



The Skillman Foundation Presents

YAKTIVITIES FOR HELPING KIDS

Vanguard Community Development Corporation Outreach Programs Serving Detroit's Northend for 14 Years

Founded in 1994 by the Rev. Edgar L. Vann Jr., Vanguard Community Development Corporation is the non-profit development arm of Second Ebenezer Church.

Its mission is a bold one: To reclaim, restore and rebuild the physical, social and economic fabric of Detroit's Northend neighborhood.

One program Vanguard offers as part of its Education Development Department — the Boys 2 Men program — is a dramatic example of how the organization seeks to inspire, reach and change the lives of young males.

How Boys 2 Men Works

Boys 2 Men provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements and seeks to motivate students to successfully complete high school and post-secondary education.

The goal of Boys 2 Men is to increase retention and graduation rates, and to help teens make the transition from one level of higher education to the next.

To do that, Boys 2 Men offers innovative programs to prevent teens from dropping out of school and to help them recover and get back on track if they do drop out.

Its efforts appeal to teens and young men by emphasizing cultural relevancy, best practices and research on the most effective educational approaches for young African-American males in urban areas.

It was designed specifically to bridge the gap for African-Americans males who are 12 to 25 years old, who feel displaced by the educational system and, as a result, become displaced from the workforce.

The program provides participants with educational alternatives to dropping out and equips them for success with leadership and life-skills training, mentors, GED assistance and opportunities to earn college credit, as well as scholarships.



are offered for both males and females, along with spoken word poetry and a recreational teen center called The Spot.

2008 Programming

As part of its 2008 youth programming, the Urban Artist Collective is offering a new workshop program called the Young Social Entrepreneur Society.

This program began October 25, but is still accepting participants.

When: Workshop days are Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. & Saturdays, 12-4 p.m.

Where: The Spot Teen Center, 2785 E. Grand Blvd. in Detroit

Fee: \$35 one-time registration fee

Multi-Media Learning

One enrichment program that has tremendous appeal for teens and young adults is the Urban Artist Collective that is part of Vanguard's Economic Development Department.

The Urban Artist Collective is a multi-media educational program that offers teens who are 13-18 innovative instruction in graphic design, Web site design and media literacy.

Through the high-tech appeal of graphic design and Web creation, participants learn the basics of social entrepreneurship, professional project management and developing individual portfolios of work to show colleges or employers.

Social consciousness and mentor groups

To learn more about the Young Social Entrepreneur Society, the Urban Artist Collective, the Boys 2 Men program or other Vanguard opportunities, call 313.872.7831 or visit the Vanguard Web site below.



www.vanguardcdc.org

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TALK ABOUT HIGH-TECH CAREERS

Technology can open many doors for future learning and careers. That is why the Urban Artist Collective offers teens multi-media instruction in graphic design, Web site design and media literacy. These technology skills can be put to use in everything from creating Web sites to making music videos to designing magazines to programming video games to marketing fashion designs on clothing and T-shirts. With family or friends, talk about careers you would like to have that would use technology skills. Then brainstorm what kind of high-tech skills you would need to be successful in these careers. Finish by talking about courses that could provide these skills in school or in programs like the Urban Artist Collective.