

The Skillman Foundation Presents

# GOOD STUFF

for kids & families

## A Day of Celebration at Detroit's YMCA

YouthMedia, which is sponsored by the YMCA and El Arte Alliance and partnered with the Center for Creative Studies, Detroit Film Center and Western International High School, teaches Web Design and video production courses year-round – mostly to upperclassmen who are recruited by their teachers.

On December 3, more than 80 10th-12th-grade students from the filmmaking and Web design courses took a field trip to the beautiful Boll Family YMCA in downtown Detroit. ♦ The students spent a day there to showcase their work, dine and sample some of the awesome activities the YMCA has to offer. ♦ Students started their day



- grooving to hip-hop music, testing their
- luck rock climbing, running track,
- shooting hoops on the expansive
- basketball court and taking part in
- some of the fitness classes offered. ♦
- Once the physical fun ended, the group
- headed to the Center's 200-seat theater
- to watch rough cuts of their very own
- documentaries and dramas and to
- preview brand-new Web pages.

The subjects of the students' films included depictions of Southwest Detroit neighborhoods and the cultural diversity at Western High. ♦ Student Web Sites portrayed the strengths and challenges of our neighborhoods across the city of Detroit.

Natasha Beste and Andrew Fagan, video production instructors from the Detroit Film Center, gave out awards to outstanding filmmakers. ♦ Dana Keaton, Web design instructor from the

College for Creative Studies, gave out awards for excellence in Web design. ♦ The group thanked Gillian Eaton, Vice President for Arts and Culture at the YMCA, for Y Arts' sponsorship and The Skillman Foundation for the generous grant that makes all the programs possible. ♦ Host teachers at Western, Kathleen Jaczynski and Jane Turner, affirmed that the technological and creative skills of their students increased significantly during the five- and six-week Youth Media programs.

As usual, everyone involved should be saluted and celebrated, especially the committed and determined students! ♦ There will be a final showing of student work at Western International High School in May. ♦ For more information on the programs offered, please contact Cara Graninger, El Arte Alliance's program manager at [caragraninger@gmail.com](mailto:caragraninger@gmail.com) or 313.585.2598.



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