

#5 Friday July 27

## **Building a Youth Exchange Network**

The Youth Video Exchange Network (YVXN) is a project of the National Youth Media Access Project and the Manhattan Neighborhood Network Youth Channel.

Speakers: Andrew Lynn, Technical Coordinator, YVXN, MNN Youth Channel, NY  
Gretchen Vinnedge, Education Coordinator, Grand Rapids Community Media Center, MI.  
Antoine Heywood, Youth Services, Peoples TV Atlanta GA.  
Emily Frazier, Vermont Access Network, VT  
Gariet Cowin, VISTA Americorp worker, Portland Community Media Portland, OR

### **Andrew Lynn MNN Youth Channel**

Building community with tools, building tools with community.

What is Youth Video Exchange? Youth Video Exchange is a project of NYMAP and MNN Youth Channel. We are creating the technical and organizational infrastructure to support the continued and sustainable exchange of youth-produced broadcast-quality video among public access centers across the country and world.

What is the National Youth Media Access Project (NYMAP)? NYMAP is a partnership among public access centers from across the country committed to expanding services to young people. Initiated by the [MNN Youth Channel](#), NYMAP seeks to nurture the right of free speech, to strengthen the much-needed presence of alternative and youth voices, and to connect young mediamakers from diverse backgrounds. The launching of this project marks a reinvigoration of the NYMAP network and a renewed vision of youth media distribution. The goal is to create a national youth based community network, which provides a wider audience for sharing video and experiences among youth. The distribution network delivers high-quality 640x480 with a bitrate of 1300, DV quality. Have to be a member to gain permission to download.

### **Antoine Heywood, Peoples TV Atlanta GA.**

They teach youth to be active participants of media not just consumer. Establish a training process that supports creative use of video by teaching media literacy. Encourage participants to understand the “rules” of standard traditional television, in order to break them knowingly. And create a forum to enable experimental use and develop understanding of the broader media public policy issues. They offer a youth project titled FUEL Media.

**FUEL Media** stands for **F**orging **U**nity **E**quality **L**eadership through Media. FUEL Media is guided by its mission to empower young people to transform their community, the world and themselves through media.

FUEL Media offers opportunities for young people between the ages of 12 – 25 to participate in the following:

- Learn to produce television programming on location and in People TV’s facilities
- Cablecast youth-oriented programming on People TV
- Learn skills that are beneficial in the pursuit of careers in the media industry
- Stimulating activities that explore the ways media impact society

### **Gretchen Vinnedge Grand Rapids Community Media Center, MI.**

GRTV provides a televised forum for legal, non-commercial speech; a place where you can express yourself creatively at little or no cost.

We offer training programs to certify members to use our tools—which range from cameras to editing suites to studio production facilities. And we transmit your programming across Grand Rapids on cable channel 25

Vinnedge is education director at the Grand Rapids Community Media Center, where she carries out a longtime belief: Everybody should be able to say what they want, express what they feel and share it with the world.

Vinnedge helps kids learn how to turn a boring old school report into a dynamic video, visiting classrooms in a technology-packed van. She encourages college-age filmmakers and gets their films seen all over the world. She was invited to bring a youth team to Denmark and participate in the International Youth Conference on music, arts and media. This experience drove home the fact that this is a world-wide media movement, which youth can become actively

She gathers groups of teens and puts them on a public access TV talk show created just for them, where they debate such issues as teen pregnancy, suicide and drugs. "Kids have a lot to say about important issues -- we don't give them enough credit," Vinnedge says, sitting in her office on Wealthy Street SE, a stone's throw from Wealthy Theatre. "They have things to say that are important, and they don't usually have an opportunity."

#### Services for Youth

Engaging, effective and empowering, CMC media-based activities are the perfect complement to your youth services.

#### MoLLIE

The Mobile Learning Lab for Information Education brings digital technology and training to youth in your classroom or community program. We apply tools for "learning through media" to any curriculum or youth program.

#### Media Literacy Workshops for Kids

These unique workshops help kids be smarter consumers of media--a critical skill in today's media intensive environment.

GRTV's new programming block, FUTURE CULTURE, is for young people 12-25 who produce quality television to be seen as part of the Youth Culture programming on the Youth Channel.

#### **Emily Frazier, Vermont Access Network**

The Vermont Access Network represents the twenty-seven public, educational and government access cable management organizations operating 43 channels in 130 Vermont communities. VAN's members provide technical assistance to each other and work on projects of mutual interest including the rewrite of Vermont's cable television statutes and the proposed statewide "interconnect". VAN hosts annual meetings which are open to the public as well as a list serve, of interest to community access producers and managers.

#### **Gariet Cowin, Portland Community Media**

PCM is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote broad participation in civic and cultural life by encouraging effective use and understanding of community media. PCM has proudly served the local metropolitan area for over 23 years, empowering individuals and organizations with the skills and resources to use the cable television system as a means of communication and community development.

PCM's purpose can best be described with three words – Educate, Communicate, Participate.

Portland Community Media has transitioned to project based media education as of fall 2005. Portland Community Media has made these changes in order to better realize our mission of promoting 'broad participation in civic and cultural life by encouraging effective use and understanding of community media. This new education process shifts the emphasis away from simply learning technology (video cameras, editing and graphics software) to providing training, tools and support for people to become creative media makers and effective communicators able to examine media critically and use media competently. Upon completion of PCM's thorough curriculum, you will be certified as a television producer and have access to PCM's comprehensive collection of professional-quality production equipment, including a remote production truck and two large production studios.

*OLLIE* is the Oregon Learning Lab for Information Education, a joint program between PCM and MetroEast Community Media's Youth Voices. OLLIE offers an inventive, project-based learning approach to media education and technology training to under-served youth and school in Multnomah County.

*Adventures in Television* is a unique media production camp that teaches youth ages 12-17 to harness the power of television media while engaging in and understanding the value of community service. The journey into television will never make more of an impact on youth than when they have the opportunity to create it; create the content, create the excitement, create the magic. Television can be the educational tool so many communities and families wish it would be and *Adventures in Television* is the first step in that process.

Your organization has the ability to produce knowledgeable and productive youth who understand media creation and their role within it and with the help of the *Adventures in Television Media Kit* the time involved in developing a camp for your local youth has been cut by more than half.

Websites

<http://www.nymapexchange.net/>

<http://www.peopletv.org/>

<http://www.grcmc.org/about/>

<http://www.vermontaccess.net/>

<http://www.pcmvtv.org/>

<http://www.ollietv.org>

<http://www.adventuresintv.org/index.htm>