

SIXTH ANNUAL

NYC

GRASSROOTS

MEDIA  
CONFERENCE



SATURDAY  
MAY 30TH 2009  
HUNTER COLLEGE



HOPE to  
ACTION

[WWW.NYCGRASSROOTSMEDIA.ORG](http://WWW.NYCGRASSROOTSMEDIA.ORG)

# IMA MFA

## ADVANCED STUDIES IN NON-FICTION MEDIA MAKING

**Designed** in response to the need to tell compelling stories in a rapidly evolving global media production and distribution environment, the Integrated Media Arts MFA Program at Hunter College encourages students to work creatively in a variety of forms.

**Student projects** range from documentary films and public exhibitions to networked game environments and interactive installations.

**Award-winning faculty** offer studio courses and one-to-one mentoring. Leading scholars in media history and critical theory provide essential context for student work in in-depth seminars and rigorous critiques.

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**Integrated Media Arts MFA  
Dept. of Film & Media Studies  
Hunter College, CUNY  
<http://ima.hunter.cuny.edu>  
Tel: 212-650-3415**

# welcome!



## Hope to Action

Welcome to the 6th annual New York City Grassroots Media Conference! The enthusiasm that mobilized the public for the historic 2008 election campaign ignited the hopeful hearts of a country at a crossroads. As a powerful spark of grassroots organizing swept through the country, the world witnessed our nation wield unprecedented power by voting for large scale social change. This momentum offers our communities an unprecedented opportunity to act as critical agents in charting the road forward. But even as we celebrate this victory, uncertainty looms ahead. Many of us have lost our jobs, our insurance, and our economic stability; many of our independent media producers and social justice organizations face diminished financial support and increasing barriers. In these challenging times, how can we build a stronger media network that ensures the visibility of our communities' voices, images and stories?

In this moment of great opportunity and great challenge, the NYC Grassroots Media community asks: What role can the media play as a catalyst for social justice? How can we use the media tools at our disposal to turn HOPE for social justice into ACTION in our communities? Please join us at the 6th annual NYC Grassroots Media Conference as we strategize how to build a media that inherently values every human story - a media that addresses and exposes injustice in all forms, responds to economic turmoil, showcases our creativity, represents our communities and cultures, and affirms the myriad ways in which these goals can be achieved.

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# Acknowledgements and Thanks!

## Organizing Committee

Jessica Aguirre	Hilary Goldstein	Karen Okamoto
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Malaika Brooks-Smith-Lowe	Anne Jonas	Marisol Rodriguez
Alex Campbell	Mo Kinberg	Fivel Rothberg
Astride Charles	Michelle LeBlanc	Christy Thornton
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### Special Thanks to:

- Kelly Anderson, Deputy Chair and Media Advisor, Film and Media Studies Department, Hunter College
- Mick Hurbis-Cherrier, Chair of Film and Media Studies Department, Hunter College
- Peter Jackson, Senior Digital CLT and Production Coordinator, Film and Media Studies Department, Hunter College
- The North Star Fund
- Citizens Committee of New York City
- Our marvelous tech volunteers!
- Youth Media Reporter and Academy for Educational Development, for hosting the 2009 Youth Screening
- Claudia Amaya, Petrol-Coffee
- Team Screen, Brooklyn

### Partner Organizations:

- Educational Video Center
- Fairness & Accuracy In Reporting (FAIR)
- Global Action Project
- Go Left
- Left Turn magazine
- Listen Up!
- Manhattan Neighborhood Network and Youth Channel
- May First/People Link
- Media Action Grassroots Network (MAG-Net)
- North American Congress on Latin America (NACLA)
- NYC Independent Media Center
- New York Community Media Alliance (NYCMA/IPA-NY)
- Radical Reference
- Youth Media Reporter



# Special Info

## Finding your way around Hunter

Workshops are on the 5th floor and Floor C. Please check the posted room schedule for any changes in workshop locations. Film screenings and exhibition hall are on the 5th floor. Conference attendees can use the elevator to travel between floors; look for GMC volunteers if you need help finding a workshop!

## Youth Lunch (19 and under only)

The fourth floor lobby will be open for YOUTH ONLY during lunch, 1:45–2:45pm. Stop by for free pizza and a chance to meet other young people involved in media!



### Free Coffee!

Petrol Coffee is the only “Roast-on-Demand” roaster in NYC. Petrol Coffee is a proud sponsor of the NYC Grassroots Media Conference.

[www.petrol-coffee.com](http://www.petrol-coffee.com)

## Make Your Own Business Card

Make and decorate your own business cards in the exhibition room to distribute throughout the day, and keep your new connections after the conference ends!

## Grassroots After Party!

Join us at Grassroots Tavern after the conference to unwind, have a drink, and keep the conversation going! 21+ only. 20 Saint Marks Pl., between 2nd and 3rd Aves; 6 train to Astor Place.

## A Note on Recording

Many of the panels will be audio and video recorded for informational, educational, and archival purposes. Short programs will be available to stream or download from the NYCGMC website. Please visit our website to check them out!



**Media Sponsor:**

**New York Amsterdam News**

**The 2009 NYCGMC is co-Sponsored by the Film and Media Studies Department at Hunter College/CUNY.**



The City University of New York



The NYC Grassroots Media Coalition is a fiscally sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a non-profit arts service organization.

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# Exhibition Hall

## Exhibition Hall In the Black Box Theater, Room 543

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Check out information tables, displays and lots more in the exhibition room! Take a moment to talk to experienced media makers and activists while learning more about their organizations. Open from 9:30am to 6pm in the Black Box Theater on the 5th floor, room 543.

## Special Exhibits

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### Thus Spoke the Spectacle

Thus Spoke the Spectacle is a cutting edge music video performance that deconstructs and reconfigures mainstream media's barrage to highlight corporate America's ideologies, biases, and agendas through an exploration of celebrity, news, empire, consumerism and propaganda.

### The Prometheus Radio Project

The Prometheus Radio Project will be demonstrating some of the basics of radio transmission. Stop by to check out a micro-transmitter, broadcasting to the conference area. There will be a hands-on opportunity to learn how to solder electronics! Talk to radio geeks about transmitters, the FCC, the community media movement, low power fm stations and pick up a sweet Prometheus t-shirt!

### Media Action Grassroots Network

Organizing for media justice means confronting and transforming structural racism, economic injustice and corporate control in our media systems. What do you think are the most pressing media issues facing New York? What can you offer in the fight to create change? Come by the MAGNet table in the exhibition hall to map NYC's challenges, chart our resources and set some organizing priorities for the year ahead.



# Film Screenings

## Session 1: 10:30am – 12pm

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### Arts Engine and Cinereach screening with talkback session: Social Issue Shorts

A screening and discussion with Ben Herson and Annie Waldman, two filmmakers who have made—and built audiences for—socially relevant short films. This workshop will be full of useful advice for filmmakers trying to fund, produce and build an audience for short fiction and nonfiction films that balance artful storytelling with socially relevant themes.

- *African Underground: Hip Hop In Senegal*, 6:14 min (Magee McIlvaine, Ben Herson, Chris Moore)
- *And So The Wind Won't Blow it All Away*, 9:41 min (Annie P. Waldman)

## Session 2: 12:15pm - 1:45pm

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### Call For Change series presented by Third World Newsreel, with Q&A

- *Here to Stay*, 7 min (ManSee Kong)
- *Primetime: Fighting Back Against Foreclosure*, 23 min (Jennifer Fasulo & Manauvaskar Kublall)
- *Our Lady Queen of Harlem*, 17 min (Trinidad Rodriguez)
- *In Bed with a Mosquito*, 18 min (Sarah Frank)

## LUNCH: 1:45pm-2:45pm

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- *Some Place Like Home: The Fight Against Gentrification in Downtown Brooklyn*, 40 min (A documentary by FUREE, Narrated by Kevin Powell) Followed by Q&A and discussion with filmmakers from FUREE

## Session 3: 2:45pm-4:15pm

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### Listen Up! Very Important Producer Award-Winning Films

An eclectic selection of youth-made films from the Listen Up! Youth Media Network's annual online film festival, "The Very Important Producer's Awards (VIP2008)."

- *I Hate My Life*, 8:48 (Young people from My View Video Project)
- *Another Statistic*, 10:27 (Young people from BCAMTV)
- *Journey To Paradise*, 11:45 (Sandeep Singh Grover Cleveland High School)
- *Nuclear Terror*, 1:41 (Zavyalov Innokenty, Perpich Center for Arts Education)
- *Wake Me Up Later*, 12:05 (Young people from Chicago Vocational Career Academy)
- *Jerry*, 13:51 (Youth from Spy Hop Productions)
- *Thicker Than Water*, 15:29 (Young People from Reel Grrls)
- *Nuestra Dignidad*, 1: 58 (Young People from In Progress)
- *Pinata Protest*, 3:00 (Jessica Torres and Yvonne Hernandez)
- *This Is Me*, 3:46 (Young People working with In Progress)

## Session 4: 4:30-6pm

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### Hunter College Student Film Screening, Q&A with filmmakers to follow

A screening of new social issue film works produced by students of Hunter College. Full film lineup to be announced day of conference, please check the theater for full film descriptions.

WWW.NYCGRASSROOTSMEDIA.ORG

# Coalition Partners 2009

## **Educational Video Center**

The Educational Video Center is a non-profit youth media organization founded in 1984 dedicated to teaching documentary video as a means to develop the artistic, critical literacy, and career skills of young people, while nurturing their idealism and commitment to social change.

[www.evc.org](http://www.evc.org)

## **Fairness & Accuracy In Reporting (FAIR)**

FAIR, the national media watch group, has been offering well-documented criticism of media bias and censorship since 1986. We work to invigorate the First Amendment by advocating for greater diversity in the press and by scrutinizing media practices that marginalize public interest, minority and dissenting viewpoints.

[www.fair.org](http://www.fair.org)

## **Global Action Project**

Global Action Project's mission is to work with young people most affected by injustice to build the knowledge, tools, and relationships needed to create media for community power, cultural expression, and political change.

[www.global-action.org](http://www.global-action.org)

## **Go Left**

GoLeft is a web-based project designed to assist small, local, progressive groups around the country by attracting volunteers and other resources to their work. GoLeft uses videos as its primary means of linking progressive non-profit organizations to similar and like-minded people across the country.

[www.goleft.org](http://www.goleft.org)

## **Left Turn magazine**

Left Turn is a national network of activists engaged in exposing and fighting the consequences of global capitalism and imperialism. Through our publication, *Left Turn Magazine*, our website and other forums, we seek to create spaces for our various movements to reflect and strategize.

[www.leftturn.org](http://www.leftturn.org)

## **Listen Up!**

Listen Up! is a youth media network that connects young video producers and their allies to resources, support, and projects in order to develop the field and achieve an authentic youth voice in the mass media. They encourage new members to join and help build a stronger global community of organizations and youth filmmakers.

[www.listenup.org](http://www.listenup.org)

## **Manhattan Neighborhood Network and Youth Channel**

MNN's purpose is to ensure the ability of Manhattan residents to exercise their First Amendment rights through the medium of cable television and to create opportunities for mutual communication, education, artistic expression and other noncommercial uses of video facilities on an open, uncensored and equitable basis.

[www.mnn.org](http://www.mnn.org)



## **May First/People Link**

May First/People Link seeks to pool our resources to assure ourselves quality equipment and staff support and to improve our access to the Internet, enhance its function as a tool for mass communication and organizing, develop new technologies and uses for it, and help social justice movements use it effectively to communicate with each other and with the world.

[mayfirst.org](http://mayfirst.org)

## **Media Action Grassroots Network (MAG-Net)**

The Media Action Grassroots Network is a national initiative recently launched by some of the country's most dynamic regional organizations to provide infrastructure dedicated to sustaining grassroots media activist organizations and strengthening their importance within the ecosystem of the media reform movement.

[www.mediagrassroots.org](http://www.mediagrassroots.org)

## **North American Congress on Latin America (NACLA)**

NACLA's mission is to provide information and analysis on Latin America, and on its complex and changing relationship with the United States, as tools for education and advocacy. We do this through our award-winning magazine, *NACLA Report on the Americas*; our books and anthologies; our public events, and our web resource center, [nacla.org](http://nacla.org).

[nacla.org](http://nacla.org)

## **NYC Independent Media Center**

The NYC Independent Media Center is a grassroots organization committed to using media production and distribution as tools for promoting social and economic justice in the New York City Area. We are dedicated to addressing issues that the mainstream media neglects and we do not conceal our ideals behind a false objectivity.

[nyc.indymedia.org](http://nyc.indymedia.org)

## **New York Community Media Alliance (NYCMA/IPA-NY)**

New York Community Media Alliance is a member-driver organization that promotes and advocates for the ethnic and community media in New York and the metropolitan area. NYCMA is a project of the Fund for the City of New York.

[www.indypressny.org](http://www.indypressny.org)

## **Radical Reference**

Radical Reference is a collective of volunteer library workers who believe in social justice and equality. We support activist communities, progressive organizations, and independent journalists by providing professional research support, education and access to information.

[www.radicalreference.info](http://www.radicalreference.info)

## **Youth Media Reporter**

Youth Media Reporter (YMR) is *the* professional multi-media journal that serves practitioners, educators and academics in the youth media field. YMR's purpose is to build the field by documenting, from multiple perspectives, the insights and leading lessons in engaging young people in video, film, television, radio, music, web, art, and print.

[www.youthmediareporter.org](http://www.youthmediareporter.org)

**For information about how to become a future partner organization,  
contact the organizing committee at [info@nycgrassrootsmedia.org](mailto:info@nycgrassrootsmedia.org).**

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# About the New York City Grassroots Media Coalition

**“New York City is filled with millions of voices, each with its own story to tell. The Grassroots Media Conference is one of the best events for media makers to share those stories and the strategies they employ for getting them out there!”**

*—Katy Chevigny, Independent Filmmaker and  
Executive Director of Arts Engine*

The NYC Grassroots Media Coalition is a growing alliance of media makers, artists and community organizers working towards a more democratic media in NYC.

In 2003, the FCC proposed to further relax media ownership regulations, a move that gave way to increased industry consolidation and reduced media access for the public. Despite New York’s vibrant activist and independent media scene, many groups did not know about this legislation, did not realize the risks at stake and, thus, did little to protest the legislation. To address this gap, representatives at local independent media organizations convened to strategize a plan of action. This meeting was the genesis of the highly successful Grassroots Media Conference, held in February of 2004—a community forum that included dialogue on media policy history education, media skills sharing workshops and networking opportunities.

Building on the momentum generated at this event, the conference organizers formed the NYC Grassroots Media Coalition (NYCGMC) to continue to bridge the gap between media makers and community organizers working towards social justice objectives. We feel that a public-interest-oriented media system would greatly benefit our local communities. It is only by working together that we might achieve success in advocating for media justice.



# Get Involved with the GMC!

In addition to organizing the annual conferences, the NYCGMC has continued to envision projects to build a New York City Grassroots Media Coalition. If you or your organization is interested in joining the Coalition, please consider becoming involved in the following ways:

- Participate in the annual conference as a presenter, tabler, sponsor, and/or attendee.
- Help your group become a NYCGMC partner organization for the conference.
- Host a “make this netWORK” event at your organization.
- Provide feedback on our web portal, and donate your technical expertise to build this innovative activist tool.
- Join the NYCGMC organizing committee to plan and promote all of these exciting projects in the ongoing struggle for media democracy and social justice in NYC!

**Email [info@nycgrassrootsmedia.org](mailto:info@nycgrassrootsmedia.org)  
for more information.**

**And don't forget to fill out your  
evaluation forms, so we can  
continue to improve the NYC  
Grassroots Media Conference!**

[WWW.NYCGRASSROOTSMEDIA.ORG](http://WWW.NYCGRASSROOTSMEDIA.ORG)

# GMC 2009 Conference Schedule

**9:45 - 10:15 Morning Address**

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**12:15 - 1:45 Panel Session 2**

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**10:30 - 12:00 Panel Session 1**

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**Phone Justice, A Key Media Piece**  
*Room 504*

**Green Mapmaking: A Communication and Environmental Justice Tool**

**Ethnic Media as Social Justice Advocate**  
*Room 506*

*Room C101*

**Digital Storytelling Workshop**

**Handala Takes Aim: Textile Design for Social Justice**  
*Room C107*

*Room C107*

**Building Messages that Move the Heart**

**Hope, Youth, & Action**  
*Room C109*

*Room 507*

**Sex Workers, Resistance, and the Media**

**Life After the Death of Left Print Journalism?**  
*Room C110*

*Room 504*

**art of love and struggle: hip hop is our life, hip hop is resistance**

**The Obama Phenomenon : Moving from Symbolism towards Cultural Transformation and Resistance**  
*Room 507*

*Room C102*

**Video Lighting for Interviews on a Low Budget**

**Twitter Love: A Practical Guide to Grassroots Outreach With Tweets**  
*Room C101*

*Room C110*

**Activist Art & Community Empowerment**

**The Beatdown: Hip-Hop vs. the Big 5**  
*Room C102*

*Room C109*

**Collaborative Democracy Workshop: Internet Bill of Rights**

**Youth Media Makers Panel: How Does Youth Produced Media Move Us From HOPE to ACTION?**  
*Room C108*

*Room 506*

**When online communities attack: An introduction to moderation**

**Public Media for the Public Good: Challenges and Opportunities**  
*Room C112*

*Room C108*

**Creating the Critical Classroom: Digital Media & Filmmaking with High School Youth**

**1:45 - 2:45 - Lunch**

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*Room C112*

*A list of nearby food options is on page 35.*



## 2:45 – 4:15 Panel Session 3

### **Mobile Media Means Media Activism**

*Room C107*

### **Open Source and Free Culture: Video and Media Distribution**

*Room C112*

### **Holding Media & Non-profits Accountable to Their Workers & Communities**

*Room 504*

### **Projecting Public Perception of the People**

*Room 506*

### **How is the Ethnic Media Holding Up Under the Strains of the Recession?**

*Room 507*

### **Journalism 101**

*Room C101*

### **Radical Reference Unpanel: Alternative Materials in Libraries**

*Room C113*

### **Media-Making & Movement-Building: How Progressive Press and Grassroots Organizations Relate and Grow Together**

*Room C102*

### **Media for Student Activism: Building Networks, Building Movements**

*Room C109*

### **Supafriends: The Evolution of a Queer Youth Media Program**

*Room C110*

### **Real Fictions: Telling the Truth through a “Lie”**

*Room C108*

## 4:30 – 6:00 Panel Session 4

### **Grassroots Reporting for a Broad Audience**

*Room C109*

### **Grassroots Campaign Strategy: Building Power from the Bottom Up**

*Room 504*

### **Immigrant Communities Using Grassroots Media for Movement Building**

*Room 506*

### **Arm Yourself Against the Corporate Media and Learn How To Take It Back**

*Room C101*

### **Remix My Podcast**

*Room C107*

### **Bitches, Ho’s and Baby Momma’s: The Shifting Identities of Women of Color Within the Shrinking Media Landscape**

*Room C110*

### **PSA-in-a-Day**

*Room C108*

### **Taking Back Wall Street: DIY Corporate Research for Activists and Mediamakers**

*Room 507*

### **YouTube, You Lose, Politics of Internet Video Distribution**

*Room C102*

### **The Power of Video & Grassroots Advocacy: Using Media with Adult Home Residents & Foster Care Teens**

*Room C112*

**Please check the posted schedules for any room changes!**

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# Workshop descriptions

Please check the posted schedules for any room changes!

## Opening Plenary: 9:45am – 10:15am

Members of the NYC Grassroots Media Coalition, this year's Conference partner organizations, and Kelly Anderson from the Hunter College Film and Media Studies Department will give an opening address and welcome attendees to this year's Conference theme: Hope to Action!

## Session 1: 10:30am – 12:00pm

YOUTH INTEREST

### **Green Mapmaking: a communication and environmental justice tool**

*Carlos A. Martinez, Green Map System*

As a global community media movement, Green Map System has been promoting environmental sustainability and community participation using mapmaking as its medium since 1995. Local leaders pair adaptable tools and universal Green Map iconography with local knowledge to chart Sustainable Living, Nature and Culture & Society. Green Maps help illuminate important issues and build networks to address problem sites and expand involvement in positive change. Projects are underway in over 550 diverse locations in 55 countries with more than 360 published maps in unique forms such as murals, interactive websites and paper guides as seen at [GreenMap.org](http://GreenMap.org). During this presentation you will be introduced to Green Mapmaking and the multimedia resources available to develop your own project, including the Open Green Map, an interactive mapmaking tool, as well as youth and 'traditional' Green Mapmaking tools through video and online demonstrations.

### **Digital Storytelling Workshop**

*Devorah Hill, MNN; Jennifer Wager, Essex County College*

The Digital Storytelling workshop is an opportunity for hands-on exploration of new and exciting storytelling techniques through mixed media. You will learn to combine recorded narration, music and still images to tell a compelling personal story as well as how to use digital storytelling as a tool for community engagement and empowerment of diverse voices.

### **Building Messages that Move the Heart**

*Tony Stephens, The Opportunity Agenda*

This workshop examines the core of any successful campaign, its narrative, and presents a road map for how grassroots organizations can build the framework for their own success by tapping into shared narratives in the progressive movement. The session, lead by Tony Stephens of The Opportunity Agenda, lays forth both research findings and best practices on strategic messaging and narratives, as well as giving attendees hands-on experience at crafting their own engaging messages.



## **Sex Workers, Resistance, and the Media**

*Audacia Ray, Sex Work Awareness; Megan Andelloux, Sexual Resource Center; Elizabeth Weisbrot, activist, author, performance artist; Monica Shores, \$pread Magazine*

Sex workers are frequently maligned and misrepresented in the mainstream media, where stories are most often about scandals, busts, violence, health and safety risks, exploitation, legislation, and moral judgment. This panel of present and former sex workers who are activists and media makers will address the ways we are represented in mainstream media and what sex workers and their allies can do to challenge and remake the way we are perceived. We will present media projects created by sex workers and discuss challenges encountered in the process of distribution and building an audience for our work. The workshop will conclude with making a short PSA video about how sex workers and allies can work together.

## **art of love and struggle: hip hop is our life hip hop is resistance**

*spiritchild, Movement in Motion Artist & Activist Collective; Jessica Habie, EyesInfinite Foundation*

What is the role of the arts in today's struggle for peace and justice? How can we channel our artistic expressions into effective mobilizing strategies and raise awareness in New York City communities? In this interactive workshop, we will discuss how to create artwork that re-frames issues of institutionalized racism and poverty from a new perspective. Participants will share their personal creations and explore how music and media can best be used as tools for achieving social change.

## **Video Lighting for Interviews on a Low Budget**

*Fivel Rothberg, Sebastian Gutierrez, Hunter College Media Studies Program*

This hands-on workshop caters to novice video makers who are considering working on a new project or are beginning production. Workshop producers will demonstrate basic lighting techniques, such as 3-point lighting for interviews, and show how participants can use everyday affordable materials to make their videos "shine." The leaders of this workshop are themselves activist filmmakers who want to share techniques, insights and essential skills so that their fellow creators can make even better tools for social change. Fortunately for grassroots media makers, it's easy to grab a camcorder, shoot and upload a video to YouTube for distribution. However, it takes a little more effort to make that video appear more "professional." With the above in mind, we would like to interpret the conference's theme, HOPE to ACTION, quite literally.

## **Activist Art & Community Empowerment**

*Conor McGrady, Groundswell Community Mural Project*

In this workshop, Groundswell Community Mural Project will present a brief history of activist art, including guerilla style stencils and large-scale murals giving voices to those who are marginalized and have no voice in the mainstream media. We will give an overview of recent Groundswell projects with low-income youth and communities which aim to create social change. Following the presentation there will be a hands on exercise, where participants will engage in the process of the conceptual development and negotiations involved in organizing and executing a large-scale activist mural.

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**Collaborative Democracy Workshop: Internet Bill of Rights**

*Alfredo Lopez and Jamie McClelland, May First/People Link*

In this gathering, we seek to collaboratively write an Internet Justice Bill of Rights using an innovative approach involving group process, the web, and a decision making mechanism that builds direct engagement with others. We will examine among other topics what the Internet really means for us and our movements and how we as progressive activists can work inside the Internet to broaden its positive impact.

**When Online Communities Attack: An introduction to Moderation**

*Matthew Friedrichs, editor and journalist; Earl Dunovant, Prometheus 6; Clarisel Gonzalez, PRSUN Radio; Twanna A. Hines, funkybrownchick.com*

You’ve developed a network of like-minded people, created an online space to facilitate conversation and generated a healthy discussion about the issues your group would like to address. Then disaster strikes. Negative comments from within, or from outside, start to derail the progress you’re making. People start attacking one another personally. Agitators opposed to your activities try to derail progress. What do you do? This session will provide moderation tips intended to promote discourse in, not suck the fun and life out of, communities large and small. We will discuss personal approaches and technical solutions and look at examples from large media companies and individual bloggers. We will also discuss how many comments it is possible for one person to read and moderate, as well as third-party moderation solutions for those with a budget.

**Creating the Critical Classroom: Digital Media & Filmmaking with H.S. Youth**

*Justice Whitaker, The Green School; Lindsay Fauntleroy, Educational Video Center*

Teachers are opening up their instructional toolboxes to include video and other multimedia platforms in their classrooms. Join media educators Justice Whitaker and Lindsay Fauntleroy as they present methods and practices used to create successful video projects with NYC public high school students. Discover how technology courses can explore themes of personal identity, community activism, social justice and the role students can play in creating a sustainable community. Short student-produced films will be screened and media-based curricula will be shared with participants.

**Session 2: 12:15pm – 1:45pm**

**Phone Justice, A Key Media Piece**

*Hye-Jung Park and Dharma Dailey, Media Justice Fund of the Funding Exchange; Kym Clark, FREE! (Families Rally for Emancipation and Empowerment); Kristofer Rios, People’s Production House*

Even in the digital era phones are still most people’s primary communication tool. In some communities, they are the only communication tool. As phones have changed, consumer protections have not always kept up to speed. In this panel, we’ll look at two grassroots efforts to address phone related issues in New York City: new immigrants getting cheated by calling cards and families of incarcerated people paying outrageous fees to speak to their loved ones. We’ll also review how social justice activists use phones in their organizing and the challenges they run into.



## **Ethnic Media as Social Justice Advocate**

*Majeed Baber, Asia Tribune (Urdu); Joe Wei, World Journal (Chinese); Milton Allimadi, Black Star News; a reporter from El Diario La Prensa (Spanish)*

Several surveys in 2008 indicate that crimes of racial violence have increased, particularly against the Latino community, and immigrant deportations have risen in lock-step with the overall economic downturn. What are the implications of such violence for social justice for these communities? What role does the ethnic and community media play to safeguard the communities they serve?

## **Handala Takes Aim: Textile Design for Social Justice**

*Yasmin Madadi, Laimah Osman and Mona Eldahry, Arab Women Active in the Arts and Media*  
Handala takes aim: Who defines your issues? Arab Women Active in the Arts and Media (AWAAM) initiated a public discourse to reclaim the term “Intifada.” Learn how to use textile stenciling as a tool to promote a social justice campaign. We will provide t-shirts to print on. For more information about Arab Women Active in the Arts and Media and the “i word” campaign go to [awaam.org](http://awaam.org).

### **YOUTH INTEREST**

## **Hope, Youth, & Action**

*Kristal Graham, Sidra Khatkhatay, and Marya Tambawalla, Radio Rootz*

Radio Rootz, People’s Production House Youth Program, invites you to their hands-on workshop. Staying true to their mission of creating a diverse, ethical, and independent media to bring about change, Rootz youth will discuss the role they play in bringing about this change. In addition, participants will get hands-on training and produce vox pops, which are simple radio projects that highlight the voices of the people. Youth are encouraged to attend!

## **Life After the Death of Left Print Journalism?**

*Julie Hollar, Fairness & Accuracy In Reporting (FAIR); Arun Gupta, The Independent; Christy Thornton, North American Congress on Latin America (NACLA)*

For those working towards a more just world, corporate-owned media has been recognized as a bankrupt model that inadequately serves the people. Many vital independent publications have stepped up to fill in those gaps, but they aren’t immune to the crisis affecting print media right now. How are these publications responding to the many new challenges—from the economic crisis, to the recent postal hikes, to the collapse of the Independent Press Association? What new models of journalism and distribution are being forged by publications that serve our own communities, and what lessons can we draw from these examples? This session will be a facilitated discussion; all people either working in media or those with ideas they’d like to share are invited to join the conversation.

## **The Obama Phenomenon: Moving from Symbolism towards Cultural Transformation and Resistance**

*Terry Marshall, Hip Hop Media Lab; John Kim, Soul Survivors*

The race to the White House in 2008 was a watershed moment in American and world history. This interactive workshop will analyze and deconstruct the Obama campaign into its primary components in order to develop a structural understanding of its functioning. Then we will identify tools and skill-sets young activists can use in their communities for social change. There will be an emphasis on how young organizers can harness their personal

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stories and experiences, using media, to develop transformational experiences.

**Twitter Love: A Practical Guide to Grassroots Outreach With Tweets**

*Pollie Barden, Institute of Play; Doris Cacoilo, \_gaia artist collective; Ingrid Hu Dahl, Youth Media Reporter*

Are you an organization that has heard of Twitter and thinks it might be a good way to enhance your outreach? Twitter allows its users to broadcast short messages on a personalized news feed. How can this be used to catalyze social change and further the mission and efforts of an organization? This workshop will demystify Twitter and show step-by-step how and why an organization can adopt this tool. Is Twitter a good fit for you?

**The Beatdown: Hip-Hop vs. the Big 5**

*Omwale Adewale, Grassroots Artists MovEment (G.A.ME); the artist Sosoon; Jordan Berg, Free Press*

G.A.ME is producing a diagram of the music industry as it relates to Hip-Hop and providing tangible solutions through organizing to free artists from the strangleholds of corporations. Performance by Sosoon.



**Youth Media Makers: How Does Youth-Produced Media Move Us From HOPE to ACTION**

*Erika Ruales, Make the Road NY; Tamara Henderson, HarlemLive; Jose Serrano, Manhattan Neighborhood Network; Veralyn Williams, WNYC’s Radio Rookies*

This Panel of youth media makers from Make the Road NY, HarlemLive, Manhattan Neighborhood Network, and Radio Rookies will discuss their work, and specifically how they see it as a force for change in today’s world. How can youth-made media move us from HOPE to ACTION? What are print journalists, video and digital journalists, and radio producers doing right now to create lasting social awareness and change? The panel will be facilitated by young writers from *The Word on the Street*, a youth-produced newspaper in Bushwick, Brooklyn, that is part of Make the Road NY. The workshop will begin with questions for the panel from the facilitators, followed by time for questions from the workshop attendees and networking. The panel will be extremely diverse in terms of age, race, and ethnicity.

**Public Media for the Public Good: Challenges and Opportunities**

*Candida Portugues, El Diario La Prensa; Laura Checkoway, freelance reporter; Irene Villaseñor, media professional and non-profit consultant; Neyda Martinez, Monserrat Ltd.*

The media landscape is in a state of flux. From the polarizing views of mainstream media outlets to the unbridled terrain and 29 million different viewpoints available on the internet and blogosphere, the concept of “public media for the public good” will be discussed from a variety of perspectives. The panelists, whose range of expertise includes traditional journalism, outreach, and independent media-making, will share how they have developed and/or employed content to foster thought-provoking discussion among diverse communities.

**Lunch: 1:45pm – 2:45pm**



Youth 19 and are invited to join us for free pizza in the Youth Lounge.

For all others, lunch is not provided. A list of nearby food options appears on page 35.



## Session 3: 2:45pm – 4:15pm

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### **Mobile Media Means Media Activism**

*Katrin Verclas, MobileActive.org; Priscila Neri, WITNESS; Marty Lucas, Integrated Media Arts; Colleen Macklin, Parsons, The New School for Design*

The explosion of cell phone use globally has put powerful new tools in the hands of citizens, activists, software developers, members of advocacy groups, health providers, and new media journalists. While the commercial development of mobile platforms tends to overshadow social uses in the US and other industrialized countries, in countries like India and South Africa developers are creating a proliferation of new mobile media tools for a variety of social goals including data collection, imaging, social-issue gaming and more. This panel will explore how mobile media tools are being used for social change, by human rights advocates, AIDS activists, and citizen journalists in campaigns in Africa, Latin America and around the world. They will also discuss the future potential of mobile devices and platforms as tools for media activism.

### **Open Source and Free Culture: Video and Media Distribution**

*Dean Jansen, Participatory Culture Foundation; Elizabeth Stark, Yale Internet and Society Project; Forest Mars, Free Internet Cafe & Technology Center*

Learn more about taking advantage of free software for grassroots activist and DIY media and video. We'll briefly talk about copyright, copyleft, and then focus on video publishing with free and open source software.

### **Holding Media & Non-profits Accountable to Their Workers & Communities**

*Jennifer Wager, Doreen Wang, National Mobilization Against SweatShops (NMASS); Roopa Singh, lawyer, poet; Denisse Andrade, media activist*

Independent media and non-profit workers are facing deteriorating conditions in their workplaces: longer work hours, pay cuts, lay offs and even retaliation against workers who attempt to organize unions. This workshop panel will challenge participants to think critically about how independent media, non-profit and arts organizations can be held accountable to their workers and communities. Panelists will discuss various models of organizing and ways to successfully fight for your rights in your workplace.

### **Projecting Public Perception of the People**

*Kym Clark, FREE! Families Rally for Emancipation and Empowerment; Loyda Colon, Justice Committee; Djibril Toure, People's Justice for Community Control & Police Accountability; Vikki Law, Books Through Bars*

Why is media important in struggling for just policing practices? What's happening to poor families/communities? How can video, Internet, radio, cell phones and other technologies be employed to make our neighborhoods safer to help organize those most directly impacted by police brutality and racial profiling to stand up for change? The session will involve a call and response type of facilitation allowing those in attendance to brainstorm, offer ideas and engage in sketching out an action pathway. Together we will explore: How mainstream media impacts prison justice struggles; How prison justice groups have used media and technology strategically to organize and to protect our communities; and How attendees can use time, skills and resources to support prison justice groups using media and technology.



## **How is the ethnic media holding up under the strains of the recession?**

*David Drimer, Forward; Juan Carlos Sanchez, NY Aldialia; Kemi Osukoya, African Bazar; Abu Taher, The Weekly Bangla Patrika*

With the U.S. economy in recession, print news media have taken a hit, with major periodicals downsizing or closing their doors. Those that remain have a new deadline to beat – keeping the publication afloat despite shrinking advertising revenue and declining readership. Is the ethnic press, which is primarily supported by ad revenue from their communities, facing the same threats? If so, what would be the consequences to their communities and the broader society should this media sector disappear?

## **Journalism 101**

*Jessica Lee, The Independent; Mike Burke, Democracy Now!*

The Journalism 101 workshop will briefly cover media analysis, media critique, how to write a news story, how to interview and how to do basic Internet research with the goal that workshop participants will be able to learn how to write their own news articles.

## **Radical Reference Unpanel: Alternative Materials in Libraries**

*Jenna Freedman, Radical Reference; Jess Ross, Books Through Bars*

Following the model of the unconference, this will be a peer education session facilitated by a public and an academic librarian. Participants (librarians, non-librarians & creators of media) will be discussing the current and historical significance of having their works preserved in library collections, the barriers radical/independent/local media can encounter in public/academic libraries, strategies for inclusion (from inside and out), and the social/political consequences of exclusion. Participants will be asked to share their successes, challenges, and strategies for getting their publications (of all types, e.g. books, newspapers, videos) into library collections.

## **Media-Making & Movement-Building: How Progressive Press and Grassroots Organizations Relate and Grow Together**

*Representatives from DWU, Picture the Homeless, Democracy Now!, GRITtv*

Base-building organizations rely on progressive press outlets to amplify their voices and campaigns, and to create high-quality multimedia representations of their agendas and actions. Media institutions as well as grassroots groups strive to be more and more thoughtful about how they pay attention to each others' work, stay in touch with each other, and maintain accountability and communication in any coverage or collaboration that brings them together. Please join us for an interactive conversation among a few of the most dynamic players out there – we'll discuss "best practices" and explore new creative opportunities for how media-makers and grassroots organizations can more thoughtfully, intentionally, and strategically communicate, relate, and build our projects and goals together. Please join us in this critical conversation for social justice activists, and producers and consumers of independent media.

## **Media for Student Activism: Building Networks, Building Movements**

*Angus Johnston, StudentActivism.net; Chloe Smolarski, Hunter College; Paul McBreen, CUNY Graduate Center*

Student activists are constantly struggling to build community, and new media offer powerful tools for making that happen. Our workshop will explore the role of activist-produced media



in creating news, transforming existing narratives, and empowering students in the university and the larger society. The panel will consider the role of alternative and mainstream media in recent organizing at CUNY, NYU and the New School, examine how activists can make effective use of Facebook, Twitter and other social media tools, and illuminate how educators can bring activist-produced video into the classroom.



**Supafriends: The Evolution of a Queer Youth Media Program**

*Jennifer Macchiarelli, Reel News; Global Action Project youth participants and alumni*

Join us in this conversation on the past, present and future of queer youth media activism! Youth and alumni of Global Action Project’s Supafriends program will come together to screen their videos and discuss the impact of their work as queer youth media activists.



**Real Fictions: Telling the Truth through a “Lie”**

*Bryan Lopez and Joshua Carrero, filmmakers; Gisela Sanders and Lauren Muciolio, CUNY TV*

This workshop will discuss how fiction can humanize social justice issues by exploring real life challenges through creative and experimental personal storytelling. We will screen two youth-produced films inspired by issues affecting their personal lives and communities. Afterward the filmmakers will discuss their process and how the use of fiction can inspire youth to speak about issues affecting them on their own terms. To encourage youth filmmaking and bring awareness to the necessity of creating and dispersing these images, the audience will write down an image or issue that they have never seen presented in mainstream media or on the big screen and put it into a hat. Then, the audience will break into groups and each group member will draw an idea from the hat. Each group will vote on an issue to present as a film idea to the larger group.

**Session 4: 4:30pm – 6:00pm**

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**Grassroots Reporting for a Broad Audience**

*Deepa Fernandes and Renee Feltz, People’s Production House*

Veteran grassroots journalists Deepa Fernandes and Renee Feltz will facilitate a guided discussion on how to push yourself to try new formats and outlets for stories the mainstream media fails to tell. Learn tips on how to get your foot in the door, and how to keep your politics while reaching a new audience. Find out ways to repackage one story for multiple outlets. Other activities include two exercises where participants practice how to pitch, and to repackage one story for multiple outlets.

**Grassroots Campaign Strategy - Building Power from the Bottom Up**

*Nell Geiser, JFREJ (Jews for Racial and Economic Justice); Donna Truong, CAAAV*

Learn the nuts and bolts of grassroots community organizing. This workshop will provide participants with tools to develop campaign strategy through power analysis and a solid community outreach plan. Join CAAAV: Organizing Asian Community and JFREJ (Jews for Racial and Economic Justice) for a case study of a campaign for community involvement in the development of the East River Waterfront.



## **Immigrant Communities Using Grassroots Media for Movement Building**

*Ravi Ragbir - Families for Freedom; representatives from Nah We Yone (It Belongs To Us); Netza Moreno, Esperanza del Barrio; Jei Fong, Break the Chains Alliance*

In Early April, President Obama vowed to make immigration policy reform a priority issue, but progressive organizations are waiting to see if his administration takes a radical shift toward granting equal and full rights to all undocumented workers. Immigrant rights, labor, youth, civil rights and other social justice groups are seizing the opportunity to challenge the new administration in supporting policies that truly liberate and decriminalize undocumented immigrants and their communities. An increasing number of immigrant and workers rights organizations are creating their own media in order to get their voices heard, to affect popular opinion and to shape immigration policy. Come hear how some of these organizations are empowering their own members and constituents through the process of creating the media collectively. The workshop will also engage participants in a lively discussion about how they can bring these tools back to their communities and replicate the same pedagogies of empowering their members to use media to advance their social justice work.

## **Arm Yourself Against the Corporate Media and Learn How To Take It Back**

*Sakura Saunders, Prometheus Radio Project; Jordan Berg, Free Press; Jennifer L. Pozner, Women In Media & News (WIMN)*

What do media policies debated in Washington have to do with the blandness on the radio and the exploitative reality TV shows we can't seem to get away from? Are media companies simply "giving the American people what we want to hear and see," as they claim? Media literacy can help us better understand what we are consuming when we watch and listen to everything from broadcast news to reality TV to commercial radio. And media activism can help us get a handle on what policies are supporting the five corporations that control nearly everything we read, see and hear, and which solutions - from efforts to break up the media monopolies to the fight for Low Power FM Radio - can help us fight to take back control of our media in our communities.

## **Remix My Podcast**

*Andreas Thai-yan Jackson, Hip Hop Association; Black Robb, Film Blitz*

This workshop tackles the distribution of audio over the Internet with the spirit of Hip-Hop culture - expressing oneself with common digital tools at your disposal. This workshop will address the production as well as distribution of narrowcast audio programs, for the independent artist, the DJ, etc, to share and promote quality music and community empowerment without commercial media exposure. This workshop has been designed with the Hip-Hop community in mind, but is intended to appeal to any community online, as the podcasting tools shared are universally applicable. Participants will interact with a live podcast produced within the workshop.

## **Bitches, Ho's and Baby Momma's: The Shifting Identities of Women of Color Within the Shrinking Media Landscape**

*Joyce Angela Jellison, Write Out Loud; Tokumbo Bodunde, Chica Luna Productions*

Who is hijacking and erasing the historical memory of women of color: Those who produce and profit from media perpetuating and reaffirming racial/gender stereotypes or those who are consuming this media? This workshop looks at current media trends and resources in order to reconceptualize diversification of the media landscape.





## **MNN Youth Channel Presents: Public Service Announcement Workshop (PSA-in-a-Day)**

*Malik S. Parker and Vanessa Bateau, MNN's Youth Channel*

Participants will use video cameras and their collective creativity to create public service announcements (video messages). The session begins with an overview of media literacy and the language of video, including camera shots, points of view, and cuts. After breaking into groups, participants will work together to brainstorm ideas, storyboard the shots, and shoot their PSAs.

## **Taking Back Wall Street: DIY Corporate Research for Activists and Mediamakers**

*Aliqae Geraci and Karen Okomoto, Radical Reference*

A hands-on session designed for media makers and activists looking to challenge the corporate status quo and mainstream media coverage of the economic crisis, and construct critical analyses of corporate activity and relationships. The wealth of available information on corporations and industries can be overwhelming - this workshop will teach participants how to research more efficiently and effectively, utilizing freely available electronic resources such as [fedspending.org](http://fedspending.org), [thomas.gov](http://thomas.gov) and [sec.gov](http://sec.gov) to uncover valuable financial, legal and political data. By focusing on free resources and drawing on relevant examples from corporate watchdog and Israeli divestment efforts, the workshop will give attendees the skills and strategies necessary to conduct targeted research for their diverse communities and campaigns.

## **YouTube, You Lose, Politics of Internet Video Distribution**

*Hye-Jung Park, Media Justice Fund of the Funding Exchange; Jamie McClelland and Alfredo Lopez, May First/People Link*

Despite the enormous contribution of the left toward democratizing media in general, and the influence of the left on the Internet itself, the first wave of the video revolution on the Internet has corporate roots. In 2009, the ubiquity and ease with which anyone can distribute video to a large audience is largely a result of YouTube and the Adobe Flash video format. The second wave of this revolution is yet to come. Given the economic crisis, and the growing strength of the progressive movement both in the US and internationally, now is a critical time for the left to define and develop the next wave in video distribution.

## **The Power of Video & Grassroots Advocacy: Using Media To Organize Adult Home Residents & Get Foster Teens Adopted**

*Pat O'Brien and Chester Jackson, You Gotta Believe!; Jennifer Stearns and Woody Wilson, Coalition of Institutionalized Aged and Disabled (CIAD)*

Can video really advance social change? Just ask You Gotta Believe and the Coalition of Institutionalized Aged and Disabled (CIAD), two organizations that have used video to strength their advocacy work and counter mainstream media's fleeting, distorted and often denigrated treatment of the communities they serve. You Gotta Believe, an older teens adoption agency, has produced over 300 episodes of the *Adopting Teens & 'Tweens* show on Brooklyn Community Access Television. The program seeks to unite teens with families while clarifying misconceptions about older teens and the foster care system. For the past 5 years, CIAD has used video to educate and empower nursing home and adult home residents to assert their individual rights, organize their residencies and lobby for reforms at the state level. Representatives from both organizations will present their approach to video and advocacy, and then demonstrate tried-and-true production activities to create truly effective video.



# 2009 NYC GMC Participant Bios

## **Omowale Adewale**

Omowale Adewale is the Executive Director and co-founder of the Grassroots Artists MovEment (G.A.ME), an international membership of artists and organizers building youth leadership and preventing youth incarceration, developing healthcare access and unionizing and empowering artists in the music and media industries.

## **Gisela Sanders Alcantara**

Gisela is a producer and editor at cable station CUNY TV, Channel 75 in New York. She is working on a documentary project teaching Bushwick youth media literacy and filmmaking. Her award-winning documentary thesis, *Yo Soy Alcántara*, has been shown at festivals and museums around the world.

## **Milton Allimadi**

Milton Allimadi is Publisher and CEO of *Black Star News* and has a degree in journalism from the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia. He's worked for *The Journal of Commerce*; *The Wall Street Journal*; *The New York Times*; and *The City Sun*. He co-founded *The Black Star News* in 1997.

## **Megan Andelloux**

Megan Andelloux works as a board certified sexual educator, sexual rights activist and author in the book: *We Got Issues!* She is the founder of a Sexual Resource Center, located in Providence, RI, where she hosts workshops, speakers, and activist events related to sex positive issues.

## **Denisse Andrade**

Denisse is a long-time media activist and organizer who has worked with countless media organizations, including Paper Tiger and MNN, among others.

## **Majeed Baber**

Majeed is a reporter with the *Asia Tribune*, an Urdu language newspaper.

## **Abdulai Bah**

Abdulai is a member of Nah We Yone (it belongs to us), a non-profit organization that provides assistance to immigrants from Africa and elsewhere. Abdulai has reported on the condition of Hurricane Katrina Survivors in New Orleans as well as Katrina evacuees living in New York.

## **Pollie Barden**

Pollie Barden is a designer working with the Institute of Play on a wellness social network for middle school students and collaborates with BridgeMultimedia and the Social Justice Internship Program at NYU on a vocational network for people with developmental disabilities.

## **Vanessa Bateau**

Vanessa Bateau produced her first documentary, *Scrollii*, about her lifelong struggle with scoliosis, while a participant in Reel Works Teen Filmmaking. *Scrollii* has been featured in multiple festivals. She is a Peer Trainer at Youth Channel.

## **Jordan Berg**

Jordan Berg is Outreach Coordinator for Free Press. He supports the planning and implementation of the National Conference for Media Reform. He has presented on creating identity and media policy as well as hip hop and media policy.

## **Tokumbo Bodunde**

Tokumbo Bodunde works for the filmmaking organization Chica Luna Productions. She also teaches race, gender and media



at Manhattan College and William Paterson University. She screened her documentary, *Black Girls Face: R. Kelly*, at the Reel Sisters Film Festival and Women, Action & Media Conference.

### **Mike Burke**

Mike Burke is a news producer at the TV and radio show *Democracy Now!*, based in New York City. Burke has been a contributor to *The Independent* since 2000.

### **Doris Cacoilo**

Doris Cacoilo is an artist/activist/educator. She is director of *\_gaia*, an artist collective working to help support women artists and the advocacy of women's issues. She has an MFA in Integrated Media Arts from Hunter College and currently teaches at Hunter College.

### **Joshua Carrero**

Josh Carrero is the Director of *The Sad Churro Family*. This film is the second film co-directed by Jeremy Lopez & Mike Vasquez. Josh and Jeremy are freshmen; Mike is a junior. The film premiered at the 2009 Havana Film Festival.

### **Laura Checkoway**

Laura Checkoway has been writing about hip hop culture and music for more than a decade. Known for her revealing celebrity profiles and investigative features, she has written for *Vibe*, *The Village Voice*, *Latina*, *XXL*, *Giant*, and *Missbehave* magazines, among others.

### **Kym Clark**

Kym Clark is a media and performance artist and activist working on issues directly affecting disenfranchised communities, especially women/men of color. Acting Director of FREE!, Clark and her member organizers

originated the "Stop the Contract" campaign that grew into the NY Campaign for Telephone Justice.

### **Loyda Colon**

Loyda Colon is the Director of the Justice Committee, part of the National Congress for Puerto Rican Rights fighting to end police brutality and unjust policing practices in NYC.

### **Ingrid Hu Dahl**

Ingrid Hu Dahl is an Editor for *Youth Media Reporter* and a Program Officer at the Academy for Educational Development. She is a founding member of the Willie Mae Rock Camp for Girls and guitarist in the band Boyskout. She holds a M.A. degree in Women's and Gender Studies from Rutgers University.

### **Dharma Dailey**

Dharma Dailey has worked on many campaigns to support community media including expanding low-power radio, saving public access, and growing locally owned community networks. As a Media Justice Fund consultant she is working with media reform groups in support of prison phone reforms.

### **David Drimer**

David Drimer is the Associate Publisher and General Manager of the *Forward*, a national weekly Jewish newspaper and website. Drimer received an MBA in marketing from the University of Miami. He later studied multi-media design and production at New York University.

### **Earl Dunovant**

Earl Dunovant is a web developer and the owner/operator of the web site Prometheus 6 (<http://www.prometheus6.org/>), a public policy discussion site that assumes an African American perspective.

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### **Mona Eldahry**

Mona Eldahry is Founding Director of AWAAM: Arab Women Active in the Arts and Media. Her background is in video production, live sound and popular education. She works to empower community members with the technical and community organizing skills necessary to affect social change.

### **Lindsay Fautleroy**

Lindsay has a Master's degree in Media Sociology at NYU. Currently, as Director of External Education Programs at Educational Video Center, she works extensively with teaching artists and educators to integrate educational theory into practical application.

### **Renee Feltz**

Renee Feltz is a People's Production House instructor and was news director for Pacifica station KPFT-FM in Houston, Texas. She co-produced the award-winning multimedia examination, *BusinessofDetention.com*, and has reported for *BBC*, *NPR*, *Air America*, *Indymedia*, *The Independent*, *The Texas Observer*, *NACLA*, *Left Turn* and *Mother Jones*.

### **Deepa Fernandes**

Deepa Fernandes is co-founder of People's Production House, and formerly hosted the WBAI program *Wakeup Call*, and Pacifica radio's *Free Speech Radio News*.

### **Jei Fong**

Jei is a staff organizer with Chinese Staff & Workers' Association, and coalition member of Break the Chains Alliance, a coalition of community-based organizations fighting for the rights of immigrants and working people to repeal employer sanctions and restore labor protections to all workers, regardless of status.

### **Jenna Freedman**

Jenna Freedman of Radical Reference is the Coordinator of Reference Services and Zine Librarian at Barnard College. Talks, publications, and blog at <http://jenna.openflows.com>.

### **Matthew Friedrichs**

Editor and journalist since 1997. He has a strong interest in online communities, blogging, self-publishing, zines and news media.

### **Nell Geiser**

Nell Geiser is a member leader in the Housing Justice campaign of Jews for Racial and Economic Justice. She spent several years supporting community opposition to Columbia University's expansion in West Harlem and worked for six years in community radio in Colorado and New York.

### **Aliqae Geraci**

Aliqae is a public librarian in Jamaica, Queens, and a graduate student in Labor Studies at CUNY. Her past projects have focused on labor and economic justice, zine and independent media preservation, food advocacy and the creation of autonomous community spaces.

### **Clarisel Gonzalez**

Clarisel Gonzalez is a freelance journalist, independent producer and active photoblogger. A veteran journalist, Clarisel is publisher and editor of *Puerto Rico Sun Communications*. PRSUN is aimed at informing, empowering and building community. Clarisel is also host of PRSUN Radio at [www.blogtalkradio.com/prsunradio](http://www.blogtalkradio.com/prsunradio).

### **Kristal Graham**

Currently attends Long Island University. She took part in the Junior Scholars pro-



gram, which teaches youth black history and media. After an introduction to radio through Junior Scholars, she became involved in Radio Rootz. Through Radio Rootz she changed her major from Economics to Radio Journalism.

### **David Green**

David is a reporter with *Our Time Press*.

### **Arun Gupta**

Arun Gupta has been a writer and editor for *The Independent* since 2000. He has written extensively about the Iraq War for *The Independent*, *Z Magazine* and *Left Turn* and has been a frequent guest on *Democracy Now!*. He is currently working on a book about the history of the war.

### **Sebastian Gutierrez**

Sebastian Gutierrez was raised in Bogota, Colombia, but was born in New York where he currently lives. Sebastian is a graduate student in Hunter College's Integrated Media Arts program. He is now working on a documentary about squatters in New York City.

### **Jessica Habie**

Jessica is the founder of EyesInfinite Films and President of the EyesInfinite Foundation. Her first feature film, *The Art of Love and Struggle*, was released in March 2006. Jessica is currently working on post-production for the *Art and Apathy Documentary Project*.

### **Devorah Hill**

Devorah Hill, Final Cut Pro and digital storytelling diva, has taught community-based journalism for more than 20 years. She has taught dozens of Digital Storytelling workshops and teaches non-linear editing at MNN.

### **Tamara Henderson**

Tamara Henderson is Editor-In-Chief of HarlemLive.

### **Twanna A. Hines**

Twanna A. Hines writes about sex, dating, relationships, men, pop culture and celebrities for *Huffington Post*, *Lifetime*, *Nerve*, *New York Press*, and others. AOL placed her site, *funkybrownchick* on their Black Voices list of best blogs.

### **Rick Ho**

Is a reporter with *Sing Tao*.

### **Julie Hollar**

Julie Hollar is the managing editor of FAIR's magazine, *Extra!*. Her work received an award from Project Censored in 2005; Hollar also co-directed the 2006 documentary *Boy I Am* and was previously active in the Paper Tiger Television collective.

### **Andreas Thai-yan Jackson**

Director of On-line and Business Development for the Hip-Hop Association. Curator and advisory board member for The New Jersey Performing Arts Center's Alternate Routes Hip-Hop Festival.

### **Chester Jackson**

Chester is the Associate Executive Director of You Gotta Believe and the co-producer of the *Adopting Teens* and 'Tweens TV show.

### **Dean Jansen**

Dean works with the Participatory Culture Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to making mass media more democratic as it moves online. He has been very active in the free culture movement for the past few years. Recent projects include: <http://getmiro.com> <http://youtomb.mit.edu>.

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### **Joyce Angela Jellison**

Joyce Angela Jellison is the director of Write Out Loud: Transforming Our Lives Through Writing Our Truths. Ms. Jellison is an award-winning journalist, teacher and the author of three books, *Where Everything Fits Beautifully*, *Black Apple* and *Shhh..the secret language of black women*.

### **Angus Johnston**

Angus Johnston is a historian of American student activism and student culture (PhD CUNY 2009). He has been involved in student activism at the local, state, and national level. As an undergraduate he founded a student activist newspaper, and in 2008 he created studentactivism.net.

### **Sidra Khatkhatay**

Sidra joined Radio Rootz 2 summers ago. She began as an intern through Radio Rootz' partnership with SAYA! (South Asian Youth Action). There she helped produce an award winning radio feature, *Hate Crimes in the South Asian Communities*. Sidra is a high school senior and has been accepted to NYU.

### **John Kim**

Chong Kim is a long time grassroots community organizing "activist". Chong served as a communications liaison to the NYC Solidarity Committee For Katrina/Rita Evacuees back in 2005. He is the Founder of Soul Survivors, whose first collaborative project, "Hip-Hop Sustains," is the first-ever solar powered hip-hop concert.

### **Vikki Law**

Victoria Law is a writer, photographer and mother. In 1996, she helped start Books Through Bars-NYC, a group that sends free books to prisoners nationwide. Since 2002, she has worked with women incarcerated

nationwide to produce the zine *Tenacious: Art and Writings from Women in Prison*. Her new book, *Resistance Behind Bars*, is now available.

### **Jessica Lee**

Jessica Lee is the coordinator of *The Independent*, the leading alternative newspaper in New York City, published every three weeks on Fridays. Lee coordinates the news section, production and distribution of the largely volunteer newspaper. She has been involved in teaching the Basic Journalism workshop for three years.

### **Alfredo Lopez**

Alfredo is Co-Director of May First/People Link, the progressive Internet organization. He has been involved in movements for social change for 40 years as an organizer of mass demonstrations and events as well as a leader in the Puerto Rican Independence Movement.

### **Bryan Lopez**

Bryan Lopez is the director of *G-Boys*. *G-Boys* premiered at the 2009 Havana Film Festival; it is Bryan's fourth film. Next year he's attending Evergreen State College in Washington State.

### **Marty Lucas**

Marty Lucas is currently the Director of the Integrated Media Arts Program in the Film and Media Studies Program at Hunter College. Over the last year he has been working on a food security initiative with Story Workshop, a media NGO in Malawi.

### **Jennifer Macchiarelli**

Jennifer is passionate about filmmaking, photography and design. Formerly the Communications Coordinator at Youth Rights Media in New Haven, CT, Jennifer launched



the Reel News program and supported youth organizing initiatives focused on juvenile justice and education reform.

### **Colleen Macklin**

Colleen Macklin is an Associate Professor in the Department of Communication Design and Technology at Parsons and Director of Prototyping Evaluation, Teaching and Learning Lab. Colleen was a fellow at the India China Institute at the New School, investigating the use of mobile phones and location-based media in urban design.

### **Yasmin Madadi**

Yasmin Madadi is a poet and media maker who has lead youth workshops in creative writing, t-shirt printing and radio documentary making. Prior to her work with AWAAM, she conducted youth outreach for June Jordan's Poetry for the People. Yasmin has also worked as a reporter and researcher for *Free Speech Radio News*, *Rolling Stone* and *The Nation Magazine*.

### **Forest Mars**

Forest Mars is a digital technologist currently developing social media and video infrastructure at the nation's largest community access center. He brings a background in Cybernetics to projects for social change including New York's only Free Internet Cafe & Technology Center and the first WiFi Internet Provider in the city.

### **Terry Marshall**

Terry Marshall is the founder of the Hip Hop Media Lab, a media justice project. From 2006-2007, Terry was the Fellowship Coordinator of the B.L.O.C. (Building Leadership Organizing Communities), a national network of youth organizers. Terry is the Lead Youth Organizer of the Healthcare Education Project of 1199SEIU Healthcare Union.

### **Carlos A. Martinez**

Carlos Martinez is a Colombian-born environmentalist and photographer based in Queens. He is Green Map System's Program Director and Latin American Liaison. He is also a teaching artist at the International Center of Photography's youth programs.

### **Neyda Martinez**

Neyda Martinez is a programming, marketing and communications professional for clients ranging from non-profits to major corporations to individual artists. In 2002, Martinez formed a private practice, Monserat Ltd., to render communications, marketing and business strategies. Most recently, she concluded a five-year tenure as Senior Marketing Manager for P.O.V. | American Documentary Inc., television's longest-running award-winning showcase for independent non-fiction films on PBS.

### **Giovanni Matos**

Giovanni Matos is 20 years old and a graduate of Bushwick Community High School. He has worked on *Word on the Street*, a publication of the Youth Power Project at Make the Road New York, for six years, most recently as Editor-In-Chief.

### **Paul McBreen**

Paul McBreen is a doctoral student at The Graduate Center of The City University of New York in the Classics program. He teaches as an adjunct at Hostos Community College (English 111) and Queens College (Introduction to Labor Studies). He also teaches GED Test Preparation at Local 32-BJ.

### **Jamie McClelland**

Jamie is Co-Director of May First/People Link, the progressive Internet organization. He played an anchor role in developing the



technology team for the US Social Forum in 2007. He has been active in progressive politics, ranging from alternative media (Paper Tiger Television) to collective labor organizing for over 20 years.

### **Conor McGrady**

Conor McGrady is an artist and activist from the north of Ireland. He exhibits widely, and has created murals in Belfast (N. Ireland), New York, New Bedford and Chicago. He has worked with Groundswell Community Mural Project for five years.

### **Netza Moreno**

Netza originally began working for Esperanza del Barrio as the organization's Media and Community Organizer and became Esperanza's Administrative Director. He was born in Guadalajara (Mexico), grew up in northern California and from an early age on gained professional experience in various high-profile community organizations.

### **Lauren Mucciolo**

Lauren is a Producer for CUNY TV and is working on a documentary project teaching youth media literacy and filmmaking. She has run professional development seminars and designed new media-enhanced curriculum for teachers at the American Social History Project.

### **Priscila Neri**

Priscila Neri, Witness Hub Content Coordinator, is a Brazilian journalist and documentary filmmaker. She previously ran the New York office of the Brazilian-based CDI (Committee for Democracy in Information Technology), a network of grassroots Technology & Civic Engagement Schools in urban slums throughout Latin America.

### **Pat O'Brien**

Pat O'Brien is the Founder and Executive Director of You Gotta Believe! The Older Child Adoption & Permanency Movement, Inc. He has produced "The Adopting Teens and 'Tweens Show'" since November 2001. Pat also hosts a live radio broadcast every Sunday night on the same subject.

### **Karen Okomoto**

Karen has worked on community gardening, environmental justice, feminist, anti-racist, and counter-colonial struggles. She is a CUNY librarian.

### **Laimah Osman**

Laimah Osman is a multi-media activist (artist + activist) living in Brooklyn. Her visual media work includes web, printmaking, drawing and collage. She runs AWAAM's design mentorship and serves on the organization's board. Currently, she is working with Sisterfire NYC (a local branch of INCITE! Women of Color Against Violence) and Azad (liberation) Design.

### **Kemi Osukoya**

Kemi Osukoya is the Publisher of *African Bazar*, America's only magazine specifically for International investors, traders, and those interested in Africa's investment opportunities and cultural affairs.

### **Hye-Jung Park**

Hye-Jung Park, Program Officer for the Media Justice Fund at The Funding Exchange, is a media and community activist with more than two decades experience in local, national and international grassroots organizing. She has produced several award-winning documentaries on Korea and new immigrants.



### **Malik S. Parker**

Malik S. Parker was born in Brooklyn, New York. In 2001 he enrolled in an acting class with City Lights Youth Theater (CLYT) in Manhattan, where he stumbled upon MNN Youth Channel. He is proud to have maintained an affiliation with Youth Channel for the past 6 years.

### **Candida Portugues**

With Master's degrees in Visual Arts and Journalism, Candida has worked in film and television, and as a writer, photographer, editor, producer and reporter for Spanish News Agency *EFE*, *El Nuevo Dia*, *Teimpos del Mundo* and many more. Candida also runs Bercany, and her photography has been the subject of several solo shows.

### **Jennifer L. Pozner**

Jennifer L. Pozner is founder and E.D. of Women In Media & News (WIMN), a media analysis, education and advocacy group. She has appeared on CNN, FOX and MSNBC, and lectures on gender, race and class issues in media, pop culture and politics. Her first book, *Reality Bites Back: The Troubling Truth About Guilty Pleasure TV*, is forthcoming from Seal Press.

### **Ravi Ragbir**

Ravi is an organizer with Families for Freedom, a New York-based multi-ethnic defense network by and for immigrants facing and fighting deportation.

### **Audacia Ray**

Audacia Ray is a media maker and activist who is passionate about sexual rights, and is the author of *Naked on the Internet*. Audacia is a former sex worker who was an editor at *\$pread Magazine* and co-founded the Sex Work Awareness support network.

### **Kristofer Ríos**

Kristofer Ríos is a community radio trainer and Program Associate for the Digital Expansion Initiative at People's Production House. Using media literacy and media production tools, Kristofer educates and reports on communication policies that affect low-income and immigrant communities in New York City.

### **Black Robb**

Black Robb is the Producer of Film Blitz ([www.Filmblitz.org](http://www.Filmblitz.org)), a film screening and networking event for filmmakers. A New York native, Black Robb has been a fixture in the independent music and film scene. He holds a degree in Corporate & Cable Communications from Manhattan Community College of CUNY.

### **Jess Ross**

Jess Ross is a public librarian and prison activist working with Books Through Bars-NYC and the New York Coalition for Women Prisoners.

### **Fivel Rothberg**

Fivel Rothberg is a media activist, graduate student and Adjunct Professor at Hunter College. He has years of experience working with community groups as a facilitator to help them produce media so that they may represent themselves.

### **Erika Ruales**

Erika Ruales is a 16-year-old student at the High School of Health and Human Services. She has been writing for *Word on the Street* for two years and is currently making a documentary film about teen parenthood.

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### **Juan Carlos Sanchez**

General Manager, *NY Aldialia*. The Spanish language daily was launched recently and Juan has great experiences to share.

### **Sakura Saunders**

Sakura Saunders has been in the community radio movement for the past 11 years. She was Program Director of Community Station KDVS and helped launch the station KDRT-LP. Sakura currently works with the Prometheus Radio Project, a group that builds and advocates for community radio in the US.

### **Jose Serrano**

Jose Serrano is a 17-year-old from the Bronx. Jose learned about media production and communication in the MNN Youth Channel internship program. Jose now produces his own show, *The Jose Show*, which airs on MNN and BronxNet. He hopes to become a news anchor and a political leader.

### **Monica Shores**

Monica Shores is Managing Editor of and frequent contributor to *\$pread Magazine*. Her writing has appeared or is forthcoming in *The Rumpus*, *DCist*, *Popmatters*, *Alternet*, and *Make/shift* magazine. She also pens a bimonthly column for *CarnalNation* on sex worker rights.

### **Roopa Singh**

A lawyer and media activist, Roopa is author of the blog *Political Poet*; she also teaches at CUNY City College.

### **Chloe Smolarski**

Chloe Smolarski, a MFA candidate in the IMA program at Hunter College, is an educator, artist and media activist in NYC.

### **SoSoon**

Born and raised in Queens New York, SoSoon represents Hip Hop culture in its truest form: the soundtrack to the hard working, thinking person's life. SoSoon has graced stages across the east coast. See extensive list of performances and history at his website: [www.sosoonmusic.com](http://www.sosoonmusic.com).

### **spiritchild**

spiritchild rhythmic poet of mental notes is lead with The Hip Hop Fusion Band Mental Notes (Xspiritmental Hip Hop Fusion Band). Founder & Chair of Movement In Motion Artist & Activist Collective. Creative Consultant for Eyes Infinite Films ([www.eyesinfinite.com](http://www.eyesinfinite.com)).

### **Elizabeth Stark**

Elizabeth Stark is a visiting fellow at the Yale Internet and Society Project, a board member for the Students for Free Culture, and co-founder of the Harvard Free Culture chapter. She is active in movements related to access to information, copyright reform, and digital freedoms.

### **Jennifer Stearns**

Jennifer Stearns started the CIAD Media Team in 2004, working with adult home resident leaders and staff organizers to develop production policies and activities that would put adult home residents both behind and in front of the camera. Over the past five years, the Media Team has produced twenty videos on adult home issues.

### **Tony Stephens**

Tony Stephens, from The Opportunity Agenda, has been engaged with the media for over 15 years, working with various public interest groups. His expertise lies on strategic message design and electronic media. Prior to this, Stephens worked as a consul-



tant and spent seven years in formation for the priesthood.

### **Abu Taher**

Abu Taher, the Executive Editor of *The Weekly Bangla Patrika*, started his journalism career in 1986. He worked in various news weeklies in New York after immigrating to the US. In 1996, he joined *The Weekly Bangla Patrika* as an Executive Editor.

### **Marya Tambawalla**

Marya is 20 years old and attends Queens College, majoring in Business/minoring in Communication. She started with Radio Rootz in 2005, as a summer intern and is currently a Senior Lead Trainer.

### **Christy Thornton**

Christy Thornton is Executive Director of the North American Congress on Latin America (NACLA) and Publisher of its award-winning magazine, *NACLA Report on the Americas*. She received a Master's degree from Columbia University in 2003, and is the co-editor of *Real World Latin America* (Dollars and Sense, 2008) and *The Development Imperative: Toward a People-Centered Approach* (SSRC, 2005).

### **Djibril Toure**

Djibril Toure can be heard on recordings by Wu-Tang Clan, Hedrush, Rise & Shine, Rha-Goddess, and the Welfare Poets. A committed grassroots activist, he has organized around police brutality, political prisoners, and Vieques PR, and part of "CopWatch" - a community policing and documentation program.

### **Donna Truong**

Donna Truong is a junior in Interdisciplinary Studies at Adelphi University. She has been an intern with CAAAV since July 2008,

and has done extensive outreach in Chinatown to involve residents into organizing projects.

### **Katrin Verclas**

Katrin Verclas is co-founder and editor of *MobileActive.org*, a global network of practitioners using mobile phones in social change work. She is currently a member of the Working Group of the Open Mobile Consortium.

### **Irene Villaseñor**

Irene Villaseñor is a media professional and non-profit consultant. Originally a youth producer at EVC, Irene served as the Youth Views Director for 8 years at P.O.V. the tv series on PBS. She served as advisor for the Ford Foundation, Kentucky Foundation for Women, Tribeca Film Institute and the Women, Action and the Media Conference.

### **Jennifer Wager**

Ms. Wager is a community media activist and NMASS board member. She teaches video journalism at colleges in the NYC/NJ area. Formerly she worked as a media educator with MNN, training hundreds of community organizations. Her documentaries have screened on Latin American television networks and film festivals around the world.

### **Doreen Wang**

Doreen Wang is an organizer with NMASS's Justice Will Be Served! Campaign, which mobilizes food and other service industry workers. She has a legal case against the Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA), a Chinatown non-profit organization, for firing her in retaliation for attempts to unionize fellow MOCA workers.

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**Joe Wei**

Joe is a reporter for *World Journal*, a Chinese language newspaper.

**Elizabeth Weisbrot**

Elizabeth Weisbrot is activist, author, student and performance artist. A member of the sex work community for 5 years, Elizabeth's social work focuses on the street-based sex workers to combat the stigma and marginalization experienced by the community and advocate for decriminalization of sex workers in North America and worldwide.

**Justice Whitaker**

Justice Whitaker, an alumni of NYU, works in media education at The Green School. He is the co-founder of The Five.12 Collective, an artist network that uses music & film to increase cross-cultural awareness and address social issues in our global community.

**Veralyn Williams**

Veralyn Williams is a Hunter College, Media Studies graduate. She joined Radio Rookies in 2004. Her story *Legal Status* received a Peabody Award, and *The N Word - It Represents Hatred* won the 2007 Regional RT-NDA Edward R. Murrow Award. Today she is a freelance television and radio producer, reporter, and editor.

**Woody Wilson**

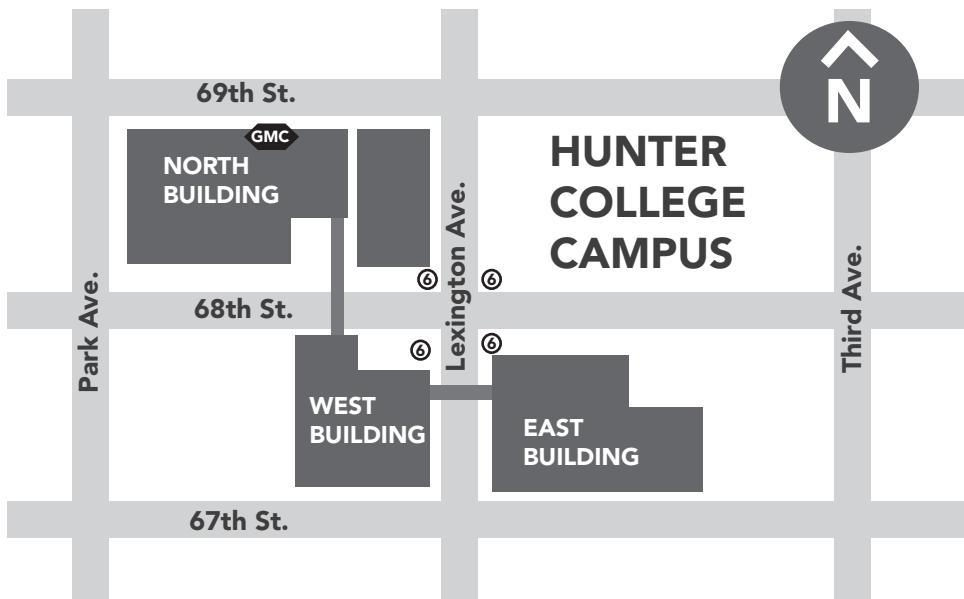
Woody Wilson is President of CIAD's Board of Directors, a member of CIAD's Policy Committee, and has participated in numerous Media Team productions. Wilson has served many terms as president of the Resident Council at Palisade Gardens Adult Home in Yonkers, New York.

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**Abdulai Bah** is a NYC-based radio reporter for WBAI-FM and FSRN.

**Renee Feltz** was news director at KPFT-FM in Houston, and is a national affairs reporter and editor for Free Speech Radio News on Pacifica Radio.

**Deepa Fernandes** is a radio host and features reporter for the BBC World Service, ABC radio, as well as Pacifica and public radio networks in the US.

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Fractured Atlas ([fracturedatlas.org](http://fracturedatlas.org)) is a national, non-profit organization that serves artists and arts organizations by providing them with programs and services that include access to funding, insurance, education, and more.

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RECYouth ('Reel' Education and Communication for Youth) programs, hosted by NYC's Parks & Recreation Centers and Computer Resource Centers, offers free digital technology workshops to teens, exposing them to marketable multimedia skills while expanding their creative imaginations. [nycgovparks.org/sub\\_things\\_to\\_do/crc/recyouth/index.html](http://nycgovparks.org/sub_things_to_do/crc/recyouth/index.html)

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The Standby Program ([standby.org](http://standby.org)) is a non-profit providing access to high-end video, audio and film post-production and preservation services at low rates to independent artists, media-makers and non-profit organizations.

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