



HarlemLIVE Notes



<http://www.harlemlive.org>

301 W. 125th Street 3rd Fl - 212 222 4681 - harlemlive@aol.com

May/June The Award Winning Media, Technology and Leadership Program in Harlem 2005

Alums Win First Prize

HLDesigns, the entrepreneurial enterprise begun by HarlemLIVE alumni, won **first prize** in the *School and/or Organizations* category for the seventh annual Citizens for NYC, **Bank of America** Youth Entrepreneur Awards.

Shem Rajoon submitted the application on behalf of HLDesigns. This competition supports and recognizes young entrepreneurs, promotes innovation and creativity, and links youth-run



Shem Rajoon Accepts 1st Prize

businesses to the business and nonprofit communities of New York City.

An offshoot of the winnings is that HLDesigns will participate in the Bank of America Youth Entrepreneur Month Expo at Borough of Manhattan Community College on May 19th.

Additionally, Shem Rajoon will attend the Emerging Business Leaders Summit (EBSL) September 11-14, 2005 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C. 20008.

HLDesigns creates web sites, fliers, CD Covers and more for outside organizations.

Visit their web site at: www.officialHLDesigns.com

The May Challenge

As we approach our **10th year** of operation, (YES 10 YEARS!) we are reaching out to our friends and family for the support needed to insure that we continue. One of our generous supporters has responded by issuing a **Challenge** to other HarlemLIVE friends: She will match every dollar that is contributed (up to \$10,000) in May. Please be generous!

Students Learn Studio Techniques @ MNN

This spring, several teens are training on how to use the studios at Manhattan Neighborhood Network (MNN) as HarlemLIVE works to develop a half-hour news magazine program, that mirrors our Online Magazine, for broadcast on a public access channel in Fall 2005.

HL Alumni Chris Frierson has returned to HarlemLIVE after just graduating from **Long Island University** with a communications major to coordinate these efforts with other members of the HL video team, and to recruit and train new members for HL's **Summer Youth Media Challenge**.

Last year, 10 members of the Online Magazine's video crew took a 10-week workshop on The Making of a Documentary. The training this year will also be used to work with **Councilman Bill Perkins** for a community awareness program.

The best videos produced by teams this summer will be shown at the award ceremony in August.

**Award Ceremony
Thursday August 18th
@ Bloomberg
6PM to 8PM. RSVP Early!**

HL is St Louis Bound for Media Reform

HL members Mera Beckford, Tracey Casseus and HL Alums Danya Steele and Justin Young have been awarded scholarships to participate at **The National Conference for Media Reform** - an exciting forum for discussing solutions to the problems facing the media.

They will attend the conference in St. Louis May 13-15.

As more and more Americans begin to understand the impact of the media, thousands of activists will converge in St. Louis to learn, strategize, network, and build momentum to fight for reform. Speakers already scheduled for the event include FCC Commissioners Michael Copps and Jonathan Adelstein, comedian Al Franken, author Naomi Klein, journalist Juan Gonzalez, FAIR's Janine Jackson, Democracy Now's Amy Goodman, syndicated columnist Arianna Huffington, TransAfrica Forum's Bill Fletcher and author David Brock. Activist leaders and members of Congress will be there as well.

The "Media Democracy Showcase" will provide an interactive space for conference participants to learn about the exciting array of media activism and reform work being done by local, regional and national groups across the country. HarlemLIVE can use this opportunity to showcase their work and network with conference participants.

"I'm really excited to go to St. Louis. I've never been to a media conference," said reporter Tracey Casseus. "I'm very enthusiastic about meeting journalists from across the country."

Board Members Added

As it continues to augment its board of directors, HarlemLIVE added four new members at its most recent board meeting.

Melvin Johnson and Justin Young were added bringing the alumni representation on the board to three.

Additionally, Wilhelm Harbans, parent of current member Brad Harbans joins the board along with HL volunteer Cynthia Simmons.

Over the next few months, HL will be searching for members in the fields of education, media, and youth services to flesh out the board. Additionally HL is looking for legal and banking representation.

HL Youth Teach Students in Vermont



Shem Rajoon, Mera Beckford and Bryan Conforme at their presentation in Vermont, where they taught youth from former Soviet Union countries

Birthday Bash Raises Cash

When Manja Klingers and Angeline Biesheuvel were both about to turn 30, they decided to have a birthday party, but with HL as benefactor.

“We wanted to organize a discussion with our friends, preferably led by [Dutch journalist] Jan Tromp, for our 30th birthdays.

We both did not feel like getting birthday gifts, so we decided to give a gift to HarlemLIVE, linking a discussion to benefit an organization that was focused on news and media.”

Ms. Klingers heard about HarlemLIVE through a colleague who attended one of HL’s events last year.

“It was nice talking to people from a different country especially as it pertained to their impression of the United States,” said HL Editor in Chief Kevin Benoit. HL Board Chair Danya Steele, Alumnus Shem Rajoon, and newest HL reporter, Yanara Porter, accompanied Kevin at the function.



Tromp Receives Thanks for his Talk

HL Alumna to study in Paris

HarlemLIVE alumna and **Columbia University** student Katerina Vorotova will study abroad next year in Paris.



Kat is majoring in Comparative Literature and Society, a major that requires fluency in a different language (Russian) and studying another (French).

Kat emigrated from Russia in 1998 and joined HL in 2000. She was a prolific writer at HL. She also enjoyed photography and video. Kat was a paid intern at **The New York Times**, where she applied skills learned at HL producing multimedia slideshows.

Kat was also awarded The New York Times Scholarship, becoming the third HL member to win that prestigious honor.

“Working at HarlemLive was a practical way for me to gain the skills people take years to learn in school. My writing improved tremendously. I was introduced to management, event organizing, web design, video production and public speaking. HL consistently helped me grow into an informed, empowered and mature individual.”

HarlemLive
525 W. 120th Street **Box 144**
New York, NY 10027