

---

---

# SNLP NEWS & UPDATES

---

---

Volume 1, Issue 3

November 2007

---

---

## \*\*SNLP NEWSFLASH\*\*

### Shopping for SNLP

SNLP was honored to be the featured non-profit for all 8 metropolitan area **Eileen Fisher** stores for their Fall Shopping Event. We received 10% of all proceeds on September 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>! Loyal shoppers showed up to buy new clothing and talk with Nashers and staff of SNLP.

We are also delighted to receive a new general support grant from BlackRock, an investment management firm.

### We've Got It....in Writing

A paper written by Michael Hoyt, Ph.D., based on a quantitative and qualitative study of the 2003 Summer Institute will be published early next year in the American Journal of Community Psychology (AJCP). AJCP is a top tier peer-reviewed scientific journal that is published in association with the American Psychological Association. His paper focuses on leadership development in adolescent girls.

### The Changing of the Guard

We would like to thank Nyoka Acevedo, Co-Director of Programs, for her wonderful work at SNLP over the last two and a half years. Nyoka is transitioning from her previous role and will split her time between going back to school and providing part-time support for the new ELLA Fellowship project at SNLP. We are thrilled to welcome veteran SNLP faculty member Shreya Janssens-Sannon as the new Co-Director of Programs. Shreya has taught the Summer Institute core class *Power, Identity and Privilege* for six years. Thank you Nyoka and Welcome Shreya!

### SNLP Youth Board Member

Leanne Sajor was elected by the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of SNLP. Leanne is a freshman at Hunter College. She attended SNLP's summer program in 2005 and was awarded a NY Foundation Organizing Intern grant to co-facilitate the 2007 Summer Institute LAP. Leanne has been an activist since high school where she co founded YELL! a diverse group of youth dedicated to activism, community based education and youth liberation.

## LEADERSHIP MOMENTS

### Nasher Examines Her Future in Medicine

**Kamaria Alleyne-Lewis** attended the *National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine* in Atlanta this summer. During the 10 day forum, Kamaria learned about public health, medical ethics and research, and participated in several site visits to medical facilities. Her trip and involvement with SNLP were featured in an article in the weekly newspaper *Caribbean Life*.

### Excelling at College

**Kamilah DePass** has continued working with women around leadership while at Northeastern University. Kamilah is currently an active participant and e-board member of *Xcel: The Females' Center of Excellence and Leadership*. This female based student organization is dedicated to the professional, academic and personal development of its members.

### Environmental Scholarship

**Joana Chan** was honored with a Morris K. Udall Scholarship to travel to Arizona this summer to attend a week long conference focusing on leadership and the environment. The Udall Foundation awards \$5000 scholarships to college students who demonstrate a commitment to careers focusing on the environment or Native American issues.

### Continuing the Good Work

**Bola Bhadmus** was first introduced to IRC (International Rescue Committee) through her CAP (Community Action Placement). Because of her great work as an intern, IRC offered her an after school job where Bola tutors children of all ages and helps refugees become accustomed to U.S. culture.

### Working to End Sexual Harassment

**Kyla Lino** has been selected to develop a Participatory Action Research project on sexual harassment in NYC public schools as part of the *Sisters in Strength*, a program of Girls for Gender Equity. She is also working as a peer mentor in GGE's Urban Leaders program.



Nashers from the 2007 Summer Institute join a Dean to work on their Leadership Autobiographies.

## NASH UNIVERSITY

### **Move Your Body: Feminist Dance**

Nashers will learn many types of dance including modern, Afro-Caribbean and hip-hop and will also create their own dances which will be featured at a final performance at the Winter Celebration in December.

### **SAT Prep Class**

Due to the overwhelming success of previous classes, we are offering SAT Prep again this fall at a more intensive level. We have partnered with Pro-Testers to offer this class every Wednesday and Saturday to help young women prepare for the December 1<sup>st</sup> SAT.

### **College Programming**

On November 6<sup>th</sup> SNLP hosted a College Planning Day where young women gained valuable information about applying to college and thinking about which college is right for them. The all-day event also included a panel discussion with current college students. Attending this event guarantees students the opportunity to attend workshops, college trips and fairs, and individual college counseling throughout the year.

### **Who am I? Who do I want to be? Rap Group**

Rap Group is moving into its second successful year under the leadership of Tara Devineni MSW. This group is a safe and confidential space where new and returning Nashers can talk about issues such as relationships, family, stress management and more.

### **Sex, Sex, Sex**

This bi-monthly workshop series, led by former summer Dean Shelby Knox, will focus on accurate information on sex, STD's, STI's, contraceptive options and youth rights.

## NEW PROGRAMMING

### **ELLA Fellowship**

The ELLA Fellowship, which stands for Engage, Learn, Lead, and Act, is SNLP's newest program. ELLA offers young women (ages 16-21) in-depth leadership training and support to design and implement a meaningful leadership project that engages their community. The ELLA Fellowship will last one year and will provide the Fellows with specialized and professionally guided training and support. Each young woman will receive a monthly stipend and additional funds for project implementation. *Funding for ELLA is provided by the Liz Claiborne Foundation.*

#### **2007 ELLA Fellows:**

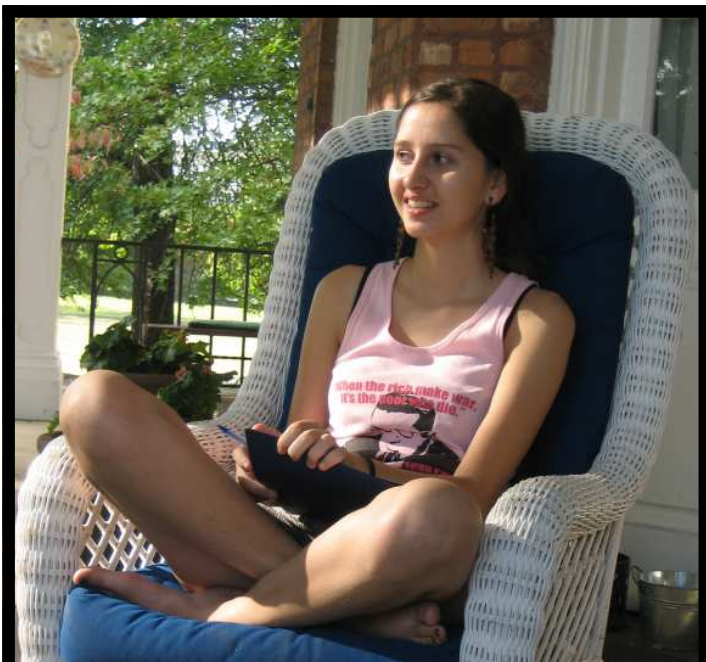
- ◆ **Luisa Batiz** is designing and facilitating a 10 week workshop series focusing on self-esteem and leadership. She will work with middle school girls in Crown Heights and will support them in creating a zine.
- ◆ **Wai Tan Di** is developing a website and virtual support group for Chinese women interested in careers in business.
- ◆ **Nafisa Ferdous** will use photography assignments and artistic critique to help young women from select Queens high schools explore their community and identity through a ten week class and final exhibit.
- ◆ **Corina Leu** is designing and facilitating college readiness workshops for undocumented and/or international high school students in Queens.
- ◆ **Nurah Morgan** is creating a young African-American Muslim women's support group and resource guide.

### **My Body, My Choice: Health Leadership Training**

SNLP is partnering with the Red Hook Initiative to create a new peer-led sexual and reproductive health education model. Six Nashers will have the opportunity to learn from two peer educators from Red Hook Initiative as they participate in extensive train-the-trainer sessions over a 5 month period. Upon completion of the training, the six young women will provide sexual and reproductive health workshops at different sites in their community. Both the young women from the Red Hook Initiative and the Nashers will receive stipends for the time spent on training and facilitation. *This new program is funded by the Lalor Foundation.*

### **Sadie Nash Goes to School**

SNLP is running a semester long full-credit leadership class for 15 women at Satellite High School in lower Manhattan. Called Fire Ciphers: Building Leadership from the Inside Out, this class is taught by Ije Ude, a Summer Institute faculty member. The class combines traditional leadership tools with an emphasis on self-care. The goal of the course is for young women to leave with a self-care plan and support system for their minds, bodies, spirits and style of leadership. Arri-Ann Henry, a Summer 2007 Nasher, is the teaching assistant for the class.



ELLA Fellow Corina Leu relaxes at a training retreat while redefining the goals of her project.

## LAST BUT NOT LEAST

### Dotting Our i's

SNLP places a premium on operating smoothly and efficiently and has undertaken a series of organizational upgrades to ensure we grow stronger every year. With funds from the New York Foundation, we have hired consultant Kim Sabo to help us create youth centered evaluations that will focus more accurately on defined outcomes. To augment this work, senior staff members are also participating in a 12 month Outcomes Management workshop series through Rensselaerville Institute. In addition, we are currently in the process of creating a new donor database with a team of volunteers from the Taproot Foundation.

### Another Successful Summer

Our 6<sup>th</sup> Summer Institute culminated on August 17<sup>th</sup> with a Celebration including a dance class performance and screenings of short films from the Filmmaking for Social Change class. Highlights of the 2007 Summer Institute included the completion of the Leadership Action Project's "You(th) Have the Right To" youth rights awareness campaign. LAP was co-taught by Co-Director of Programs Nyoka Acevedo and two SNLP alumnae, Nurah Morgan and Leanne Sajor whose positions as Community Organizing Interns were funded by a grant from New York Foundation. In response to ambitious outreach, we also had the highest participation of young women from Staten Island to date. Nashers engaged in a number of traditional Summer Institute activities including the camping trip at Gateway National Park in Brooklyn, Women in Action trips featuring a midwife, the founder of New York's only co-op restaurant, and the Commissioner of the New York State Office of Children and Family Services. First-year Nashers will continue their leadership work this school year in the CAP Program.

*The Summer Institute is funded in part by Barker Welfare Foundation, Charles Hayden Foundation and the Thomas and Jeanne Elmezzzi Private Foundation and by our many other funders who provide us general support – thank you!*



Nashers celebrate the completion of LAP's "You(th) Have the Right To" youth rights awareness campaign. A portion of this campaign involved handing out pamphlets and discussing youth rights with people in Union Square.

### Caught on Film

During the 2007 Summer Institute videographer Orion Gordon filmed Nashers, Leaders and classes for a new SNLP video. Now we have a short video to showcase the unique experience of SNLP that words often fail to describe.

### CAP (Community Action Placement)

Nashers will participate in internships at 20 different sites this year. CAP sites for this year include: The Whitehouse Project, Right Rides, Recycle a Bicycle, Choices in Childbirth / Friends of the Birth Center and ECPAT, among others. CAP is sponsored by the Independence Community Foundation.

### THE LASTING IMPACT

On June 9, 2007, SNLP held its second annual alumnae event. This event brought together young women that were part of the Founding Class in Summer 2002 through the class of Summer 2005.

**"SNLP has challenged me not to get too comfortable and to continue to evolve as a person and an activist."**

100% of alumnae said that Sadie Nash changed the way they think about responsibility in terms of the world, their communities, and themselves.

**"It has given me skills and confidence and a broader idea of what is possible for me and the world, and how to move toward those possibilities."**

100% confirmed that Sadie Nash had positively changed or re-directed their life goals in terms of social change

**"SNLP has helped me to take a closer look at issues in my environment and in my surroundings. The leader reflections really helped me by showing how amazing women can make a change. It inspired me to do the same."**

100 % of alumnae said they would like to continue being involved in SNLP Programs. Areas they would like to be involved in included: teaching classes, volunteering at the office, organizing alumnae events, being a Dean in the Summer Program, facilitating workshops, and donating money and resources in the future.

**"SNLP has prepared me to be aware of my surroundings and to be myself, also to fight for what I'm passionate about and to 'speak my mind even if my voice shakes'."**

The young women were asked, *what do you feel are the core values of SNLP?* The top answers were: leadership, empowerment, community, and respect.

