

National Black United Fund, Inc.
(Newark, NJ)
National Hip-Hop Political Convention

Total Award: \$75,000 over 1 year

Program Contribution
Arts and Culture Program, \$25,000

Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic
Justice, \$50,000

To support the *National Hip-Hop Political Convention*, by providing stipends for performing and presenting artists. The long term goals of the *National Hip-Hop Political Convention* are 1) to energize young people into becoming interested and excited about public policy issues; 2) to use the cultural apparatus of hip-hop to organize young people to participate in public policy and civic activities; and 3) to implement a new paradigm to use the power and influence of hip-hop to make tangible changes in communities across the country. The founders of this organization believe that most public policy issues are framed in a way that excludes the hip-hop generation; or they are presented in a way that is uninteresting and distant. Additionally, these conversations often take place in venues that young people don't have access to. The immediate goal of the *National Hip-Hop Political Convention* is to place the agenda issues most pressing to the hip-hop generation center stage in venues and in conversations where young people have entree. The convention will include public policy panels, workshops, state caucus meetings, hip-hop concerts, poetry readings and plenaries led by artists. The *National Hip-Hop Political Convention* will provide self-defined members of the hip-hop generation with a venue where they can develop a statement of values, identify and prioritize issues of concern and develop a plan for working collectively to affect change.

Arts and Culture Program: *Objective I, Strategy 4*

Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice: *Objectives I & II*