



HarlemLIVE Notes



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Spring The Award Winning Media, Technology, and Leadership Program in Harlem 2006

Happy 10th, HarlemLIVE!

In June of 1996, a public school teacher and Harlem resident founded HarlemLIVE at the rise of the Internet craze. While many argued that the Internet was just a fad and that dot-coms would crash in the years to come (and many did), this teacher had a vision of giving license to teens to be nosy and curious about their world, using a press badge and the emerging digital technologies.

HarlemLIVE began when five 7th grade students (who together produced a hardcopy newspaper in their 6th grade East Harlem school)

banned together with just one laptop and a digital camera and began posting their stories and photos on the World Wide Web.

As years progressed, HarlemLIVE became home to young adults from all over NYC - from

its beginnings of producing the award winning publication from their own living rooms, to a basement space at Teacher's College, a three-year stretch at the nation's first technology center, a temporary stay in Bloomberg's corporate offices, and now, for over 4 years, in a 2400 sq ft loft on 125th Street.

In this time, HarlemLIVE has transformed an eleven year-old child who was oblivious to the possibilities of the web, into a twenty year-old award winning webmaster with a full scholarship to **Parsons School of Design**. One Editor was named one of Teen People's "20 Teens To Change The World." Many alumni went on to internships at **MTV**, **The New York Times**, and **The View**, while others earned full time positions with **Bloomberg** and other top corporations. They've attended



Angel Colon and Kerly Suffren on WBAI **Morehouse, Spelman, Oxford, Columbia, Yale, Cornell** and others. Many of the faces have been replaced



On our way to Rome

with a new generation of aspiring journalists, video producers, web designers and public speakers. But a decade later, the founder is still volunteering his time while many of the alumni and professionals volunteer as well in keeping the program a success.

With an annual core of 100 students, 50 professional adult advisors including graduate students from the **Columbia School of Journalism**, HarlemLIVE continues to get bigger and better.

For ten years, **HarlemLIVE** has been leading the way by empowering diverse youth towards leadership with experience and exposure in media and technology.

We wish to thank ALL of many adult volunteers who over the years have been instrumental to our longevity. A special thanks to **Teachers College** for their continued support, and for hosting our site.

HL Wins Union Square Award

On June 23rd, HL will be honored as one of the winners of the **Union Square Awards**, with a grant of \$35,000.

HL was nominated anonymously, followed by a visit from the Executive Director, Iris Morales, who spoke to many of the youth and alumni.

The Union Square Awards were established in 1998 by an anonymous donor to recognize and support innovative grassroots projects. In 2005, it launched an Arts Initiative, in recognition of the important and leadership role played by arts and culture programs that are engaging youth in educational opportunities, building community and promoting social change. Read more at www.unionsquareawards.org

Roll The Presses

HarlemLIVE is coming out in print! Yes it's true; the content you've come to love from our website will soon be available as a tabloid publishing four times a year.

That said, printing a paper is costly and any contributions are greatly appreciated. Those who contribute will receive an automatic subscription and acknowledgment in the issue following their contribution.

Ed-in-Chief Kevin Benoit, who began the print magazine, *Parlé* at the same time as joining HL is spearheading this expansion of HL.



Danya Steele as one of **Teen People's 20 Teens To Change the World**

Decade of Success - a Timeline

HarlemLive Seeks New Home



Antoinette Mullins reporting

June 1996 - HarlemLive Founded with 5 Students and a laptop

Sept 1996

- HL went on its first big news story at the **African American Day Parade**. **Talking drum** becomes its symbol.

July 1997 - HL takes up residence in the basement of **Teachers College**. HL becomes site for the Summer Youth Employment Program

Nov 1998 - HL moves into Playing2Win, the nation's first computer technology center, jump-starting its reopening.

1999 - HL wins 1st Prize in an international competition from the King of **Sweden**. Site is made part of the permanent collection at the **National Smithsonian**. First editor-in-chief, Tameka Mitchem is named.

Dec. 2000 - HL is asked to present in **Rome, Italy** and to accept honors in another international competition

2001 - **Time Warner** becomes first major funder of HarlemLive

2002 - HarlemLIVE is hosted in **Bloomberg's** corporate offices before moving into its own

headquarters on 125th Street. Editor is named one of 20 Teens to Change the World by Teen People.

2003 - **United Federations of Teachers** Honors HarlemLive

2004 - **2005** Cynthia Simmons becomes first professional development consultant. and largest individual donor. Foundation Center selects HL for support .



Winning 1st Prize in Sweden

2006 - TV show HLSpeaks launches. Print version publishes. Winner of the **Union Square, Arts Initiative Award**. HL celebrates it's **10th anniversary** in **June**.

Wish us a Happy 10th

We are pleased to have been around for 10 years, running with an all volunteer staff that has affected changes in the lives of hundreds of youth who've gone on to internships, colleges, and good jobs.

Help HL celebrate its 10th Anniversary with a generous donation as an HL member Please send a tax deductible donation to support this year's **Award Ceremony** in August to which you will be invited.

HarlemLIVE is in the last year of our 5 year lease. We are looking to relocate in central Harlem.

We currently have a 2400 sq ft loft space that contains work stations, a library, a conference area, several lounge areas, large plants, a full kitchen, two bathrooms, storage areas, a public meeting space for our special events/performances, and no florescent lighting! (smiles)

We are looking for a comparable space either donated or for a reasonable rent.

Having our own space that the teens are responsible for managing and maintaining is part of the culture of the program that builds ownership.

HarlemLIVE operates seven days a week year round.

Please contact us ASAP if you have any ideas or can direct us to our new home.

This quarter, HL would like to thank Union Square Awards, Columbia Community Service and Lorraine Treadwell for their support.

HarlemLIVE Member Application / Contribution / Donation

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Ph: _____

Email: _____

Membership Levels:

Friend of HL (\$50) ___ Caption Member (\$51-100) ___ Byline Member (\$101-250) ___

Headline Member (\$251-500) ___ Feature Member (\$501-1,000) ___ Lead Story (\$1001-2,500) ___

Banner Headline (\$2,501-4,999) ___ Masthead Member (\$5000+) ___

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Make checks payable to: HarlemLIVE

HarlemLIVE is a 501(c)(3) non profit. All donations are tax-deductible in accordance with federal tax laws.