The Hip-Hop Association, in conjunction with the Social Services of Hip Hop, We Got Issues!, Afro-Latin@Project, and the New York State Youth Leadership Council present HHEAL Fest, a three-day celebration during NY's Immigrant Heritage Week. HHEAL Fest will include interactive workshops, panels, film screenings, and performances that will focus on Hip-Hop as a tool for education, immigrant history, media literacy, and life skills and youth empowerment. HHEAL Fest will be taking place from April 18-20 at the Raphael Hernandez School of the Performing Arts (IS 217) in the Bronx.

HHEAL Fest combines the Freshest Youth Program, Hip-Hop Education (H2Ed) Summit, and town hall meeting with a special tribute dedicated to the Founder of Hip-Hop - DJ Kool Herc and the First Lady of Hip-Hop - Cindy Campbell in homage of their Jamaican roots.

Some of the presenters and speakers include Erica Ford (Life Camp), Dr. Daniel Banks (NYU-Hip-Hop Theater Lab), Minister Server (Hip-Hop Life Coach), Derrick the Rapmathician, Maria Rubio (Graf Artist), NYCORE, B-Girl GI Jane, Capital X (Death Penalty Abolitionist), Sarah Montgomery-Glinski (Hip-Hop Association), Andrew Landers (Hip-Hop Association), Dr. David Kirkland (NYU-Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development), Nicole Duncan-Smith (Author, I am Hip-Hop), Cristina Jimenez (New York State Young Leadership Council), Dr. George Priestley (Afro-Latino Project), and Sandy Shin (Breakthrough: Building Human Rights Culture). In addition to the progressive facilitators, many community organizations will have tables full of information on their programs and initiatives.

Make sure to register by April 1 at www.hiphopassociation.org/hheal08

PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE

Freshest Youth Program | April 18, 1-5 PM: Students from NYC public schools will participate in a day of FREE activities that include media literacy workshop, film screenings, and Hip-Hop aesthetic workshops (mcing, djing, break-dancing, graffiti, and beat-boxing). The Hip-Hop Association, in collaboration with its community partners, offers youth a fresh perspective on learning, the arts, and social justice.

Welcome/Intro (1pm)

Panel Discussion (1:15-2:30pm) - Express Yourself: Using Hip-Hop as a creative outlet

Moderator: Jineea Butler

Panelists: Franco Rosado (Activist/Hip-Hop Theater), Maria Rubio (Graf Artist/Aerosol Art), Kazi Rolle (MC/Hip-Hop Project), GI Jane (B-Girl/Break-dancing), and Mazi Mutafa (Word Beats and Life)

Hip-Hop Theater Play - (2:45-3:15pm) - Excerpt Performances of "Eastside Story

Film Screenings | Concurrent Workshops (3:30-5pm)

H2Ed Summit | April 19, 9:30 AM-6 PM: The H2Ed Summit brings together noted Hip-Hop educators, historians, and community organizations to facilitate professional development workshops. The H2Ed Summit serves as a space for exchange of educational models, practices, theories, and multimedia training in order to build inter-generational relationships and future education leaders.

Welcome (9:30am)

Opening Keynote Address (9:45am) - Dr. Daniel Banks (NYU)

Panel Discussion (10-11am) - The Impact of Hip-Hop in Education Reform and Social Justice Movements

Moderator: Sarah Montgomery-Glinski (Co-Director of H2Ed)

Panelists: Erica Ford (Life Camp), Cristina Jimenez (NY State Youth Leadership Council), Capital X, Minister Server, and Dr. David Kirkland (NYU)

Morning Workshops (90-mins) (11-12:30)

Conscious Women Rock the Page - J-Love

Palestinian/Israeli Education Project - Ora Wise

Rapmatics - Derrick Phillips

Lunch (1-2pm)

H2A Resources + Community (15-min presentation) Andrew Landers and Sarah Montgomery-Glinski Breakthrough Presentation of ICE (15-min presentation) Sandy Shin

I Am Hip-Hop/Skills Board Game (15-min presentation) Nicole Duncan Smith

Matinee Movie Screening 2-2:45pm (45-min) Hip-Hop Debate Presentation Presented by Jen Johnson/Angelica Macklin (Seattle)

Afternoon Workshops (90-min)(3-4:30pm)

Stop the Violence - Hakim Green

The Message - Felicia Pride

Hip Hop Life Skills - Minister Server

Closing Keynote Address/Performance (4:45pm)

Closing Reception- (5-6pm)

Town Hall | April 20, 3-5 PM: The Hip-Hop Association (H2A), the Afro-Latin@ Project, and The New York State Youth Leadership Conference invite you to: The Truth About Immigrants Through the Voices of HIP-HOP, an evening of poetry, songs, music, games, and conversation about the real story of our immigrant communities. This forum will explore issues on heritage, race relations, and immigrant contributions. A special tribute will be dedicated to Kool Herc and Cindy Campbell to pay homage to their Jamaican roots.

About the Hip-Hop Association:

The Hip-Hop Association [H2A] is a 501(c)(3) media, education, and arts community building organization. Our projects are designed to encourage critical thinking, education reform, cross-cultural unity and civic engagement. The H2A empowers the community through the use of media, technology, resources, social entrepreneurship, and leadership development. We are producers of the largest annual international Hip-Hop film festival, and Hip-Hop Education forums. www.hiphopassociation.org

About the Social Services of Hip Hop:

The Social Services of Hip Hop is a psychology based service agency that identifies and remedies issues that affect the growth of the Hip Hop community by presenting revenue generating and community building activities. The company serves as a technical assistance intermediary that organizes and enhances programs that interact with the Hip Hop Community. Our mission is to empower Hip Hop citizens to their maximum level of functioning by providing effective tools, resources and services. www.ss-hiphop.com

About We Got Issues!:

We Got Issues! mission is to awaken a new brand of feminine centered leadership and social/political activism in America. Through rigorous training and development we strengthen young women's internal resources and capacity to lead, through outreach and education we

facilitate the creation of networks and collaborations that leverage young women's best knowledge, skills and resources and through advocacy and recognition we promote new models of bold courageous and empowered leadership by honoring the often overlooked contributions young women make to their respective communities and to society as a whole. www.wegotissues.org

About the Afro-Latin@ Project:

The Afro-Latin@ Project aims to document, promote, and support the development of Afro-Latin@ studies and grass roots activities in the Americas, particularly in the United States. www.afrolatinoproject.org

About the New York State Youth Leadership Council:

The New York State Youth Leadership Council is a network of young advocates representing high schools, colleges, communities of faith and community-based organizations committed to promoting the advancement of immigrant youth through leadership development and advocacy. http://www.nysylc.org

About NYC's Immigrant Heritage Week:

New York City Celebrates the 5th Annual Immigrant Heritage Week April 14 – 20, 2008

Declared an official, annual celebration by Mayor Bloomberg, Immigrant Heritage Week is a unique celebration of the vibrant immigrant cultures, history, and communities found in every corner of the City. www.nyc.gov/immigrants