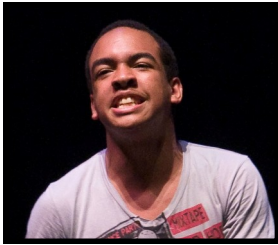


Participant Profile: Randy Lopez

"I am just one of the many stories that The Possibility Project has changed. I joined in 2008 as a 13-year old, low self-esteem boy who couldn't quite figure out why he felt alone in the world. I



never had a great relationship with my mother, let alone my father, so I had to grow up fast. I was overweight, and was called fat, blob, slob, you name it. I would say I became sensitive to the point of over-emotional.

The Possibility Project became my safe haven. I was never alone and always helped, and helped by, others. We gave each other hope, the feeling that you will find a way over any obstacle and continue to strive to achieve greatness.

After all the exciting activities and education, I realize, more than anything else, that what I have is a family in The Possibility Project. It consists of more than 100 other teenagers from around the boroughs. They taught me how to use the conflict resolution skills I had learned, that violence is the worst way to solve anything, that standing up and speaking out is necessary, and that nobody can live without friends in their lives. It led me to the sense that I am supported, empowered, and that I can achieve anything I want to do.

I have broken out of my shyness and isolation and become a leader. I am in my 3rd year and on the Production Team, the youth leadership of the program. I plan to go to Yale and study acting when I graduate. I am devoted to creating change because I know firsthand that we can create newfound hope in the world."

Coming Soon: Our Foster Care Film!

For the last two years, The Possibility Project has operated a program to empower foster care teenagers to create better lives and communities, strengthening their chances of growing into independent adults.

Our work with these groups of vulnerable youth has raised our awareness of the tremendous challenges they face. It has also driven us to expand our efforts to change the damage and dysfunction that the foster care experience typically engenders.

This year we will adapt our 2010 foster care program's original musical, "Know + How =", into a screenplay and then an original feature film, to be written and acted by the youth cast themselves, and shot on location in New York City.



The project will be directed by Juan Carlos Pineiro Escoriza, the award-winning director of "Second Skin," and bring the power and impact that the live show had on audiences to a greater number of people through the medium of film. The film's stories - stories that are rarely told and even more rarely listened to - will shine a spotlight on the ongoing crisis that is a reality for foster care youth.

Once the film is completed, we aim to distribute it broadly to raise the voice of our foster care teenagers and provide hope and inspiration to thousands of foster care youth. Screenings will provide a forum through which foster care youth can come together to initiate a much-needed dialogue about the challenges they face and solutions to the foster care crisis.

We will also aim to increase the number of our nation's citizens who understand the causes and conditions of foster care, witness the courage and determination these

youth can exemplify, and get involved in helping change the futures faced by our nation's most at-risk teenagers.

We are incredibly excited by this film project's promise. We believe that it

has the potential to create vast social impact. We hope you will consider supporting this project by making a special gift directed toward its completion.

To see a short "trailer" about our film, please visit our home page at www.the-possibility-project.org and click on the link in the Recent News section.

Community Action Flash Mob!

This fall, The Possibility Project undertook a large scale community action project in NYC. Our After-School cast, who will premiere their original musical in February 2011, chose to tackle the issue of safe sex and condom use in response to the rising number of their peers contracting STD's and the accompanying social stigma around condom usage. Our youth wanted to create a buzz around using protection, sending a message that it is 'cool' for sexually active young people to wear a condom. They chose to spread their message by creating a dance to the song "Ribbons" (by the popular Lady Gaga). The group rehearsed for three weeks with choreographer and Possibility Project volunteer Alana Hartman. Then, on the evening of October 19th, the youth presented a flash mob performance in Washington Square Park. The event was presented in collaboration with Judson Memorial Church, who donated space for rehearsals and had several church members join the dance with our youth. *To watch a video of the Flash Mob, visit our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/possibilityproj.*

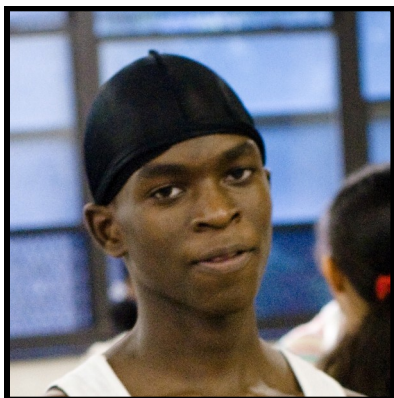
THE POSSIBILITY PROJECT

Newsletter

Winter 2010

Our New Home...

Since we began in 2001, we have used the spaces of community partners, such as the Beacon Program and Covenant House, to conduct rehearsals and program activities. We have also maintained a separate office from which we have managed our organization's operations. Now that we have grown from one to three programs – and with an aim to add more programs in the future – we plan to establish a home for our programs and maintain a center for youth who want to create a better world.



By bringing all of our activities “under one roof,” we will be able to more efficiently use our time and our human and financial resources, as well as expand our programs even more with the ability to use the space during the day. Look for more news to come in early 2011...

The Possibility Project empowers diverse groups of teenagers each year to create safe, peaceful and productive lives and communities. Using the performing arts as a vehicle, The Possibility Project aims to develop the next generation of engaged community leaders. For information, to donate, or to join our mailing list, contact us at:

The Possibility Project
104 W. 27th Street, 12th Floor
New York, NY 10001
(212) 924-2300
info@the-possibility-project.org

Or visit our website at:
www.the-possibility-project.org

“Know + How =” Premiere: Our 14th Original Musical in NYC

The Possibility Project premiered its 14th original musical, “Know + How =,” this September 30th through October 4th at the Lucille Lortel Theatre in New York City. The show was written and performed by 22 teenagers living in the foster care system. Their work captured the difficult reality - as well as the persistent hopes and aspirations - of foster care youth.

More than 1,200 audience members, one-third of them youth in foster care themselves, attended the performances over five nights. They were led on an “educational journey” by Addie, a high school dropout examining the value of learning for youth in difficult circumstances. A dynamic and powerful production, “Know + How =” gave voice to the ideas of young people dealing with parental addiction, domestic abuse, homelessness, and the meaning of love in a foster care context.

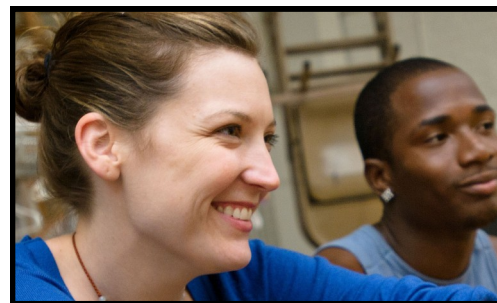


In the end, the performers demonstrated the remarkable resilience of foster care youth. They also gained an invaluable experience they will not soon forget. Each night, audiences leapt to their feet to give a standing ovation in recognition of their “moving” and “inspiring” performance, having witnessed a unique event that they, too, will not soon forget.

Artistic Staff Profile: Elizabeth Howard

“I saw one of the very first Possibility Project shows, and was blown away by what I saw. I had never seen a group of young people with more dedication or passion about making a change. It was inspiring. I jumped at the chance to be a part of an organization that had made such a huge impact on me - a place that uses art and storytelling to create change, believes in the voice of young people and works to make that voice heard.

Teenagers have a different perspective on the world because they are just getting started in it. They are able to see possibilities and have fresh ideas about how to create the change our communities need. I look to empower our young people to trust these ideas and to keep working to become the next leaders of our society. I want them to learn the value of dreams combined with hard work, the power of believing in yourself, and the responsibility they have to make the world better.



I have loved and participated in the theatre for over twenty years and I have never been as moved or as inspired as I am by the bravery and the dedication of our young people on stage. I learn from them every day about what is important, how to have courage, and what it means to believe in something bigger than one's self. It is an honor to share the Possibility Project experience with them.”