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WNET NEW YORK

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press information →

HUMAN RIGHTS 101 HONORS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR OUTSTANDING PROJECTS AT JUNE 12 RECEPTION AT THIRTEEN/WNET NEW YORK

Students From Schools In The Tri-State New York Region Raised Awareness Of Many Issues.

Thirteen Announces New Opportunity For 2004/05 School Year.

New York, June 2004 – Students who have made outstanding efforts to address human rights issues will be honored on Saturday, June 12 for their participation in Thirteen/WNET New York’s **Human Rights 101** initiative in a presentation at the Thirteen studio in Manhattan. Students from Connecticut, New Jersey and New York worked to address issues of their choice, which included Mideast relations, gay rights, sweat shops, homelessness, women’s rights, the refugee crisis, immigration, and more.

Human Rights 101 projects:

- **Al-Ghazaly Islamic High School**, Teaneck, NJ – students worked to understand the Palestinian-Israeli conflict;
- **Automotive High School**, Brooklyn, NY – students explored transnational justice in light of the United Nations’ 1948 Declaration of Human Rights;
- **High School of Art and Design**, Manhattan, NY – students used multimedia to explore women’s rights issues;
- **Hillcrest High School/Forest Hills Community House**, Jamaica, NY – participants looked into how women are depicted in media;
- **The Hudson School**, Hoboken, NJ – students examined human rights themes in music by international stars such as Chile's Pablo Neruda, Jamaica's Bob Marley, Brazil's Caetano Veloso, and others;
- **Indian Hill High School**, Oakland, NJ – students explored the refugee crisis and United States immigration policy to create a documentary;

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- **John Dewey High School**, Brooklyn, NY – students worked with the Arab-American Neighborhood Alliance to understand how the immigrant experience has changed since 9/11;
- **John L. Miller Great Neck North High School**, Great Neck, NY – students created a multi-media project on children’s rights abuses and invited genocide survivors to speak at their school;
- **Newtown High School**, Sandy Hook, CT – students created a unit of study about gay youth and presented this unit to sociology teachers and students in their school;
- **Park East High School**, upper Manhattan, NY, and **Gill St. Bernard’s School**, Gladstone, NJ – students opened an interschool dialogue through literature;
- **Paterson Regional Catholic High School**, Paterson, NJ – students conducted prayer service and community service activities to address local needs;
- **Seward Park High School**, Manhattan, NY – students researched the continuing struggle of immigrant woman workers on the Lower East Side, culminating in a multi-media exhibition;
- **St. Luke’s School**, Manhattan, NY and **Newcomers High School**, Long Island City, NY – students partnered to conduct a letter writing campaign and group discussion on a variety of human rights topics..

Human Rights 101 launched in October 2003 with a seminar for students and their faculty advisors from tri-state New York area high schools designed to encourage discussion and exploration of local, national, and global human rights issues. The training seminar helped prepare students to develop projects that address a particular human rights issue or need in their community.

The 2004/05 **Human Rights 101** initiative will again be open to schools in the tri-state New York area. For a Request For Proposals, teachers can visit **Human Rights 101** online at www.thirteen.org/edonline/hr101/, or contact Suzanne Guthrie, outreach producer, at (212) 560-8123 or by e-mail: guthrie@thirteen.org. Fifteen schools will be selected to receive **Human Rights 101** grants of up to \$1,000 for the 2004/05 school year.

The award winning **Human Rights 101** Web site serves as a launching pad for project ideas and provides students and their advisors with tools to help them learn about human rights, focus their interests, and actively work for change. The site features a wealth of resources, ideas for project that can make positive change, volunteer and internship opportunities and an interactive profile feature that uses human rights stories to help students focus their interests

and goals. Teachers anywhere will be able to use the **Human Rights 101** toolkit to guide the development of projects. The toolkit includes model projects, a list of PBS programs that address human rights issues and complementary teaching resources.

Major support for the **Human Rights 101** 2003/04 season is provided by Phillips-Van Heusen Corporation and the Reuters Foundation. **Human Rights 101** is an initiative of Thirteen's Educational Resources Center, a leading provider of innovative programming, online education, and professional development for educators.

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Thirteen/WNET New York is one of the key program providers for public television, bringing such acclaimed series as *Nature*, *Great Performances*, *American Masters*, *Charlie Rose*, *Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly*, *Wide Angle*, *Stage on Screen*, *Secrets of the Dead*, and *Cyberchase* – as well as the work of Bill Moyers – to audiences nationwide. As the flagship public broadcaster in the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut metro area, Thirteen reaches millions of viewers each week, airing the best of American public television along with its own local productions such as *The Ethnic Heritage Specials*, *The Thirteen Walking Tours*, *New York Voices*, and *Reel New York*. With educational and community outreach projects that extend the impact of its television productions, Thirteen takes television “out of the box.” And as broadcast and digital media converge, Thirteen is blazing trails in the creation of Web sites, enhanced television, CD-ROMs, DVD-ROMs, educational software, and other cutting-edge media products. More information about Thirteen can be found at: www.thirteen.org.

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