Written by Robert ID2574 Sunday, 30 April 2006 22:10 -

In a recent BBC article, Executive Director Rolando Brown of the Hip-Hop Association once again represented hip-hop culture with intellectual thinking. In response to the misrepresentation of Hip-Hop culture, The Hip-Hop Association (H2A) was formed in March 2002 in response to this misrepresentation of Hip-Hop culture. The goal of The Hip-Hop Association (H2A) is facilitating, fostering and preserving Hip-Hop's original vision, and in this article it is good to see that, hip-hop culture has Rolando Brown of The Hip-Hop Association (H2A), and others, to represent us as a culture.

World Hip-Hop Questions US Rap (BBC News)

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/entertainment/4950692.stm

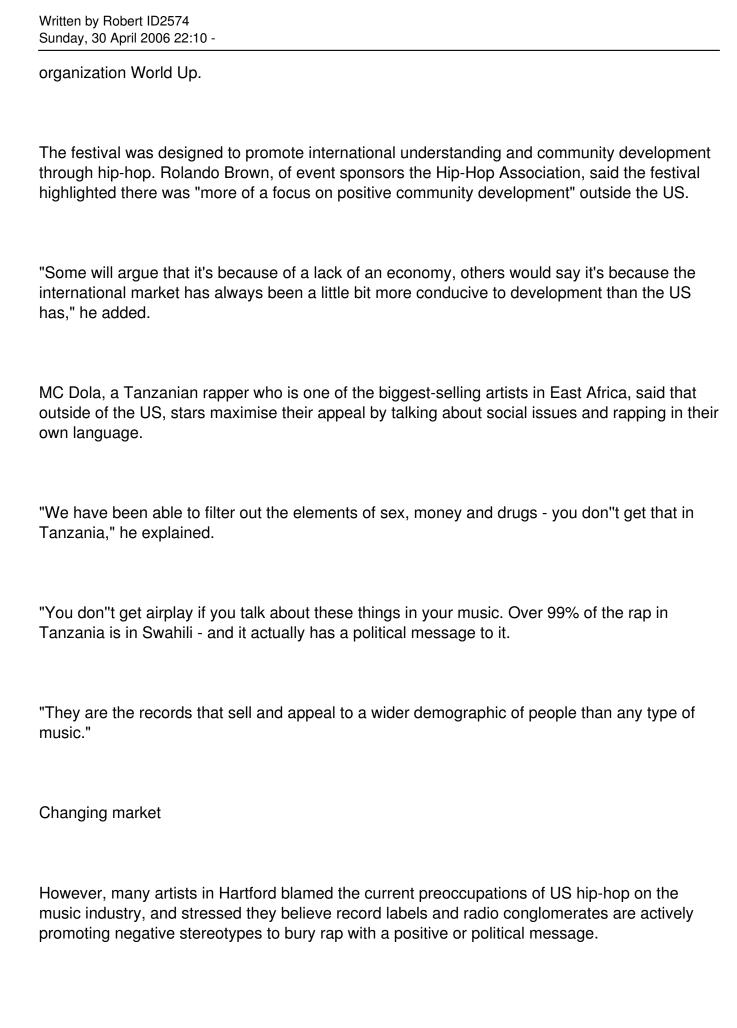
A recent international hip-hop festival which brought together rap artists from around the world has raised the question of why non-US rap is so political - whereas mainstream American rap appears frivolous.

Many of the performers at the three-day Trinity International Hip-Hop Festival in Hartford, Connecticut, were critical of the way that US rap - which is by far the best-selling - appears concerned mostly with money, drugs and sex, and has little to do with its roots in the angry political expression of hip-hop and rap groups like Public Enemy or KRS One.

"There's this negative perception of hip-hop as being a criminal art form, as being the home of the uneducated and non-thinking people," said Nigerian MC Oke. "When you go across the continents of the Earth, people are embracing hip-hop as the force to change and transform the world."

'sex, money and drugs"

The artists, who came form countries as diverse as Brazil, Kenya, and Iraq, were brought together by a group of Hartford students in collaboration with American non-governmental



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"Being sensational about violence or sex or drugs is a huge part of it," said Chee Malabar, a rapper with Asian-American act The Himalayan Project.

"It's easier for Americans to buy into that than it is to look in the mirror and say, 'some of the social policies and institutional hierarchies are messed up".

"That's hard to sell, and ultimately it's about selling."

But Jacqueline Springer, of the BBC's urban music station 1Xtra, said that she strongly disagreed with this opinion.

"People haven"t appreciated that although rap is the biggest-selling genre now, it's layered, so there are people who are underground, who have more of a political voice," she said.

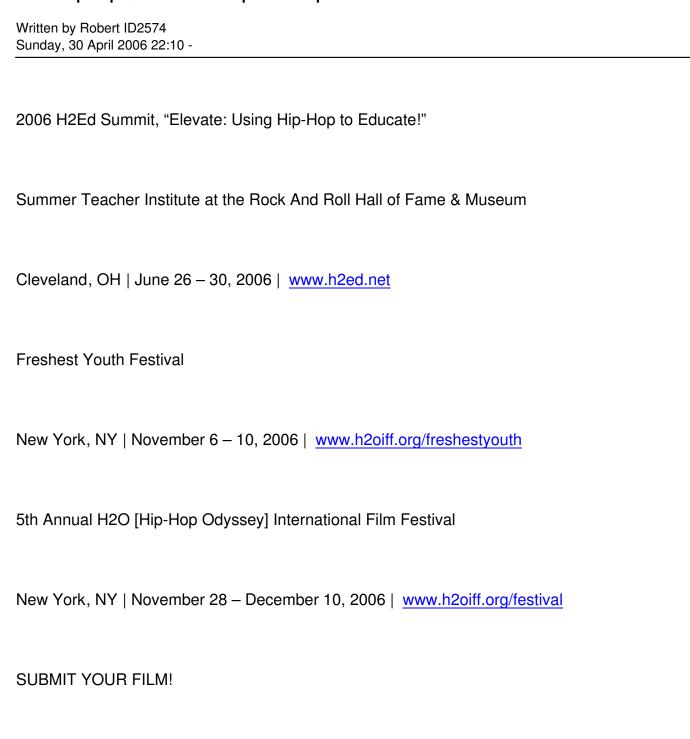
She also pointed out that the age of the average rap fan has decreased, which has transformed what rap artists produce.

"They don"t really want to hear about your opposition to George Bush - they"d much rather hear about what you want to do with George Bush's wife," she said.

"They don"t want too much politics or too much sociological content rammed down their throats, because they re looking at rap as a fantasy - "if I can be famous, I can get iced-out teeth as well"."

Article source: http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/entertainment/4950692.stm

Some Hip-Hop Association (H2A) Dates to Save



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