Check out our Philly College Tour! pg. 21

Meet the members of YMS on page 9!

Read about the YMS Summer 2015 experience & check out their BEST WORK YET!

The YMS Documentary was HARD HITTING!

Read some of the Poetry from this summer!
The work of the Abbott Leadership Institute, Youth Media Symposium and College Success Centers is made possible by the generous support of the following foundations and institutions:

The Victoria Foundation
The Schumann Fund
The Turrell Fund
Rutgers University Newark
The Ford Foundation
The New Jersey Education Association
State Farm Youth Advisory Board
The Newark City of Learning Collaborative
The Chad Foundation
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Background on ALI and YMS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Summer 2015 Experience</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YMS College Success Centers</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meet YMS</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meet the Staff</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Trips</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philly College Tour</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YMS Poetry</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YMS Photography</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media Movement [YMS Documentary, Newark Education: The Real Nitty Gritty]</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YMS Graduation</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YMS After School Program</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BACKGROUND: the Abbott Leadership Institute & the Youth Media Symposium

The Mission of the Abbott Leadership Institute is to develop informed and effective education advocates for Newark Public Schools (NPS), by empowering parents, students, educators and community advocates of NPS with information about public school reform, and knowledge of effective methods of education advocacy and family engagement in schools.

In the summer of 2006, ALI extended its reach to include young people through the development of the Youth Media Symposium (YMS). YMS develops student leaders in schools and the community through introducing Newark students, ages 13-18 to education advocacy, and the art and science of using digital media technology as a tool for social change. Thus far, we have held 8 successful yearlong sessions, and 9 intensive summer programs. During this time, we have served over 200 students in 16 high schools, developing a core group of young student leaders who understand their social responsibility to help improve their city, with a specific skill set in media production not offered in traditional public schools.

Since its inception over 14 years ago, ALI has remained a consistent community resource, responsible for ensuring and developing informed stakeholder engagement in efforts to improve educational outcomes for Newark’s children. ALI has taught more than 4500 participants family and community engagement in education, to combat race and class inequities that exist in Newark Public Schools. For the last 14 years, we have offered 28 bi-weekly Saturday training series, consisting of 6 classes each at Rutgers Newark. For the last five years, we have attracted 60 to 75 attendees per class.
The YMS Approach

Here at ALI we teach YMS students that they have a voice and that their voices matter. Then we show them that their voices can be amplified using the power of the media. This is why YMS students learn how to produce film and edit their own videos for their advocacy projects. YMS students develop an understanding and appreciation of their ability to stimulate change in their own lives, schools and community.

How do we get them there?

Leadership Development
- Classroom & team building activities
- Project development
- Public speaking
- College readiness counseling
- Mentorship & personal counseling
- Holding great expectations for students
- Conflict resolution
- Adult role modeling
- Providing encouragement & conversation
- Diversified trips
- Examination of people, places & ideas that they never thought before!

Media Skills
- Media production training
- Filming and photography
- Editing videos
- Script writing
- Speech writing
- Critical analysis of media
- Understanding the impact of the media

Educational Advocacy
- Research and data analysis skills
- Student organizing techniques & strategies
- Exposure to local, state and national politics
- Exposure to examples of youth advocacy
- History & the power of people to make change
- Critical analysis of urban education policy & practice

ALI and YMS instructors facilitate revelation of skills and talents students may or may not have known they had. We provide positive reinforcement of who students are and who they are becoming. Most importantly we provide a safe space where intellectual pursuits are valued, and ideas can be challenged.

In turn, YMS students develop a new set of intellectual, emotional & spiritual muscles and the self-confidence that comes with it. They become more engaged in schools, and around their community. YMS students become more consciously engaged in their personal growth and development. They learn public speaking, organizing and how to negotiate with adults. This often leads to more appreciation for school. This means students become better students because they change how they participate in their classes by speaking out more and asking questions. Students pay more attention to their direction of life, they have greater expectations for their future with more confidence and they take the college process more seriously. This results in our students going to college and becoming informed young adults who are inclined to be civically engaged.
The YMS Summer 2015 program provided training to 31 participants in:

**Social Justice * Newark Education Reform**

**History of the Civil Rights Movement**

**Media * Photography * Poetry Writing**

Classes were taught by ALI Director Junius Williams, YMS Program Coordinator Monica Hall, ALI Senior Program Coordinator Kaleena Berryman, Media Instructor Robyn Leigh Butler, Professional Photographer Barry Gray and photography student Carrie Basch.

We also invited media and arts guest speakers:

**Hisani Dubose** an independent filmmaker and Creative Arts and Technology Division adjunct professor at Bloomfield College facilitated 2 workshops on understanding how media impacts our lives through food advertisements and how images are used to send a message.

**Adrienne Wheeler** a multi-media artist, independent curator and arts educator facilitated two book designing workshops to add another component and medium to our existing project and have a tangible object they may keep. The students were asked to choose images relating to the major theme of their summer project and they added text in the form of essays, poetry, and short stories.

**Kamin Butler**, freelance voiceover professional, introduced the professional ideas of “voice editing” and “presence.” The students learned the symbols and inflection of voice over artistry.
In weeks one and two, YMS focused on Teambuilding Skills, Social Justice History with a particular focus on African American and Latino history & civil rights activism of the 1960s, the History of American Music, and the basic science of Media and Photography. In weeks three through five, YMS broke into 4 production groups and worked on developing the crux of their media project which was a documentary entitled, *Newark Education: The Real Nitty Gritty*.

This documentary served as their primary media project and the foundation for much learned this summer. Also during these weeks YMS had intensive Photography workshops and assignments where students, mentors and staff traveled around the city to take pictures that related to the 4 production groups. The production of the video served as the interactive classroom education and field research project. YMS advocates researched, interviewed and wrote scripts for the creation of their media project.

Then, Media Instructor Robyn Leigh Butler, of Robyn RYLI Concepts LLC, taught the students how to shoot and edit their own work. During week six of the summer program students finalized all voiceovers and editing to their media projects, planned the summer 2015 graduation ceremony. In their photography classes they learned to take professional style pictures and they used them to supplement their media project. YMS students created books of their photography work and a photo gallery for graduation.
The College Success Center program was created by students in the Youth Media Symposium (YMS), which is a part of the Abbott Leadership Institute (ALI) at Rutgers University Newark.

**Rutgers University - Newark**
Open 3pm-7pm - Monday, Wednesday & Friday
Bradley Hall room 149, 110 Warren St.
Newark, NJ 07102

**Leaders for Life Inc.**
Open 3pm-7pm
Monday & Wednesday
84 Clinton Pl.
Newark, NJ 07108

**Call: 973-353-3560**

**Shabazz H.S**
Open 3:45pm-6:45pm
Monday & Wednesday
80 Johnson Ave,
Newark, NJ 07108

**Ironbound Community Corp.**
Open 3pm – 6:45pm
Monday & Thursday
317 Elm Street,
Newark, NJ 07105

Our services include:
- Workshops on College Readiness topics
- Specialized Financial Aid Assistance
- College Tours and Visits
- One on one help with the College Application Process
- Personal Statement revisions by trained volunteers
- Tutoring for students (Call for appointment!)

*No appointment necessary
* Free program

New Sites Coming!
A BIG Win for YMS!

College Success Centers

**Background:** Youth Media Symposium students have led Newark's most impactful youth advocacy, from presenting proposals for student led high school reform to the United States Department of Education (USDOE); to most recently negotiating with the Newark Public Schools district measures for increased college readiness. Led by the YMS Organizing Committee, the students developed a campaign entitled “Our Schools, Our Vision” and organized to gain community support for their ideas to bring equity to the college preparation process. They recognized three glaring realities impacting student access to college: (1) the inequality in opportunity and preparation that existed amongst the city’s traditional public, magnet, and charter schools; (2) the lack of access at home for some students in planning for their future; and (3) the lack of mentorship and one-on-one guidance in college preparation prior to 12th grade. The YMS plan to address this called, “Or Schools, Our Vision” was presented to then Superintendent Cami Anderson, and she agreed in 2014 to implement a college readiness course in all public high schools beginning in September 2014. The classes did not happen. The College Success Centers were the next step in their plan.

In 2014, the students worked with ALI staff to submit a grant to State Farm to fund their vision, and received an award of $94,750.00, one of the largest from this grantor. The YMS College Success Centers officially launched in March of 2015 and in partnership with Rutgers University Newark's Urban Education and Academic Foundations Departments, the Newark City of Learning Collaborative, the Victoria Foundation, the City of Newark, Newark Public Schools, and various community organizations.

Since our launch in March 2015, the Centers have partnered with community organizations, universities and colleges, high schools, and the City of Newark to bring college readiness to all Newark students. The Centers have served over 350 students and parents through direct service, specialized presentations, training sessions, outreach events, and program partnerships; with new partnerships on the way.

#YMSCollegeSuccess

- 4 CSC sites open
- 31 schools reached
- 300+ students served to date
- 40 Trained Volunteers to date
- $12,000.00 awarded in Scholarships
- 10 College Readiness Workshops
- 4 Colleges visited on tours
Meet YMS

Abdul
Alex
Amirah
Andre
Bernardo
Chris
Christine
Deziah
Hawwa
India
Jamil
Kar
Advocates!

Kayla  Kelly  Nakia  Kiah
Kiara  Najee  Ryan  Shajene
Star  Stephon  Tori  Vivian
Our Mentors...

Abigail
Albright College

Aletha
Fairleigh Dickinson University

Alisa
Essex County College

Cassandria
Rutgers University

Idris
Essex County College

Khadijiah
Johnson & Wales University

Marco
Rutgers University

Ramon
Essex County College

Tamijah
Susquehanna University
Meet the Staff!

Junius Williams, Esq.
ALI Director

Kaleena Berryman, MPA
ALI Senior Program Coordinator

Monica Hall, BA
YMS Program Coordinator

Gabriela Bardales, BA
ALI Administrative Assistant

Kimberly Ledgister, MPA
CSC Program Coordinator

Robyn Leigh Butler, BA
YMS Media Instructor

Barry Gray, BA
Photography Instructor

Carrie Basch, AS
Photography Instructor

Aisha Rivera
YMS Program Assistant
The summer program was chock full of trips and opportunities for students to get out of their classroom setting. Starting the very first day of YMS, after going over the rules and paperwork for the program, YMS students and mentors went to the Rutgers University “Quad” for ice breakers and teambuilding activities before lunch. In later weeks students took quite a few trips; including the NJTV News Studio, field assignments to local schools, Branch Brook Park, New York City, Six Flags and an overnight college tour in Philadelphia.

YMS students learned a lot about what a production office does, so they got the chance to see it for themselves on the first trip! NJTV News is located downtown Newark in the Gateway Center.

**YMS walked right on down to feel what it was like to really be on a News Set!**

YMS students saw every part of the studio and even met one of the reporters, Mary Ellen. They heard first hand from producers, sound editors and even some of the younger interns in the room. No promises, but one of our mentors **cough, cough** Idris, may have the opportunity to intern with NJTV this year if all goes well!
Every summer during their photography class, YMS traveled to Branch Brook Park to practice their outdoor picture taking. They had to adjust their exposure and change the settings on their cameras. This is the true test of photographers... Can you shoot in the manual setting? This gave our environmentalists a chance to be one with nature and capture the beauty that meets their eye. They get to show us people with the allergies, that there is beauty within the pollen covered park. Here are a few examples of what YMS can do when they are allowed to photograph their city!

YMS is a group of diverse young individuals with different personalities. That means some will love the outdoors and others will like the hustle and bustle of the city. Everyone else will just want to have good old fashioned FUN! This is why we provide a variety of trips for YMS students... After noticing how much YMS students loved the camera and enjoyed the hands on work of photography we allowed them to do scavenger hunts around the city and each production group (from their media class) went out and took photos and b-roll for their media project. Check it out!
The next trip was BIG, really BIG!
YMS takes PhD Philly

The College Tour Trip

College Success Center Program Coordinator Kimberly Ledgister planned an excellent overnight college tour (July 30-31, 2015) trip that the students really enjoyed. They visited the University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University, and Arcadia University. And yes, a couple of students will be applying to those schools now – they are officially on their list.

“The only colleges I had seen before our tour was Rutgers Newark and Kean. That was it. I had also never been to Philadelphia. So the college tour was a new experience and we should have more like it. I didn’t know there were better and bigger schools and that I could be accepted to them!” said YMS student leader and rising Barringer High School Junior Vivian Peralta. Vivian currently has the highest GPA ranking in her school and is number one in her class.

Director Junius Williams said about the tours, “We want our students to know that the world is open to them, and college is a great way to begin their journey of exploration. We understand that in order for our Newark students to truly believe that, we have to make sure they see the many options and understand what it takes to get into that “dream school”. This is only the beginning!”

Thank you to those whose financial contributions made this trip possible – The State Farm Youth Advisory Board, the Victoria Foundation, the Turrell Fund, and the Rutgers University Newark Chancellor’s Office.

To be added to the college success center mailing list, send an email to alicollegesuccess@gmail.com.
After the midpoint of the summer program, YMS staff introduced a Poetry workshop, to allow students to exercise their creative genius. ALI Senior Program Coordinator and Published Poetry Author Kaleena Berryman facilitated a poetry writing workshop where students learned to effectively capture their own thoughts and feelings in stanzas of their own poetry.

YMS started their class with a short poetry exercise describing something without explicitly telling the class what it was. The others had to guess what it was. YMS loved the mystery of the assignment so they began to get creative with their poetry. Christine Matias, a new YMS student shared one of her poems at the YMS graduation Ceremony. The next few pages will feature some of our best writers!

The poems will be shared on the YMS online blog at www.ymsnewark.wordpress.com.
More to Life

There’s more to life than love
Only if inspiration could shove
Time passes us by
And we ask why?
What’s our true meaning?
Why are we here?
What does it matter?
Nothing is clear

We are born to change but it seems to be out of our range
Gaining our rights that should have been given when we first started livin'
Different types of sexuality, nationality, or educational status
Only if we could live as one social apparatus

Can’t we just get along without the crude comments or hate?
But wait that’s not possible at this rate because of our mental state
People can’t let go of their big pride to begin with
World peace is beginning to sound like an ancient Greek myth

There’s more to life than love
Only if inspiration could shove
Time passes us by
And we ask why
What’s our true meaning?
Why are we here?
What does it matter?
Nothing is clear
Since the beginning of time no one could agree
And I guess that's how it's always going to be
If we can't compromise our deepest eternal thoughts
This world will soon come to an end and start to rot

Kids are becoming adults at an age that is so young
Giving their teachers and parents the bitterly sharp tongue
Going through life hating everyone because "no one understands"
Truth is they wanted to help but they hid and pushed back our hands

We wish for a way out and a better life to live
The only problem is there's nothing that we give
Nowadays people can get paid without work or doing anything at all
What happened to “there's no substitute for hard work” Thomas Edison's life law?

I wonder if there will be anything else that will be achieved
Something like the cure for cancer or will that never be perceived
Life is a very funny thing that is also known to be scary
It’s like a roller coaster going up and down and going through paths that will vary

There's more to life than love
Only if inspiration could shove
Time passes us by
And we ask why?
What's our true meaning?
Why are we here?
What does it matter?
Nothing is clear

By: Christine Matias
I am from...

I'm from a humble land
A nation built on crying souls
Following our masters demands
Just working trying to reach their goals

Surviving through hunger, disaster and disease
Slavery, torture, tyrants and wars, Man! Just breaking our knees
Even though here now guarantee
That you die or you be free!

I'm from a land that
We had to fight to get it back more than once
From the farmer in the hot sun with his straw hat
To the Spaniard consuming the farmer’s rice

I'm from a land were
If a thousand times they made you slave
A thousand times they will hear you say
You not gonna hold me down with ya chains
Now we all come together as one
In blue from the sky and heavens
In white for our peace and union
And red from all the blood and wars for independence

But being us so mixed and connected to our mother cultures
Yet not even recognize
But I don’t know why we protected
Such a way of thinking so desensitized

But here I’m from a land where
Our patriots fought for what we own
To deserve the name that now we have
And learn that liberty flow through our veins

And from here, I am from I proudly say
A beautiful land all the way
Sometimes crazy and all but hey!
From history we come, from history we Raise!

By: Vivian Peralta
Why Us?

You steal us from our native kin,
Then tell us to go back where we came from.
You complain about the color of our skin,
But who put us in the fields in the hot sun?

I want to know why we’re the enemy,
but you’re too scared to admit it.
We’ve come so far from our journey,
Only for your society to kill it.

The least you can do is be grateful,
after all, we built your so-called “land of the free”
I’ve never seen man more hateful,
It’s almost hard to believe.

Almost.

Why did you need us when you’re clearly superior,
or try to drive us out when you clearly need us?
Without us you’re weak and inferior.
Without you we are, as Kendrick would say, N-E-G-U-S

You put a black man in your office to keep us calm,
But there never was a chance that this would end the problem.
Answer me, no answer us, why it took so long,
For you to even consider a way to try and solve ‘em.

You chose us because we were healthy and strong.
But to you we were nothing but dumb negroes.
We were proud to be in your country for so long,
But we think its time to live the life that God chose

By: Kelly Prempeh
Words from YMS:

Before joining YMS I was very apprehensive about who I would meet, what my experience would be like ....

I have learned a lot, I have spent my summer surrounded by people that have educated me in many ways I would have never imagined. Learning life lessons, speaking in front of large groups of people. My voice and opinion was necessary to YMS.

YMS does a lot for me from allowing me to meet new people, going on trips to universities & colleges, meeting different mayors of New Jersey, to going on various tours and trips through the city of Newark. Also having professional lessons taught on how to capture great photographs and videos during our daily workshops. Thank you Mr. Williams, Kaleena, Monica, Aisha, Gaby, Cary, Mr. Gray and everyone else I worked with. I enjoyed my summer. Overall, my experience with this summer was great!!
—Hawwa

The Experience

Learning, Growing
Facing fears, focusing on positivity
More determined, dedicated, perseverant
Now I’m serious on going to college & being the best I can be
A summer filled with wisdom, empowerment, & education
Life lessons taught
Guidance given to a better future...
—Kiara
Last summer, the Victoria Foundation gifted the ALI Youth Media Symposium 10 Professional model Cannon DSLR cameras. This year for the first time, YMS was able to print their own photos with a new professional styled Epson Printer and mount the photos on foam. YMS had 2 Photography Instructors Professional Photographer Barry Gray & Photography Student Carrie Basch. During the first two weeks YMS received intensive instruction on how to use the photography camera in all of its settings. In the following weeks YMS went out into the field as investigative journalists to capture images for their documentary. YMS has grown to love the art of photography and the students take the camera on every trip and outing. YMS learned how the use their professional equipment to print and mount their work and they printed books with their photos accompanied by poetry or other text. The students particularly enjoyed field assignments and photo scavenger hunts on Rutgers campus, a downtown Newark and Branch Brook Park. Students worked in groups to capture these photographs.

*Photos used in this magazine are from the YMS photography archives from this summer.*
During the summer YMS stepped into a new realm of media production for their documentary project. YMS learned new skills such as how to incorporate sound, music and voiceovers to their photography and video. YMS students created 4 production groups representing each act of their documentary, *Newark Education: The Real Nitty Gritty*:

**ACT I: THE STUDENTS AND RESOURCES.** The first way to destruct a way of life is by attacking the people. In this case the “way of life” is public education and the “people” are the students.

**ACT II: THE TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATION, & PRINCIPALS.** When you can’t make the Students give up, then you attack the Teachers and Administration taking away what is comforting to students, parents and teachers. You have then created an unstable environment.

**ACT III: GIVING AWAY THE BUILDINGS.** When you have taken away the resources for students to learn, removed their role models and any stability for students and teachers to have there is no hope for success.

**ACT IV: SOLUTIONS-STATE VS. COMMUNITY VISION** The State of NJ has had control over the Newark Public School System since the early ‘90s. The Newark community has their own ideas for the model of public education they would like to see in the city, one that includes Local Control.
But this is our business!

Thanks to the following...

YMS students filmed interviews with the following people:
1. Vivian Peralta, Student at Barringer High School
2. Bernardo De La Cruz, Student at Malcolm X Shabazz High School
3. Jose Leonardo, Student at Arts High School and Newark Student Union President
4. Marco Martinez, Rutgers student, Graduate of West Side High School
5. Leah Owens, Educator and former Barringer High School Teacher
6. Dale Anglin, Newark City of Learning Collaborative and Victoria Foundation
7. Mr. Williams, Director of the Abbott Leadership Institute
8. Mrs. Holder, President of Secondary Parents Council and Graduate of Weequahic High
9. 2 Anonymous Barringer Teachers
10. George Tillman, Father of NPS students
11. Bob Braun, Journalist
Every student played a role in the process of creating the documentary. Those with a vision for the documentary became the producers who were ultimately responsible for their act. Some students like to be front and center, so those students were the directors and actors. The extraordinary writers of course, wrote the scripts for each act. Those who love the camera were the camera and sound crew. And those bold enough to learn the new skill of editing, worked tirelessly as our editors. Each role relied on the others in order to get the job done. Congratulations YMS you did it!

ACT ONE
Producer: Abdul
Director: Bernardo
Writer: Christine & Alex
Camera: Vivian
Actor: Jamil
Editing: Kelly

ACT TWO
Producer: Najee
Director: Kiara
Writer: Najee
Camera: Ryan
Actor: Kiara
Editing: Stephon

ACT THREE
Producer: Kayla
Director: Amirah
Writer: Tori
Camera: Tori
Actor: Deziah
Editing: Hawwa

ACT FOUR
Producer: Kai
Director: Kai
Writer: Nakia
Camera: Chris
Actor: Nakia
Editing: Star

ALL ACTS: Public Relations: Kiah & India

All YMS Videos can be viewed on the new Youth Media Symposium – Our Schools Our Vision YouTube channel. The documentary was screened at the YMS graduation.
Graduation

The Abbott Leadership Institute Youth Media Symposium summer 2015.

Graduation was held on Tuesday August 18, 2015.

Over 100 Students, parents and former YMS members attended in order to support the summer 2015 graduates. This year YMS Students planned the graduation, emceed the event and wrote a detailed script for the entirety of the program.

YMS students were hosts, curators, speakers and even the DJ. The hostesses for the night were YMS veterans Kayla and Amirah. Student Hosts were responsible for planning the order of events with YMS Coordinator Monica Hall. Bernardo, a new member of YMS gave an overview of the program. YMS Lead Photographer Vivian and Lead Editor Kelly introduced and explained the documentary. A parent, Ms. Nancy Michael-Hayes made an address to the summer participants from a parent’s point of view. Each student received a certificate of completion for their participation within the YMS summer 2015 program. Out of this training, YMS produced 12 new student organizing leaders, a 30 minute documentary Newark Education: The Real Nitty Gritty, an archive of over 3,000 pictures of YMS, Newark landmarks and schools, 24 printed photos mounted on foam, 24 original poems and 6 books showcasing their photography work.
Join the:

**Youth Media Symposium**

*Do Community Service* *Make videos* *Advocate for Educational Justice*

And our campaign for the year:

**Our Schools**

**Our Vision**

**College & Career Readiness for ALL!**

**2014 Wins:**
- Student Forum
- College & Majors Fair
- Speaking at Board meetings
- Media Projects & PSAs
- NPS College Readiness Course starting Fall 2014
- ACT Media Campaign

**4pm-6pm**

**Mondays & Wednesdays**

Rutgers Newark
Bradley Hall room 148
110 Warren St. Newark NJ

YMS is recruiting high school students for our advocacy & leadership after school program at Rutgers Newark to creating real change in NPS!

We advocate for education through:

**Media Production & Photography!**

For more information contact 973-353-3560 or newarkyms@gmail.com
Saturday Empowerment Series 28: How to Return Newark’s Public Schools to Local Control

Abbott Leadership Institute
Education Advocacy, Leadership Development
Begins Saturday September 26, 2015
How to Return Newark’s Public Schools to Local Control

All Classes Held 10am-1pm
Rutgers University Newark - Boyden Hall Room 100
195 University Ave. Newark, NJ 07102

Saturday Class Schedule:
Sept. 26, 2015: Newark Public Schools, Where are We Now? and the Youth Media Symposium Documentary Premier: “NPS, the Real Nitty Gritty”

Oct. 10, 2015: How Newark Lost Local Control of its Schools, the story of PUBS (People United for Better Schools)

Oct. 24, 2015: NJ Quality Single Accountability Continuum, the Road to Getting Our Schools Back – Guest Speaker: Theresa Luhm, Esq., Managing Director, Education Law Center

Nov. 14, 2015: Improbable Scholars- What the Union City School District Can Teach America - Guest Speaker: David Kirp, Author: Improbable Scholars, the Rebirth of a Great American School System and a Strategy for America’s Schools

Nov. 21, 2015: The Role of the Community in a Locally Controlled School District

Dec. 5, 2015 Who’s On the Board? Accountability & Elected School Officials

All classes are free and children are welcome. We eat, discuss the issues and have fun!
Contact Kaseena Berryman with questions 973.353.3560 or kalseenab@rutgers.edu.
A Certificate of Completion will be awarded for attending 3 or more classes.
Part of being accepted into our summer program means that you will commit to the YMS afterschool program during the school year!

**YMS meets twice a week 4-6pm on Mondays & Wednesdays.**

Join YMS student advocates as we continue:
- Peer Mentorship
- Educational Advocacy
- Investigative Journalism
- Leadership Development
- College Readiness Advisement
- Creating Ground Breaking Videos

The YMS Summer 2015 program was a huge success and by far the best display of the students’ learned technical skill in film, media and photography. Students left the 2015 program with a new found love and appreciation of their city and thirst for change in their schools. Let’s continue this energy into the school year!