

League of Young Voters Education Fund

(New York, NY)

Hip-Hop Training Program

To support the League's *Hip-Hop Training Program*, an initiative that engages young adults in the democratic process through the use of an arts and community building curriculum. The League of Young Voters Education Fund played an instrumental role in increasing civic participation in 2004. Their key strategy involved identifying cultural influencers who were trusted sources within each community and training them to be civic leaders. LYVEF is uniquely connected to more than 1,000 cultural, community and issue-based networks in all 50 states. Accordingly, they are well positioned to convene diverse groups for strategy sessions, trainings, and on-line support. With support from NCF, the League developed a curriculum and sent a network of trainers to conferences, campuses and communities throughout the nation. The curriculum focused on five areas: 1) mapping local civic and political resources; 2) building diverse coalitions; 3) researching and connecting issues; and 4) civic skills and compliance training. Over the course of the next two years, the League will: identify new partners and fortify existing relationships; create new training sessions for emerging leaders; increase the capacity of artists engaged in this work; target new constituencies for organizing and provide technical assistance to grassroots and start-up organizations.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$110,700 Arts and Culture Program: *Objective I, Strategy 3*

Total Award: \$210,700 over 2 years