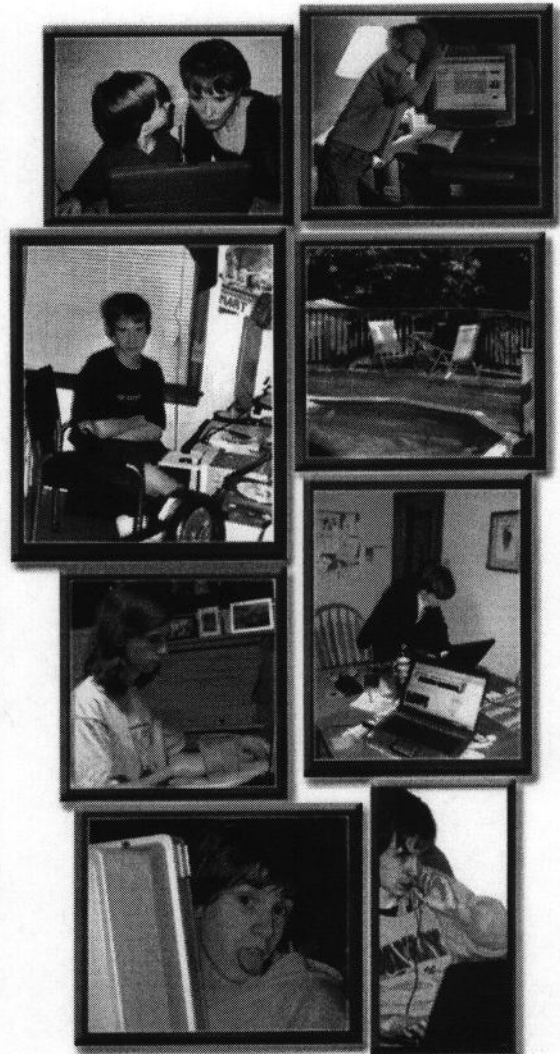
As he grew so did his desire to learn all things computer-related. It was apparent that technology would be a life long passion and a driving force in most everything he did.

While attending Cardinal Valley Elementary, Jesse was often called upon to help teachers and staff with printer problems, software upgrades and computer instruction. He did so willingly and patiently and enjoyed helping others in what came so easily to him. During this time Jesse met the tech coordinator from Dunbar High who asked that Jesse simply skip middle school and jump to Dunbar where his tech skills were needed. As a student at Leestown Math Science and Technology Magnet Middle Jesse's involvement in the Student Technology Leadership Program became yet another venue for him to help others. He started to learn coding and scripting and became involved in the open source movement.

Over many holidays and breaks Jesse spent time working at schools performing whatever tech service was needed. From 2003 through 2006 he was a summer intern at Dunbar and became an important member of the "nerd herd." His fellow classmates from the MSTC program and the overall student population as well as the Dunbar staff counted on Jesse's tech talents and called upon him regularly both inside the classroom and out.

More than once his talents got him in trouble - he "crashed" his first computer at the age of six; in elementary school he managed to connect to a server at another school; in high school he was known to magically retrieve a friends homework assignment from their home computer while at school.

But his desire was to learn everything he could - and he did. He filled many hours with late night postings on a variety of forums - he became involved in the virtual community of Second Life. He seemed to know every new, better, faster, program or application available and he never hesitated to share them with others. He was a beta tester for GMail, he was among the earliest users of Facebook and Twitter, and he never stopped promoting and working for and with the open source community. His legacy continues all over his precious "internetz."



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Jesse C. Higginbotham  
236 Liverpool Road  
Lexington, KY 40504

**Education**

Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, Lexington, Kentucky, 11th grade, AP English, AP Chemistry, Advanced Political Science, Advanced Pre-Calculus  
Math, Science and Technology Magnet program, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, Lexington, Kentucky, 10th grade  
Leestown Middle School, Lexington, Kentucky, 8th grade  
Magnet Classes in Natural Sciences, Chem./Physics I & II, Pre-Algebra Algebra I, Geometry, Computers & Me (6th & 7th grades), Pre-Engineering 6th & 7th grades), Modular Technology Education

**Professional experience**

Web Design, various businesses and personal websites  
Hosting setup and support, weblog setup and support, various personal and professional websites  
Wired and Wireless Network Support, Lexington Living Arts and Science Center  
Technical Support and Maintenance, Lexington Habitat for Humanity  
CyberCave Telecommunications Camp, Murray, Kentucky  
Summer Intern, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, Technology Department, Jim Adams supervisor, 2003 – 2006  
Online Freelance programming  
Online Support for ArchLinux users  
Development and Maintenance of Avahi  
Troubleshoot, technical assistance and computer instruction for various businesses and personal computer users. MozillaZine Forums New User Support  
Contributor LibSecondLife, IRC, Ruby On Rails  
Co-Founder, J & J Tech Solutions, Lexington, Kentucky

**Programming experience**

PHP, Universal Person Locator Service Beta 1, HTML, Flash, C++, BASIC, Visual BASIC, QBASIC, JavaScripting, Mozilla XUL Plug in Development, Mozilla Firebird Theme Development, Microsoft Beta Program, Visual Basic >NET, C#, Java, .NET Framework versions 1.1 and 2

**Memberships**

President, Student Council 2003-2004  
Vice-President, Student Council 2002-2003  
Member, Academic Team 2002-2004  
Student Technology Leadership Program 1997-present  
Member, Math Team 2002-2003  
Member, Beta Club, Junior Division, 2003-2004  
Superintendent Student Cabinet, 2003-2004  
Publisher, Leestown Loud-Mouth school newspaper, 2003-2004  
Lampighter, Paul Laurence Dunbar newspaper, 2006-present

**Awards**

Winner, NACKES Science Award, 2001, Northern Kentucky University  
Winner, Stockholm Junior Water prize, 2001, Northern Kentucky University  
Winner, Kentucky American Science Fair, 2002 & 2003  
Proficient writer award, 2003, Leestown Math, Science & Technology Magnet School  
Team Class Award, 2003  
Academic Excellence Award, 2003  
Spanish Award, 2003


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In honor of all that he aspired to do, the Jesse Higginbotham Technology Trust was established to continue advancing Jesse's ideas in the realm of that which was most important to him - technology. The trust is a Kentucky 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation.

During his too-brief life, Jesse's contributions were immeasurable: from the countless hours he volunteered at schools and businesses in Lexington, to the many individuals whose technology "emergencies" he solved, to the innumerable late nights posting on forums and participating in Second Life, his passion was exemplified - that all who knew him would somehow benefit from his knowledge. And that all who knew him would be touched by his gifts of not only computer expertise but also contagious enthusiasm and laughter.

Please click the Projects button to learn more about our ongoing work in Jesse's name and honor.

Donations are **Tax-Deductible** and may be made to:  
The Jesse Higginbotham Technology Trust, Inc.  
236 Liverpool Road  
Lexington, KY 40504

 Donations are also accepted by PayPal



April 2007



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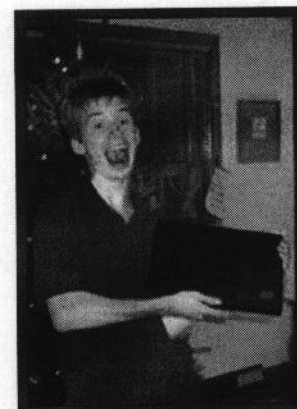
#### Vision and Mission of The Jesse Higginbotham Technology Trust, Inc.

We envision Cardinal Valley and the Lexington area becoming the most technologically advanced community in the world. The following is a list of our current and future projects:

- Awarding grants and scholarships to students pursuing technology as an educational goal
- Donating to other organizations promoting technology for children and young adults
- Supporting others who have made contributions in technology in a manner similar to Jesse's
- Placing computers in the homes of students who could not otherwise afford them via the **Mindtriggerz Project**
  - Encouraging students of technology to become mentors to others
- Promoting recycling, repurposing and other environmental practices in both the realms of technology and in our environment.

One of the first goals of the Trust was the creation of a **memorial garden** at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School - a project initially conceived as students mourned the loss of fellow classmate Josh Shipman in October of 2006. Jesse had been actively involved in the project.

The garden is a place of sanctuary for students and the community to remember the young men and women of Dunbar who are no longer among us. Visit our "projects" link to learn more. To help with any of our projects, please contact us.



"Surprise" new laptop  
December 2006



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While our work continues to expand and evolve, there are two primary projects of the Jesse Higginbotham Technology Trust:

**mindtriggerz**

The Mindtriggerz Project refurbishes donated computers and components, installs educational software and then places them in the homes of children in our area who could not otherwise afford them.

**garden**

The Dunbar Memorial Garden is located on the campus of Jesse's high school and was originally planned as a way for students to honor the lives of classmates they had lost. Jesse was working on this project prior to his accident.

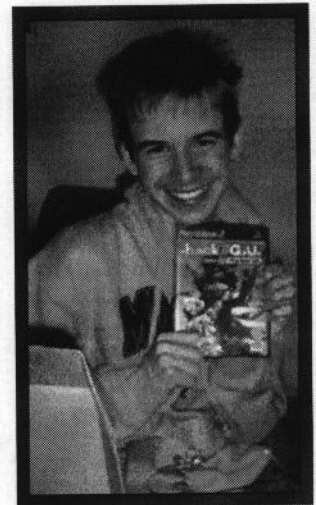
Spencerian College grants a Jesse Higginbotham scholarship each year to a student from Dunbar who demonstrates financial need and pursues a degree in the field of Technology. The first annual scholarship sponsored by the Trust was awarded to James Richardson, a Dunbar student who exemplifies Jesse's spirit of sharing and giving.

The Trust, in conjunction with Dunbar's school newspaper, also gives an Award each year to a student on staff who, like Jesse, assists in the technological aspect of the "Lamplighter." We also give an annual "Best Community Influence" Award to graduating Seniors who have worked diligently with us at the garden.

The Jesse Higginbotham Technology Trust, through Kentucky's "Adopt A Highway" program, sponsors regular cleanups along the Versailles Road corridor at the site of Jesse's accident.

**second life**

Jesse's involvement in the virtual community of Second Life was passionate, relentless and well-known among its members. **The Jesse Malthus Award for Best Community Influence** is given in honor of Jesse, and named for his avatar. Click the SL button for details.



Christmas 2006



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