



THEGEMPROJECT.ORG "Bringing Forth Positive Change" with social media icons for Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter.

FOUNDER'S MESSAGE :

(Note: This document contains several photos, allow your browser to view them.)

Dear Amanda Ebokosia,



Great results are the summation of calculated efforts. These efforts are minimal, but paint a bigger picture in the end, all because someone tried. Can you imagine that? The audacity to have such courage, I encourage you all to JUST try. I have more than enough empirical evidence, which proves that this is sound.

Inspired by conversations from my team, I spoke with Ruth Webster. Webster is a member of The Gem Project. I initially met her at a New York function, I did not have any idea that she was from Connecticut. She travels anyway, to make the Gem Project meetings.

I had the greatest conversation with her about effort, and making considerable changes within our community. That conversation inspired me. We spoke of many people who

said in paraphrase, "What we all do now, can be great if we all just helped a little." I believe everyone has thought of this at least once before. However, it takes something extraordinary to see ideas into action. I call this drive and willingness to lay a better foundation for our future, because you have no desire to depend on the next man, or woman to do it for you.

Let's be honest, they might not even try. In the field of Psychology, there is a term known as the 'bystander effect.' I witnessed this firsthand as a student at Rutgers University. A young woman became ill and immobilized in what felt like a matter of seconds. In a full class of 30 people, no one did anything. I quickly stepped outside to call the police to request need for help. Situations such as this one I just described, are not uncommon at all.

What we need to become uncommon is the inability to help. My team strives for this, we work hard for this. It is our goal and most importantly, it is our duty. Summer is fleeting, but our capability to contribute to our community, is not. Enjoy this month's newsletter. See the activities for August, and be among us at our next event.

View our Youth Highlights feature for Youth Who Lead sections of this Newsletter. Read more information about:

Forward this to a friend!



Our Mission:

To educate the youth of our nation, of various issues that affect them and their communities, through the use of our innovative programs and enriching activities.

By providing the youth with the necessary tools to participate in our programs, we encourage personal growth and awareness about substantial issues that affect them.

The experiences that many youths attain from our programs, will help them become very healthy enlightened leaders, and community organizers for the future.

Write US: The Gem Project PO BOX 32322 Newark, NJ 07102

Saam



Rachelle Alridge

toward the end of the newsletter. In addition, we've added a new section to this newsletter called, A.E. Empire. Lastly, I leave by giving you great news! The Gem Project is taking the necessary steps of developing a chapter in Atlanta, Ga. We're thrilled with the Georgia chapter president-elect, *Tekisha Mathis*.

Please send stories, comments, or suggestions that relate to this issue to feedback@thegemproject.org. We're very interested to hear from you. **The Gem Project, Inc is a Newark, NJ based Nonprofit; Meetings are in NY & NJ every 3rd Saturday.**

Sincerely,

Amanda Ebokosia, Founder/CEO

The Gem Project, Inc.
RU NCAS Alum '08
973-506-9275 (TGP Main #)
866-582-5521 (Fax #)
project@thegemproject.org

<http://thegemproject.org>

@ebokosia @thegemproject

Note: *You've received this message based on your relationship with Amanda Ebokosia, or The Gem Project, Inc. You're free to unsubscribe at any time. This message is also delivered to our media contact list. For questions regarding delivery of this message, please contact project@thegemproject.org.*

INTERACTIVE LITERACY PROGRAM



UPDATES FOR AUGUST:

Our programs for the interactive literacy program will continue next month, September. We're choosing our themes for the September 2010-May 2011 year. It will be great, we cannot wait!

INFO: Monthly-- the Gem Project volunteers read to children and do an interactive activity, which complements our theme for that month. Last program we allowed a group of children in Newark to partake in the creation of a group comic book about environmental protection. This is one of the nine programs that the Gem Project runs. Here are some select photos of our events, which includes our final product.

MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Alonzo Yorke
(CFO)

Chief Financial Officer

Division:

Finance & Accounting

Excellence:

"

Alonzo Yorke has over twenty two years of accounting experience with strong Cost accounting, Profit Analysis, GL reconciliation, Monthly close, Fixed Assets, A/P, A/R, Grants and Contract writing, Grant and Contract billing, reporting, budgeting, data management, Sales, Use Tax, and Income Tax. He also has excellent communication, written, analysis and leadership skills. This includes but not limited to working knowledge of several programming languages, in different software environments. He has supervised and trained staff and works well independently.

Mr. Yorke has worked with a multitude of nonprofit organizations and companies. He has worked with Autism Speaks, Good Shepherd, NYU Medical Center, New York Cares, and United Way. His expertise in Grant, Trust and Contract Analysis and reporting--with his participation among United Way's Grant Seminars-- will help us lead this organization in a path of stability.

His participation with TGP has been great. His involvement has led to our completion of form 1023.

"

Congratulations on a TGP JOB well done!

Upcoming:

September 2010 - Tiffani Nicole Artis

Past:

June - 2010 Capri Lewis

July - 2010 Parul Punjani

"Our Interactive Literacy Program"

Participating City/State Shown:
Newark, NJ
Theme Shown: Environmental Protection
Follow-up



"Our Interactive Literacy Program"

Participating City/State Shown:
Newark, NJ
Theme Shown: Environmental Protection
Follow-up

Viewing the final product....
//////////

Special Thanks: Heather Rivera, for allowing TGP to do our programs at

MENU

UPCOMING AUGUST EVENTS

RSVP for all events by:

- >973-506-9275
- >project@thegemproject.org
- >http://thegemproject.org
- SEE:** Events Section

- **8/10/2010:**

-Terrell Perkins - Volunteer of TGP releases:
Spiritual Comic Book " A Child Lost"

www.chillinondatthecorner.com

- **8/21/2010:**

Virtual Meeting:

* Virtual meetings will take place during the months of JUNE-AUGUST.

>Visit Virtual Meeting Site:
[\(Virtual - Meeting Website :HERE\)](#)

*Must RSVP for password

Note: Regular meet-up site location will resume

September 2010:

Where:116 West 23rd Street
New York, NY

Time: 2:00 -2:30 PM
(Prospective Member)

Meeting: 2:30-3:00 PM
(All Members)

Note: Assigned rooms are only given to those who RSVP!

your location.

PLEASE NOTE: Interactive Literacy Regular Hours & Locations will resume September 2010. Our locations are preparing for new summer hours.

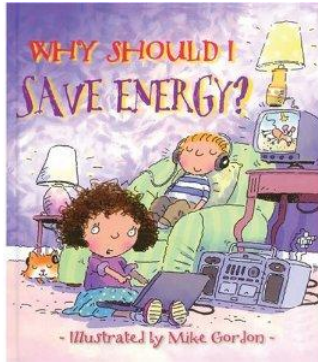
When: Every 3rd Wednesday
Time: Between 3-6 PM EST (After school)
Between 11-12 PM EST(During school)
Volunteer: Call: 973-506-9275
RSVP: [\(ONLINE\)](#)

Sites: Schools, Day Centers, Libraries, and recreational facilities.

Dates: The Gem Project is resuming the interactive literacy program September 2010.

Selected Locations: Bloomfield, NJ- Newark,NJ- & NYC,NY

Last Book:



Program Info:

College students/ TGP volunteers read to students from grades K-3 monthly: Themes vary from month to month. It is paired with an interactive activity.

Last theme:
Environmental Protection

Book:
Why Should I Save Energy?

Jen Green

By:

Activity:

As a group project children made an environmental awareness comic book, they described their own reasons on why it's important to protect the environment.



[\(VIEW MORE PHOTOS \)](#)

OUR TGP INFORMATIONAL SEMINAR

View Our Informational Seminar Online: Length- 12 minutes

[View Part 1/2](#)



Virtual Informational Seminar

• 8/21/2010:

Official Membership Badges

Official Membership Badges are being mailed out to members who have gone through our training, and have completed all necessary steps

A press release will announce the new members of The Gem Project, Inc.

• 8/25/2010: Visit to our Interactive Literacy Program Locations:

The Gem Project will outline the closing events for September-December and hand deliver it to our locations.

RSVP: You may do so by e-mailing: project@thegemproject.org or calling 973 506 9275

• 8/27/2010:The Autism Quilt Time: 1:00-4:00 PM

We create Autism Quilts and distribute it to various participating schools as gifts.

* **Must RSVP; This program is by appointment so we can book the necessary rooms to accommodate everyone who attends. Only those who RSVP get further detailed information.**

Selected Venues:

1) Science, Industry & Business
NYPL 188 Madison Avenue @ 34th Street
New York, NY 10016-4314

2)Ripley Grier Studios
NEW YORK,NY
(Room Location–**RSVP 1st**)
Time: 1:00-4:00PM

*depending on the capacity, location is subject to change. Those who RSVP will get a final confirmation several days before the event. This will apply for all events.



[\(View 1/2 : Informational Seminar\)](#) [\(View 2/2 : Informational Seminar\)](#)

View if you're interested in applying as a member, volunteer, staff, or board interest. After viewing, see the documentary film below & apply online

THE GEM PROJECT DOCUMENTARY

Featuring Clips of our Documentary: The Gem Project & Young People For Change

Two years ago marked my final year as an undergraduate student at Rutgers University (Newark Campus).

During that time, We filmed The Gem Project & Young People for Change documentary. It was filmed during April-May by the late Chas Johnson. Mr. Johnson passed away on January of the following year. He worked in productions at John Cotton Dana Library. Chas believed in The Gem Project, he devoted his time to ensure that we had something tangible to show the world what we are all about. He is greatly missed.



It was our hope to celebrate with him this past May, when we released the documentary footage at The Gem Project's Achievement Ceremony. Slight quality was lost from the original conversion of VHS to DVD. It is online now!

FILM FOOTAGE: "The Gem Project & Young People For Change"

- PART 1 OF 3: [\(LINK\)](#)
- PART 2 OF 3: [\(LINK\)](#)
- PART 3 OF 3: [\(LINK\)](#)

Enjoy.

THE GEM PROJECT YOUTH WHO LEAD :

Youth Who Lead.

This is a new section in our newsletter, first introduced June 2010. It is devoted in highlighting the achievements of youths within the area.

You may nominate a youth or yourself: project@thegemproject.org

- **8/30/2010: Community Organizer Academy** Press release for the next session, of the community organizer academy, for high school students, will be sent. SEE: Community Organizer Academy SECTION of this Newsletter for information.

DONATE TODAY

Click Button Below:

[Donate](#)

Please Read Below: Purpose:



(Click Seal to View Verification Page)

The Gem Project was founded on March 25, 2006 and incorporated October 1, 2007. We're

ready to file our nonprofit for tax exemption. We finished all the necessary paperwork and need help raising the filing fee.

Any amount will be helpful in fulfilling our goals. However, individual contributions of \$35 USD or more are encouraged. Please provide a mailing address for receipt and letter of gratitude.

Mail Contributions to:
The Gem Project, inc.
P.O. Box 32322
Newark, Nj 07102
Checks made out to:
The Gem Project

Click Button Below:

[Donate](#)

Saam



Name: Saam
Business Name:
Saam Designs
Profession:
Designer & Model
Location: CA
Website: <http://saamdesigns.com>
Contact: hellosaam@aol.com

Saam Designs//

Saam is a skilled designer in Southern California making a name for herself through her art. She has a line of jewelry, purses, leggings, and more. She allows you to enter her brain and see what it's like to be her. Saam is a creative vessel and beautiful person inside and out. She applied to a TGP program, along with Rachelle Alridge, for our benefit photo shoot for Breast Cancer Awareness three years ago. It brings us great joy to see her blossom, the way she is.

Selected Samples of work:

call: 973-506-9275 for questions

CHAPTER START-UP

-Start Your Own Chapter Today-

The Gem Project is welcoming students to apply to start their own collegiate & high school chapters.

You may apply today:

[\[Get Involved Section:
http://thegemproject.org\]](http://thegemproject.org)

Be a part of a close network. TGP main headquarters guides new chapters on the best ways to execute our programs. All members join us annually at a gala to celebrate our wins of the year. All chapters are given their own chapter website! They're now able to update the public on their upcoming news and events.

***"The Place Where Community
Organizers Are Born!"***





Saam Designs Glass Art



Saam Designs Jewelry



Saam Designs Jewelry



Saam Designs Leggings



Rachelle Alridge

Name: Rachelle Alridge

Business Name: Champions@Heart, Inc.
Profession: President & Founder of
Champions@Heart, Inc.

Location: TX

Website: <http://championsath>

championsathonline.com

Contact: rachelle@championsathonline.com

THE GEM PROJECT SHOP

Shop for our cause?



The Gem Project has opened its online store. We have TGP T-shirts that can be purchased during the time we announce and have our "College Campus Walks"

Every product is given an initial base price to supply the merchandise. It works by way of a sell-by demand policy. **10 % has been added to all products to contribute to The Gem Project.** It will help with operational fees and our programs.

[\[Launch Shop Online\]](#)

PARTNER NEWS

News From Our Partners!

This is an update column from our partner organizations:
Organizations & companies that provide mutual support.

Update:

Those who sent us their partnership agreement forms will be in the next newsletter. We are currently meeting with all former partners and interests to work out a new agreement. All current interests will be notified. To view our list, check the previous newsletter: [\(here\)](#).

*** All partners send in updates**

Champions@Heart, Inc.//

Rachelle Alridge, MSW has proven herself to be a pioneer and leader for change within her community. Alridge is a graduate of Texas Southern University. She is the Founder and President of Champions@Heart, Inc. Their mission is to impact the lives of children, families, and individuals during their time of need. She is the link that binds the community to service.

On her website it states: "

As an adult, Rachelle has donated her time and raised funds to help worthy community causes. She encourages others to get involved in feeding "Houstonians" during the holidays, donate holiday gifts for children, and participate in charitable walks that raise awareness about HIV/AIDS.

"

Selected Photos of Work:



COMMUNITY SUPPORT :

project@thegemproject.org

TGP COMMUNITY ORGANIZER ACADEMY

THE GEM PROJECT'S NEXT AMAZING NONPROFIT Fall Competition:

Apply

May 19- November 30

Next Deadline:

November 30, 2010

Spring Competition:

March 13 - April 25

[\(Click to View Information\)](#)

[\(Click to Apply\)](#)

Prizes Include: Start up Books:

- (Book) Effective fund-raising for nonprofits
- (Book) Starting & Building a nonprofit - Real- World Strategies
- A TGP Star Trophy
- A special surprise & much more

LET A YOUTH KNOW!

INFO: This program is serving high school students and first year college students to help promote social entrepreneurship.

Volunteers Needed:

- Upcoming **College Campus Walk** for the **October 2010 & November 2010**
- Fundraising Division
- Autism Quilt Program -- **Monthly 4th Saturday**
- Interactive Literacy Program **September 2010-May 2011**
- Community Organizer Academy **September 2010-May 2011**
- Participants for our scheduled PSA **September 2010-December 2010**
- Showcase Displays - **September 2010-May 2011**
- Participant Event Coordinators - **September 2010-May 2011**
- Refreshment Committee - **September 2010- May 2011**

Please Contact: project@thegemproject.org or CALL 973-506-9275
Call Anytime!



Become a **REGISTERED Gem Project Walker Today!**

We have walks and marches planned throughout the year.

[\(View & Submit Form Here\)](#)

Next Walk: October 2010

TGP AWARENESS LUNCHEON

August 2010 UPDATES:

-We're confirming our plans for the program. Please e-mail project@thegemproject.org, if you can be of any help.

- The Gem Project launched its awareness luncheons 2 years after being founded in 2006. Its purpose was to inform the community, of various issues, in a setting that would encourage friendly dialogue. We have been able to accomplish this with phenomenal speakers, talent, information, and great food.

Our focus for the months of September through December 2010 are:

- Violence among youth
- Autism
- Breast Cancer ; Our TGP advocate- B. Brown was diagnosed at **age 24**
- Empowerment

We're requesting the following:

- Talent
- Speakers
- Refreshments
- Contributors

Let us know how YOU can HELP:

Contact Us: project@thegemproject.org or call: 973-506-9275

Fax:866-582-5521 [visit:www.thegemproject.org](http://www.thegemproject.org)

THE AUTISM QUILT :

We can continue to build it, if you lend a hand

The Gem Project co-founded The Autism Quilt project with the **Guardian Fellowship organization** in March 2008.

Goal: To bring awareness of Autism through art, supplemented by a discussion about it.

Photo: Original Autism Quilt stretched 6ft by 5ft long, taken March 2008.



INFO: We create Autism Quilts and distribute them to participating schools as gifts. We believe that by having quilts hung at various institutions, we will be able to bring awareness of Autism. It fulfills our organization's 'motto', We captivate to educate.

August News:

The Gem Project featured the quilt, which was assembled by the employee's of Timberland, at our achievement ceremony. It was held on display for the entire program in May. We're looking forward in giving this quilt away to a special school, news on which soon.

[\(View More Photos Online \)](#)



Performers at The Gem Project Achievement Ceremony; Anthony Williams & Godsent

The A.E. Empire:

"A News Site For Women By Women"
 -Empowerment events, workshops, and tips listed-
www.amandaebokosia.com



Information:

The A.E. empire website, amandaebokosia.com, is not a part of The Gem Project programs or nonprofit. It is a separate venture that Amanda Ebokosia, founder of The Gem Project, has made. It serves as a collection of all her projects and is a news site for *women by women*.

She is including different women groups and empowerment workshops. It will launch with new writers and workshops September 2010. You may visit it today to take a glimpse: ([here](#)). There are several neat articles by women being posted daily.



AUGUST EVENTS:

For inclusion of any of events, contact contact@amandaebokosia.com

Saturday, August 21, 2010 1:00 PM -7:00 PM NY,NY

Free Concert - Singer: Tamia, Mario, & Chrisette Michele

Monday, August 30, 2010 6:00PM-7:00 PM NY,NY
Zumba for Fitness

Uplifting Dance

Select Saturdays- Afro-Caribbean dance by trained instructors.

THE GEM PROJECT SHOWCASES

August 2010 UPDATES:

Confirming 4 schools for our showcase tour.
We need 4-8 volunteers for this program.

////////////////////////////////////

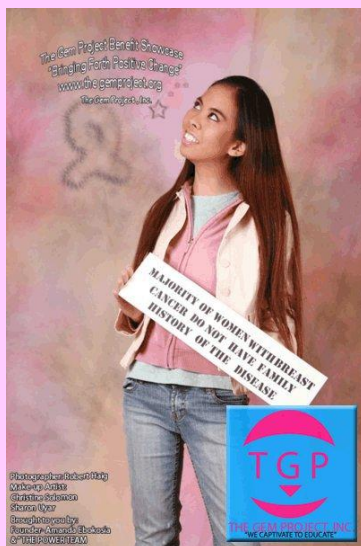


IMAGE INFO: Featuring: NJIT student from a TGP College Campus Benefit Photo Shoot ('07)

Make-up Artist: Cathrine Solomon

TGP Photographer: Rob Haig

New Breast Cancer Awareness Display Tour

October 2010

Let us know if YOU will like to HELP:

Contact Us: project@thegemproject.org or call: 973-506-9275

Fax: 866-582-5521 visit: www.thegemproject.org



**"Bringing Forth Positive Change
Within Your Community"**

THE GEM PROJECT GOALS



Photo Info: TGP EVENT at Rutgers- Newark's Paul Robeson Art Gallery

As you may know, The Gem Project management has changed. Our main goal starting 2010 has been to strengthen our infrastructure. There are many elemental factors that can lead us to this goal.

- Expand our membership and welcome a new team: TGP conducts 30-45 minute informational seminars for prospective members every 3rd Saturday in NY & NJ. Our next 5 are based in our meeting locations & offices in NYC.
- Spread our practices: We have since welcomed the applications to start collegiate and high school chapters for our organization. (SEE WEBSITE: <http://thegemproject.org> -- SEE: "Get INVOLVED" section.

"An organization is only as strong as the members who support it" - Ebokosia

**T G P
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[Myspace Page](#)
[Twitter Page](#)

www.thegemproject.org