



VIDEO TEAM TAKES CENTER STAGE

These are heady days for the video team at HarlemLive. Under the guidance of adult volunteer Michael Homolka, assisted by HL video editor Aisha Al-Muslim and HL alumnae Al-Amir Jordan, HL's video team has been the most productive arm of the program this year. In September 2003, Michael began assisting our teens on video production – shooting, editing, and posting their video pieces on the web. Our efforts to increase the capacity of our video team will intensify later this month when **Manhattan Neighborhood Network** (MNN) begins conducting workshops for 10 members of our video team.



Initiated by alumnae Neruda Williams, HL contacted Manhattan Neighborhood Network to begin training to give polish to the short reports that are currently posted on our website on a weekly basis and then to work on larger projects like a news magazine program and **She Speaks**, the video medium of the **She Thang**.

Beginning April 17, MNN begins a 10-week workshop on the making of a documentary. Not only will the participants refine their shooting and editing skills, this workshop will include field training, and later, in the studio on-air production that will enable HarlemLive to adapt concepts learned in their basic journalism classes to a visual medium.

"It'll tighten up our shooting techniques so we can better cover the issues in the community. We can also put our stories on public access where we can have a wider audience," said Homolka.

Following the 10 week field training conducted at HL's headquarters, there will be an additional 8-week in studio training at

MNN on Manhattan's Upper West Side. We expect this initiative will culminate in an original video project for cable television.

Martin Luther King sophomore Oscar Brown hopes the classes increase the team's skills in lighting, transition effects, and voice-overs. "Hopefully we'll start covering larger events and produce more background to our stories and have more variety in what we shoot."

This is the second time in the last several months that a new initiative at HarlemLive was instigated by an alumnus, this time by Williams. Besides the half hour news magazine, Williams and fellow alumnae Melvin Johnson have a concept for a reality show as well. Donald Trump, look out!

HL DIRECTOR MAKES THE CUT

HarlemLive made the first cut of the applicants to the Ford Foundation sponsored **Leadership for Change** competition. Last year's editor-in-chief, Eddie Aung, nominated director and founder Richard Calton for the award.

Leadership for a Changing World seeks to recognize, strengthen and support leaders and to highlight the importance of community leadership in improving people's lives. Each year, Leadership for a Changing World recognizes 17-20 leaders and leadership groups not broadly known beyond their immediate community or field. HarlemLive fulfills several of the areas of interest to the foundation including: community development, citizen participation, youth development and finally access to media, including new technologies.

For more information about the

TEENS LINK INTERNATIONALLY

program, contract their website, www.leadershipforchange.org.

"Harlemlive was something that opened my eyes on the world," said Russian exchange student Darya Zolotova, "To see 17-year old kids who've already achieved so much It's something I'll remember all my life."

Zolotova participated in last year's **Project Harmony** a series of workshops for participants of the US State Department-funded Future Leaders Exchange Program. Last year four HL youth were flown to Middlebury College in Vermont to conduct workshops with 30 high school exchange students from 12 former Soviet countries. The HL staff



were such a hit, they were asked to attend again this year. Web designer Shem Rajoon, Editor Chris Davis, Video Editor Aisha Al-Muslim and She Thang Editor Ashleigh Covington represented HL.

The HL teens were there to teach the youth how to create web magazines with few resources, of which HL has been an expert. HarlemLive was there to encourage them and to let them know there are teenagers doing the same thing in their own community," said veteran HL member, Rajoon.

"For me, I get a chance to see that people all over the world are not much different than we are. We have the

HL ALUMNAE TEACHES JUNIOR SCHOLARS

Every Saturday at HarlemLive's newsroom, Alumnae Justin Young teaches Photoshop classes as part of the Schomburg's Junior Scholars program. We are excited to be connected with this incredible program

"The youth, mostly 12 to 14, are getting experience using computers. They're learning better internet skills and are becoming technology users," said Young.

HarlemLive was approached by the Director of The New York Life/Schomburg Center, Junior Scholar's Program, Carlyle Leach, to add a technology component to the Junior Scholars program. The goal is for the youth

to ultimately update the content on their site. Junior Scholars is funded through a four-year grant from the New York Life Foundation. More than 100 children take part in interactive workshops on Saturdays with notable guest speakers designed to broaden knowledge of African-American history and culture and help the youth prepare for successful careers.

This educational opportunity for African-American children, ages 11 - 17, was made possible through a \$1.16 million grant from the New York Life Foundation.

The classes also work as a way to recruit more youth to HL, who can now apply their newfound abilities to an award winning web magazine.

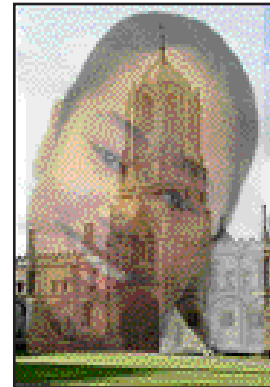
For Young, teaching classes shows the HL alumni have gotten something out of the program and are "spreading the skills to a younger generation. We are not only learning to be journalists and web designers but also teachers and entrepreneurs."

HL hopes that our work with the Junior Scholars Program will result in future collaborations with the Schomburg.

FORMER EDITOR STUDIES ABROAD

Danya Steele, former Editor-in-Chief and first alumni member to HL's Board of Directors, has been busy abroad for her second year of undergraduate studies. A Philosophy, Politics, and Economics major, she lived in South Africa for six months, studying at the University of Cape Town, and now is a member of Hertford College at Oxford University in England.

Danya says her learning curve has intensified



exponentially, and that by traveling and studying at two of the most internationally recognized universities in the world, she is increasingly becoming aware that success is relative. Her academic contemporaries have been everyone from the grandchildren of Nelson Mandela to the daughter of Bill and Hillary Clinton.

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