



Dear Guest,



"You always get more flies with honey than you do with vinegar, that's just real-- that's what my mother used to always say " - Senator Andrea Stewart- Cousins | The White House Project 6.05.10-8:00 PM EST

There is value in being kind to your fellow neighbor, friend, or even foe. We have so much to contribute to this world. There is little need in being selfish, arrogant, or disconnected from society's issues because they are not your own. In one way or another, we are all connected. We don't need social networks like twitter or facebook to tell us that.

This particular issue was held from release for June 1st, due to the need to share an experience I recently had with The White House Project (TWHP). TWHP is a nonprofit organization that allows women to advance in leadership, through all areas of life up to US presidency. They're a nonpartisan nonprofit organization, with headquarters in New York, NY.

I learned the importance of helping to build connections with your fellow sister, friend, or colleague. There are plenty of experiences to celebrate when you learn to develop relationships that mutually benefit.

The Gem Project learned this when we had our achievement ceremony last month. It was an opportunity to not only celebrate our successes of the past four years, but to acknowledge and celebrate the successes of our local businesses, nonprofits, and our youth.

This past Monday I was invited on the Sister Circle Radio Talk Show online. I talked about The Gem Project and my inspiration. You may click the button below to listen to it on YouTube.



Let's continue to help each other.
Please enjoy this issue of celebration!



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

Member Of The Month:
Capri Lewis

Division:
Volunteer of Youth Programs
Occupation: Flight Attendant



Photo: Marie C. Wilson, Founder of The White House Project & I
Please send stories, comments, or suggestions that relate to this issue to
feedback@thegemproject.org. We're very interested to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Amanda Ebokosia, Founder/CEO

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

<http://thegemproject.org>

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. For questions regarding delivery of this message, please contact

Business Owner of N-Dowd.com

Excellence:

Lewis has really displayed her efforts, from being one of the first members to attend our new meet-up locations, in NYC. She worked diligently in April's Interactive literacy program, where we taught young children about Autism. Her efforts to deliver feedback, while being punctual at all TGP events, is greatly appreciated. On behalf of all of TGP, we thank you for your efforts at the Achievement Ceremony as well.

Congratulations on a TGP JOB well done!



Capri Lewis

M.E.N.U

UPCOMING JUNE EVENTS

RSVP for all events by:

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

- 6/04/- 6/05/2010:

<<< The White House Project:

The Founder has been granted the
opportunity to attend the White

project@thegemproject.org.

The Gem Project Presentation

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 passed 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.



INTERACTIVE LITERACY PROGRAM:



"Our Interactive Literacy Program"

Participating City/State Shows:
Newark, NJ
Theme Shows: Environmental Protection

The third week of every month, The Gem Project reads and does an interactive activity for children. We do this in libraries, schools, or retail day centers. Each month we bring awareness of a certain issue. Every month has a different theme.

House Project event for GO RUN NY. She will be among NY senators, councilwomen, and several other female leaders. She plans to learn a great deal at the event and have the opportunity to network with those attending.

- **6/08/2010: Finance Meeting**

Founder and Accountant Mr. Yorke are going to have a meeting 3 PM in Newark, NJ. Topics discussed will involve budgets and 2010 bank statements. If you wish to listen in please call our main number, 973-506-9275.

- **6/16/2010: Interactive Literacy Program**

Where: 722 Summer Ave
Newark, NJ

Time: 4:00 PM

TGP members will deliver the complete environmental awareness comic book, which was made by the children of North Branch Library. It has been professionally bounded and addressed, "North Branch Goes Green." Founder plans on bringing treats for the youth there.

- **6/19/2010:**

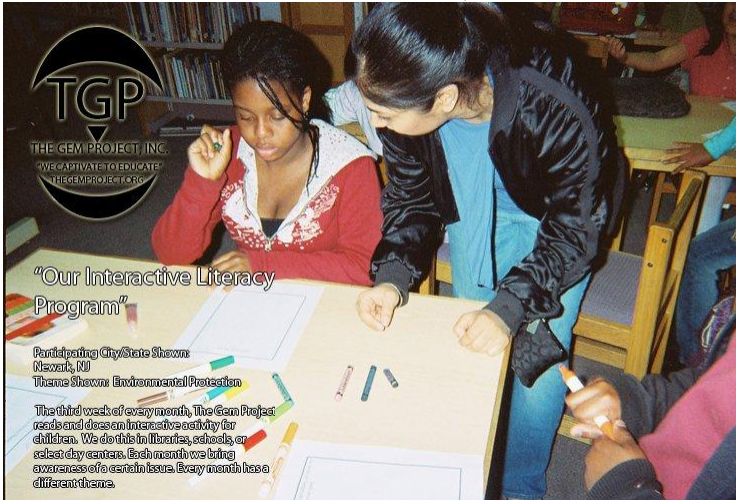
Virtual Meeting:

The Founder & President will be away at a convention during the 3rd Saturday of JUNE. The meeting will still take place. She has programmed a virtual meeting that is set to release to those who **RSVP**. You may do so by e-mailing: project@thegemproject.org.

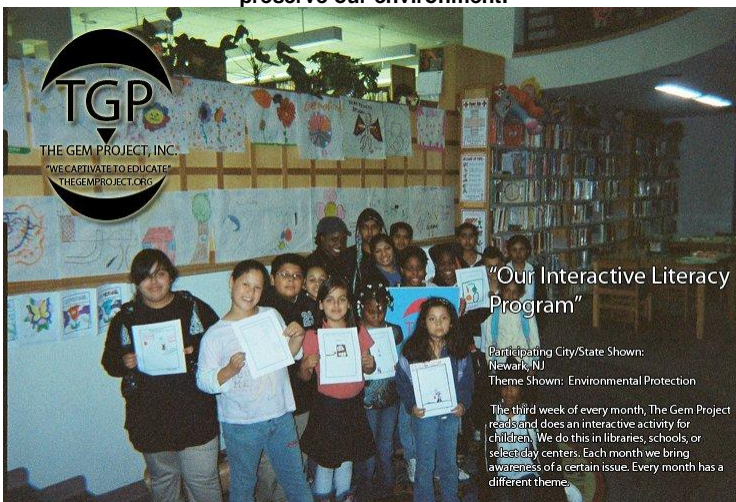
* Virtual meetings will take place during the months of JUNE-AUGUST.

Note: Regular meet-up site

The youth participate in our environmental protection awareness comic book in Newark, NJ



TGP member, Parul Punjani works with the youth to decide what to draw on their comic book sheet. Each sheet displayed statements that gave reasons why one should continue to protect and preserve our environment.



This is the group photo of the children at North Branch
Special Thanks: Heather Rivera, for allowing TGP to do our programs at your location.

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

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!

- **6/26/2010:**

> **Partnership Meeting:**
9 AM -11 AM

Info: The Gem Project will be arranging group meetings with local organizations/ individuals who wish to form a partnership. It is designed to work out a plan that will benefit others, while giving everyone a chance to network. Please RSVP, if you're interested. Those who submitted their interest form will be contacted, and your location will be revealed.

- **6/26/2010: 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:

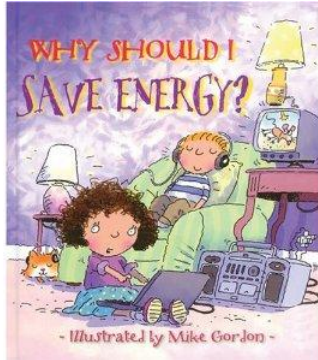
1) Science, Industry & Business
NYPL 188 Madison Avenue @ 34th Street
New York, NY 10016-4314

2) Ripley Grier Studios
NEW YORK, NY
(Room Location—**RSVP 1st**)

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: [\(ONLINE\)](#)

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?

By:

Jen Green

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.



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

The Gem Project's Achievement Ceremony

When: 5.19.10

Information: The Gem Project's Achievement ceremony was a time to learn more about our organization and witness what we've accomplished. It was also a time to celebrate the achievements of selected youths, local businesses, and nonprofits within our community. The program was free to the public. Here are selected photos from the event.

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.

-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>]

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!"**



News From Our Partners!

This is an update column from our partner organizations:
Organizations & companies that



Amanda Ebokosia, Founder of The Gem Project, Inc.

provide mutual support.

West-Ward Collective

Founder: Councilman Rice
 Executive Director: Rev. Darlene Reynolds

E-MAIL:
 wwcollective@optimum.net

CALL: 973-732-3220

MISSION: **The West Ward will set the example for the rest of Newark for community cooperation, resident and ward institution input and collaboration, and creating safe, nurturing, and supportive neighborhood development, growth and advancement.**

ADDRESS 845 SANDFORD AVE
 NEWARK, NJ 07106

MEETING: EVERY 1ST SATURDAY
 [EXCEPT AUGUST]
 TIME: 10 AM -12 PM
 MEETING LOCATION:
 NORTH STAR ACADEMY
 24 HAZLEWOOD AVE
 NEWARK, NJ

Work Groups:

Education, Recreation, Quality of Life, Youth, Arts & Culture, Block/Tenant Associations, Brother's Initiative, Faith-Based Institutions, and Small Business Development.

Upcoming Events:

June 10, 2010 -Block Federation Meeting
 Thursday, June 10th @North Star Academy
 24 Hazelwood Avenue 6:30 PM

June 19, 2010 -Father's know Best Celebration | Vailsburg Park (Munn Avenue off South Orange Ave.) Time: 11:00 AM

CRY OUT INK

Founder: Olumayowa "Godsent" Okubanjo
 Open Mic For The Youth of Newark, NJ
 @ Planet Wings
 677 Broad street Newark(Downtown Newark)
 7-10pm \$5

Visit: Cryoutnj.org

"Yo Get 'Em Kids"

Founder: Cassandra Giacci
 E-MAIL: cassandragiacci@yahoo.com
 INFORMATION:

Currently looking for youth

The Achievement Ceremony



Victoria Virgo- Miss New Jersey NAM 2010

between 13-18 years of age, to participate in a multitude of art projects in her art studio located in NY. The service for the youth is entirely free.

Other Supporting Organizations/Companies:

The Butter House:

Founder: Nakay Piper
Youth ran boutique store
www.thebutterhouse.com

Through Future Eyes:

Founder/CEO: Shennell Barnes
sbarnes@teamschools.org
A homelessness initiative

The Guardian Fellowship

FOUNDER/President: Jason Khurdan
Mentoring Initiative
THEGUARDIANFELLOWSHIP.ORG
Khurdan@gmail.com

* All partners send in updates *
Those who send updates
get
all their information
displayed.

Forward this to a friend!



Shop for our cause?





Crystal Dodson - Fitness Instructor with Specialty in Nutrition

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.

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

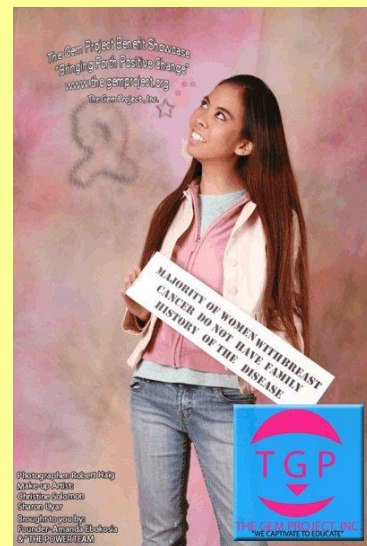


IMAGE INFO: Featuring: NJIT student from a TGP College Campus Benefit Photo Shoot ('07)

New Breast Cancer Awareness Display Tour

October 2010

Our Goals



Photo Info: TGP EVENT at Rutgers-Newark's Paul Robeson Art Gallery
As you may know, The Gem Project



Olumayowa "Godsent" Okubanjo Talent and Founder of Cryoutnj.org

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

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.

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.

Community Organizer Academy Program:

THE GEM PROJECT'S NEXT AMAZING NONPROFIT

Spring Competition:
March 13 - April 25

Fall Competition:
Apply

May 19- November 30

Next Deadline:
November 30, 2010

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

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

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

"Bringing Forth Positive Change Within Your Community"



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.

The Latest 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 last month. We're in discussion with the Alumni association at Rutgers University-Newark, about fulfilling the necessary steps to deliver this particular quilt as a gift for that institution.

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



Photographer: Paul Raig
Performers at The Gem Project Achievement Ceremony; Anthony Williams & Godsent

Youth Who Lead.

This is a new section in our newsletter. It is devoted in highlighting the achievements of youths within our area. For the month of June, since we're on the topic of advancing women in leadership, after the TGP founder's experience at The White House Project -- we're highlighting one young woman.



Business Name:

MG Oania Photography

Profession:

Photographer

Location: NY/NJ/CA

Work References:

[\(View Portfolio\)](#)

Booking:

mg.oania@gmail.com

CREDITS:

VIBE Magazine

CODE

Direct

RED

Elite

Ford

FENTON MOON

Wilhelmina

B1

Click LA

VNY

BOSS

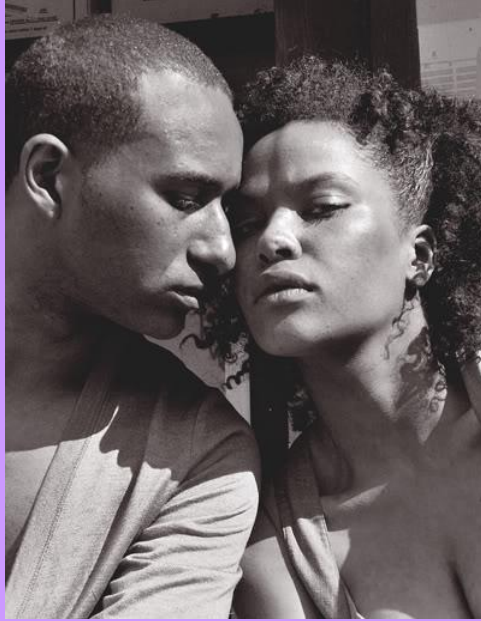
& Many More

// MG PHOTOGRAPHY

Mary Grace Oania also supported The Gem Project and attended our achievement ceremony.

Selected Photos:





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

T G P
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[Twitter Page](#)

www.thegemproject.org