



HarlemLIVE Notes



HarlemLIVE@aol.com

<http://www.harlemlive.org>

212 222-4681

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

10th Annual Award Ceremony at ABC-TV Media Mentors Series



MC Shem Rajoon

Now firmly into its second decade, the HarlemLIVE teen produced award-winning on-line magazine and tv show, took a moment in August to celebrate successfully empowering hundreds of teens since 1996. The evening was hosted by WABC-TV, on the set of the popular morning show **Live with Regis & Kelly**, due to the efforts of Sandra Thomas, vice president of community affairs of WABC-TV.

HarlemLIVE students, parents, Alumni, adult volunteers, financial supporters and friends attended the memorable evening.

The Ceremony opened with an introduction by HS Senior Kuamel Stewart and was presided over by Master of Ceremonies and HL Alumnus, Shem Rajoon.

Awards were given for best stories, videos and the winning team. Prizes included donated computers from WABC-TV, tickets to Great Adventure, cash awards and a sailing trip. Several of the alumni took to the stage to give updates on their progress since leaving HL, including Oscar Peralta, who now works for WABC-TV.

“The award ceremony was a memorable event. It showcased our hard work and efforts and showed that we are capable of great things,” said reporter and editor Seshat Mack.

“It’s been quite an effort, yet the program is going strong having existed over 10 years on an all-volunteer staff,” said founder Richard Calton. “However, thanks to the tremendous efforts of so many individuals and volunteers and the financial support from **Bloomberg**, the local politicians (see pg 2), and others, we have positively impacted the lives of hundreds of teens.”



Getting ready on the set of Regis & Kelly



Group shot of past and current members of HarlemLIVE

“This summer, we hired our first staff member, alumnus Kamal Muhammad, who now maintains the daily activities. Along with Muhammad, other alums are now in the position to begin taking the reins of the program in the years ahead, just as was envisioned when the program was started 10 years ago.”

The Elie Wiesel Foundation (EWF) and HarlemLIVE will collaborate to organize a special project called



Media Mentors. EWF will arrange for distinguished professionals in print, television, and radio journalism to

visit HarlemLIVE and discuss their work and career paths. We hope that the **Media Mentors** project inspires young people and generates opportunities for personal and professional development.

According to **David L. Phillips**, Executive Director of EWF: “The Foundation works on education projects around the world. **We decided to work with HarlemLIVE because of its transformative potential.** Media Mentors is the first step. In the future, we hope to broaden our cooperation so that HarlemLIVE can become an even more important agent for change in the lives of young people.”

Many teens know of Dr. Wiesel from his book *La Nuit*, in which he is wracked with guilt at having survived the horror of the Holocaust, the genocidal campaign that consumed his family and his memories of the nightmare world of the death camps.

Elie Wiesel and his wife, Marion, established EWF soon after he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1986. EWF's mission, rooted in the memory of the Holocaust, is to combat indifference, intolerance, and injustice through international dialogue and **youth focused programs** that promote **acceptance, understanding, and equality.**

HL Seniors Begin College Applications

Following two successful years, HL launched its third College Mentor Program that pairs HS seniors with adult mentor to help in their college application process.



HL consistently encourages and influences greater than 90% of its participants to go on to institutions of higher learning. It's part of the HL culture.

Recently, we had a kick-off meeting where HS seniors and adult mentors discussed their interests and concerns and were then paired to begin the semester long process. The adults will help the seniors do everything from getting their brochures and applications, to editing their essays and setting up college interviews and visits.

"I now have my own private mentor that could give me help with college searches, looking up grants and helping on my essay," said Jonathon

New Team Assumes Leadership Roles

An executive committee of the top-producing students chose new teen editors and leaders following our 10th annual award ceremony . Shelise Roberts was named Editor in Chief; Evelyn Smalls is administrative assistant, and Leon Pryer is one of the web editors. (see www.harlemlive.org/staff.html)

"As Editor in Chief, I plan to open the eyes of our peers and the community. My goal is to make sure HarlemLIVE can provide an alternative voice to the mainstream media. I want to reach as many youth as possible and to get them involved and interested in this positive and productive program. HarlemLIVE also gives the youth a chance to explore and write about the careers in which they are interested."

HarlemLIVE begins our 11th year with an exceptionally strong team of committed and enthusiastic youth and alums.

Alarcon, a senior of Arts and Technology at Martin Luther King HS. In school the counselors are busy with many other students."

"If I can't get my questions answered in school, I have my own mentor who can help."

New Space in the Offing

HarlemLIVE is nearing the end of its five-year lease. The landlord is doubling the rent of our current 2400 sq ft loft, which we rehabilitated after it sat vacant for well over a decade.

We continue to address the issue with area politicians and have been doing the legwork necessary for achieving our goal of securing a new newsroom. We seek our own designated space in central Harlem, equipped with space for workstations, meetings, kitchen, library, bathrooms, storage, conference table, and lounge. We operate year round. Please let us know of any rental or donated space to house our award-winning program, now in our 11th year.

This quarter, HL would like to thank: Union Square Awards, a Tides Project; William T. Grant Foundation; NYC Council persons Inez Dickens and Robert Jackson; City Council Pres. Christine Quinn, Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer; and individual supporters Lorraine Treadwell, Cynthia Simmons, and Dr. Grace Hughes.

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+) ___

Mailing Address: HarlemLIVE Inc. | 525 W.120th Street Box 144 | New York, NY 10027

Make checks payable to: HarlemLIVE

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