



YOUTH FX 2009

film experience



August 24, 2009


Dear YouthFX Supporter,

We recently concluded our second year of YouthFX and I just wanted to send out a letter to thank you for your incredible generosity and support. The YouthFX summer program provides an important creative outlet for teens in the city of Albany, teaching them important life skills as well as introducing them to the exciting potential of digital filmmaking, and this year's program would not have been possible without your support. We had an incredible summer of fun and exciting filmmaking experiences, and both my program assistant, Gaetano Viccaro, and myself were so impressed by the skill and talent exhibited by each and every one of the 15 young filmmakers we worked with this summer. After six weeks of YouthFX, we looked back with amazement at all the projects the group took on and completed. Counting our final documentary and short film projects the YouthFX crew produced a total of 9 movies this summer! This year in addition to teaching the creative and technical aspects of digital film production we introduced kids to the editing process, and in fact most of our projects were edited by them or with their assistance. We strongly believe that YouthFX is an integral part of Grand Street Community Arts' effort to provide opportunities for positive youth development throughout the capital district, and we appreciate your support in this endeavor.

In addition to making films this summer, we also offered the YouthFX kids a firsthand look at how television production happens with a visit to the WRGB studios (our local CBS affiliate). We got a tour of the country's oldest television station and even watched the live noon newscast in person from the studio. We also met with a WRGB producer, Greg Schmidt, who gave us an in-depth look at how many of their commercial and TV segments are created. Once again illustrating to the kids that what they are learning at YouthFX can be applied to future careers in the field of film and television production.

In the coming months Gaetano and I will be putting the finishing touches on the projects and will be setting up a event in October or November at a local theatre to showcase the work that these young filmmakers produced. We would love for you to attend this event and see the films that were produced in part due to your support. In addition if you are a local business owner and would like us to display any promotional materials or information at these events please mail or email them to the address below. And of course when our 2009 YouthFX DVD is produced we will mail a copy out to you. Again thanks so much for your support and we will be in touch soon, if you have any questions please feel free to contact me, my contact information is listed below.

Sincerely,


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