



ctvn

COMMUNITY TV NETWORK

2019 ANNUAL REPORT
45TH ANNIVERSARY

Sun-Times Photo by Perry C. Riddle



Denise Zaccardi (right) with Sullivan House High School students circa 1976.



Jamie Caesar (left) and photographer Roberto Lopez (right) reflect on the history of the Pilsen neighborhood, while watching CTVN's video, La Esperanza, at the National Museum of Mexican Art's exhibit, 40 Años: A La Esperanza.

FOUNDED IN THE FALL OF 1974, 2019 MARKS COMMUNITY TV NETWORK'S 45TH ANNIVERSARY

COMMUNITY TV NETWORK:

PROMOTES

positive self-images among underrepresented youth by providing a platform for self-representation and means for dissemination to large audiences, encouraging them to overcome the realities of poverty, inequality, and injustice.

STIMULATES

youth development, cultivates critical thinking, interpersonal and leadership skills, strengthens literacy, and fosters the development of strong work habits and real world skills.

EMPOWERS

youth to articulate their own truths, to seek and develop independent perspectives, and to involve their communities in solving the issues that matter to them most.

ENGAGES

underserved youth in quality, sequential technology and arts training, and teaches them to apply this training to explore positive values and attitudes through creative expression.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

"LA ESPERANZA", our documentary from 1981, is part of the exhibit at the National Museum of Mexican Art. This exhibit focuses on the 40-year-anniversary of the making of the A La Esperanza mural at Benito Juarez High School in Pilsen. The mural remains a symbol for Chicana Pilsen residents to remember the fight for the right to education in the 1970s. Youth video producers from Latino Youth Alternative High School documented the making of that symbol in the 1980s.

"WELCOME TO THE PEACE HOUSE" screened in Washington DC, as part of the first Smithsonian Museum African-American Film Festival. This youth produced documentary has received multiple awards, including the Chicago award from the Chicago International Ciné Youth Film Festival.

Two CTVN films were screened in the Summer 2019 Movies In the Park Film Festival hosted by the Chicago Park District. Youth Producer, El Concepción screened her award winning documentary, "HOW TO BE A MAN," and the historic documentary "OFF THE WALL", produced in the 1970s by young people at the Ruiz Belvis Cultural Center High School.

The DuSable Museum screened several of the South Shore High School youth produced films as part of its African-American youth art exhibit Cultural Identity: "IT'S ALL ABOUT THE ART. AFRICAN-AMERICAN Y." This exhibit is on display through March, 2020.

ctvn
45 YEARS OF
HISTORY

1974

Our video training program for low-income youth begins in the West Garfield neighborhood under the name, The Alternative Schools Network Video Project, a program of the Alternative Schools Network.

1976

Everything Must Change, a video shot by 10 and 11-year-old students, examines the West Garfield neighborhood and proposes positive changes that could be implemented. The video is hailed in the local press for its innovative approach and later wins the Electronic Kid Film and Video Festival.

1980

Community TV Network is incorporated as a separate 501(C)3 organization, while housed in the offices of the Alternative Schools Network in Uptown.

1981

CTVN produces La Esperanza, our first video in color, which follows the creation of the A La Esperanza mural. The video was created by students from Latino Youth Alternative High School, with help from Denise Zaccardi as video instructor, editing instructor Laura Litten, and technical advisor Mirko Popadic. The video would later be showcased in an exhibition by the National Museum of Mexican Art, entitled 40 Años: A La Esperanza.



1983

CTVN youth cover Harold Washington's race for mayor. Running with the Mayor, a video created by students, documents this campaign for office by Chicago's first African-American mayor.

1986

With the coming of cable TV to Chicago and the Chicago Access Network, Hard Cover: Voices and Visions of Chicago's Youth, a teen-produced cable access TV show and begins production. Created in partnership with the city-wide newspaper "New Expressionist News," this cable TV show gives youth the power to reach a substantial audience for the first time.



In conjunction with Cermak Health Services/Cook County Jail, Video Services, with Paul Buchbinder as Director, a CTVN video, AIDS Questions and Answers, proves groundbreaking for the high-risk drug use population. CTVN creates the video (in English and Spanish) for the Chicago Department of Health and, in total, sells 2,000 copies.



Journalist, Mina Bloom visits CTVN's Youth Media Center to talk with our youth participants about the journalism industry. She opened up about her work at Block Club Chicago and gave the students feedback on their story ideas.

JOURNALISM PROGRAM

CTVN's journalism program is infused in all of our programs. This year students deepened their critical thinking skills with advanced fact checking skills, including the utilization of data scraping as tools to produce trend video pieces concerning issues teens are most interested in. Some pieces include a rise in more teen friendly TV shows starring people of color, an increase of cultural appreciation versus cultural appropriation, and an increasing interest in a push for later school times. CTVN formed a new partnership with tech start-up Muck Rock and with the Chicago Reporter, an investigative journalism magazine.

IN-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

TRUMAN MIDDLE COLLEGE

Youth learned the importance of persistence and hard work, despite the polar vortex interrupting their classroom schedule. They produced four news pieces covering topics including teen mental health, police brutality, immigration policy and violence in Uptown. They also worked on two projects adapting a scene from a short story, and two final narrative films covering the issues that cause previously incarcerated individuals to end up back in jail, and school bullying.

SULLIVAN HOUSE HIGH SCHOOL

In this Avalon Park program, students learned how to cover their school's basketball team as sports journalists. They gained experience with both sports interviews and capturing action shots during the games.

Filmmaker Yvonne Welbon, Video Instructors Jacob Klippenstein and Chloe Fourte and Denise Zaccardi, Executive Director celebrating our students' hard work after assisting with our South Shore International College Preparatory High School program.



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND SUMMER PROGRAMS

CTVN YOUTH MEDIA CENTER:

Youth learned advanced film production and journalism research skills including: how to use a 360 camera, edit motion graphics and animation, and how to scrape data to supplement their journalism videos. Journalist Mina Bloom of Block Club Chicago visited the class. Videos include: news pieces about a comic book store and electric scooters. Documentaries were produced about I.C.E. raids, and about musicians who influence their communities. A surrealist effects-heavy dream sequence film was appreciated by all.

FENGER ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL

Fenger youth learned how to produce their own vox pop and breaking news videos in their journalism intensive program. Some videos produced include live reporting from the Taste of Chicago and a short documentary, "A Penny for Our Thoughts, A Penny for Our Arts," about a black-owned community youth art center in Chicago's Englewood community.

PROGRESSIVE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Students learned the importance of turning an interview into a conversation. Two thought-provoking pieces on non-traditional ways of coping with depression and cell phone addiction were created. In the summer program, visiting professionals offered advice for TV and Journalism careers: Mike Mabbott and Theodore Roseman of Harpo Productions, Chicago Crusader City Editor, Erick Johnson and two Chicago Crusader interns presented their wisdom.

SOUTH SHORE INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Young people learned about investigative tools in their documentary intensive program. The summer program focused on remix culture. Using our cable show archives, young people matched their current topics with youth produced videos from the 1980s. Students chose issues from the past that remain pertinent to teens today. Topics include colorism, body image, dress code, and mental health.

ANTONIA PANTOJA, ASPIRA OF ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL

In this summer program, students produced a series of documentaries using journalistic practices on teen dating, youth soccer, bullying, and North Side versus South Side pizza.



1994 Hard Cover is featured on NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw as the focus of their "America Close-Up" segment.

1998

Rosa Parks: Mother of a Movement, a video featuring one CTVN student's interview with Rosa Parks, receives First Place awards in the documentary category at the Do It Your D*ck Self National Film Festival in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

2003

CTVN purchases its Youth Media Center, complete with a classroom, an editing suite, and an office space for the staff. This also gives Hard Cover their own space to produce and edit their episodes.

2004

Hard Cover receives the Coming Up Taller Award at a ceremony in the White House from the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services for superior after school programs for at-risk youth.

2009

Our Hidden Culture, a video by youth in the summer program, became an Internet sensation! The video explores all forms of sexual violence and silencing - from catcalling to human trafficking - and how they are all woven together under a bigger concept called rape culture. In the first two weeks after its release, the video received over 11,000 hits on Hard Cover's YouTube page.

2012

CTVN's Youth Media Center experiences a makeover, thanks to the generous involvement of the DIY ("Down and Dirty with Frank Fontana") show, sponsored by Craftsman and Kenmore brands. The Frank Fontana crew sound-proofed the classroom space and added new shelves, professional lighting, and a green screen.

2014

CTVN staff and students were honored to host Nilson Tuwe Huni Kuin, an indigenous forest agent and youth leader visiting from the Amazon. The visiting filmmaker screened his latest film and entertained questions from the students, emphasizing the importance of media in telling first-person stories.

2017

Welcome To the Peace House, a documentary on "I Grow Chicago", wins the Chicago Award at the Ciné Youth Fest. The youth producers discussed their project for a segment on FOX News 32 Chicago. The film was later selected for the 2018 Smithsonian African American Film Fest in Washington D.C.



1993

The End of the Nightstick: Confronting Police Brutality in Chicago, a timely topic of intense national interest, is produced by CTVN with Peter Kuttner, Cyndi Moran, and Eric Scholl. It wins a Silver Plaque for Documentary at the Chicago International Film Festival. It is later aired on national TV as part of PBS' POV series.





The first ever "Hard Cover: Voices and Visions of Chicago's Youth" season in a shoot at CAN TV -Chicago's cable access TV station 1986 (temporarily located at the University of Illinois Chicago)

HARD COVER: VOICES AND VISIONS OF CHICAGO'S YOUTH

Hard Cover is CTVN's youth produced cable access TV show and Youtube channel. A new show is curated, produced and distributed every 2 weeks by CTVN youth staff. The episode collects recently completed videos from all of CTVN's programs and organizes them together into shows for distribution to CAN TV in Chicago and Phillycam in Philadelphia.

2019 SCREENINGS

- BLACK CINEMA HOUSE
- DUSABLE MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY
- HUMBOLDT PARK MOVIES IN THE PARK, CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT
- NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MEXICAN ART
- NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE, WASHINGTON D.C.



Our Hard Cover youth staff member, El Concepcion, interviewing Jose E. Lopez, the executive director of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center, about the history of the Puerto Rican People's parade.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

SUFFRAGE AT 16 is a multimedia marketing project developed in partnership with youth from Vote 16 Illinois. The project used video, a Twitter town hall, and Snapchat's geospace advertising tools. Through these tools high school students were recruited across Cook County to join a growing movement seeking to push to lower the voting age to 16 for municipal elections.

THE GOOD OF CHICAGO will be a series of videos highlighting goodness of a group or person in each of Chicago's neighborhoods. The first in the series was produced and is about the Humboldt Park neighborhood. This video focuses on the Puerto Rican community and its Chicago history.

VIDEO SERVICES



Video Services is CTVN's fee-for-service professional digital video production initiative. This division has completed 829 professional video jobs since its inception in 1987, while offering on-the-job training and freelance income to young people on each job.

Clients this year include:

- ACCION
- ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS NETWORK
- CITY OF CHICAGO
- THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES
- GIVING TREE INC.
- THE CHICAGO COMMUNITY TRUST
- THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND/CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2019 REVENUE

GRANTS - FOUNDATIONS AND CORPORATIONS.....	\$139,000
GRANTS - GOVERNMENT	\$57,767
PROGRAM SERVICE	\$51,307
INTEREST INCOME	\$91
INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$13,435
IN - KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.....	\$2,138
OTHER	\$3,961
TOTAL REVENUES	\$267,699

EXPENSES

PROGRAM SERVICES.....	\$251,390
ADMINISTRATIVE	\$26,995
FUNDRAISING.....	\$20,563
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$298,948

OVER 400 YOUNG PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN OUR MEDIA PRODUCTION PROGRAMS THIS YEAR. WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROUS SUPPORT.

FUNDERS

Chicago Digital Media
Production Fund
The Chicago Community
Foundation - Hive Grant
The Chicago Community Trust
- Smart Growth Grant
The Chicago Learning Exchange
City of Chicago, Department of
Family Support Services
Andrew and Alice Fischer
Charitable Trust
The Illinois Arts Council,
a State Agency
Illinois Humanities
Robert R. McCormick Foundation
The Sage Foundation

BUSINESS DONATIONS

Anonymous

COLLABORATORS

After School Matters
Alternative Schools Network
Michael Hannan

CONSULTANTS

Elsie Hernandez
Vedran Residbegovic

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Michael Anzaldi
Patrick Battel
Christopher Benshoof
Brian Cory
Doug Clevenger
Mary Deweyer,
Career Success Services
Sharon Feigon
Christine Fuentes
Alex Gorfinkel
Nancy Juda
David Landeck
Ron Norinsky
Lorraine Owles
Richard Peloquin
Kate Pravera
Gordon Quinn
Stephen M. Rose and
Anne L. D'Urso-Rose
Dahlia Rudavsky
Kathryn L. Simon
Teresa Tamura

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Chipotle Mexican Grill
Theresa Campagna
Matthew Cassel
Chicago Park District
DuSable
Douglas Hall
Damian Iordanov
Roberto Lopez
National Museum
of Mexican Art
National Museum
of African American Art
Megan Powers
Stony Island Arts Bank
Morrie Warshawski

COLLEGE INTERN

Keyshawn Fields,
Chicago State University

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lisa Caridine, Health Resources,
University of Illinois
Laurie Little, Faculty/Filmmaker,
DePaul University/Luminist
Films
Tony Medici, Videographer
iJazz Media
Toyce Mizelle,
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago
Amber Milan Watson, Producer,
BET/Jax Media

MARKETING COMMITTEE

Lindsey Gerber
Matthew Ibalio
Oscar Montesdeoca

VOLUNTEERS

Maddie Borth
Alex Brinkman-Gramigna
Peter Kuttner

HARD COVER YOUTH STAFF

Danielle Balcita
Audreanna Bolton
El Concepción
Isaac Perez

SPECIAL PROJECTS YOUTH VIDEO PRODUCERS

Cherakee Bailey
Danielle Balcita
Audreanna Bolton
El Concepción
Nioco DuBose
Alexa Garcia-Palacios
Hayley Hawkins
Aaron McCulloch-Bradshaw
Isaac Perez

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Damian Iordanov
Denise Zaccardi, PhD
Executive Director

JOURNALISM COORDINATOR

Theresa Campagna

VIDEO INSTRUCTORS

Chloe Fourte
Brandon Johnson
Jacob Klippenstein
Jon Mueller
Mary Reid
Eli Rudavsky
Bill Sacco
Jason Tompkins

MARKETING

Alex Brinkman-Gramigna

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Jamie Ceaser

CONSULTANTS

James Pfluecke
Kate Pravera

GUEST SPEAKERS

Brian Ashby
Mina Bloom
Liliane Calfee
Adeshina Emmanuel
Felicia Holman
Erick Johnson
Morgan Johnson
Ben Kolak
Mike Mabbott
Deborah Payne
Lauren Ponto
Theodore Roseman
Yvonne Welbon

COMMUNITY TV NETWORK
2418 W BLOOMINGDALE AVE
CHICAGO, IL 60647

PHONE: (773) 278-8500

INFO@CTVNETWORK.ORG