

PSI Teen Leaders' Ways of Affection 2003-04

Rub their feet ♥ Wash their hair ♥ Hold hands ♥ Buy them special gifts ♥ Write them a song or poem ♥ Give flowers ♥ Friendly smiles ♥ Write a love letter ♥ Make holiday cards together ♥ Have a movie night together ♥ Read the Bible together ♥ Go to church with them ♥ Go to the movies ♥ Talk ♥ Shop together ♥ Cuddle ♥ Kiss ♥ Give a sentimental gift ♥ Be there for them ♥ Play cards together ♥ Watch TV together ♥ Be creative ♥ Talk on the phone ♥ Tell them you care ♥ Write letters ♥ Play with their hair ♥ Take pictures together ♥ Do homework together ♥ Do chores together ♥ Take long walks in the park ♥ Help them with homework ♥ Go swimming ♥ Walk pets at the park ♥ Watch movies all day ♥ Hug ♥ Pick out outfits together ♥ Let them sit in your room ♥ Go on a picnic ♥ Start a book club ♥ Cook dinner for each other ♥ Make them a special card or note ♥ Do something you both enjoy ♥ Bear hugs ♥ Butterfly kisses ♥ Talk about your dreams ♥ Give a massage ♥ Spend a romantic day together ♥ Mix CDs & cards ♥ Play video games ♥ Bake cookies or cupcakes ♥ Make up nicknames for each other ♥ Give them something that has meaning to you ♥ Say sweet things ♥ Grease each other's scalp ♥ Visit each other's home ♥ Go out to eat ♥ Make homemade gifts ♥ Talk about your feelings ♥ Watch the stars together ♥ Play board games together ♥ Give a back massage ♥ Have deep, meaningful conversations ♥ Gaze at the stars ♥ Make it a "Blockbuster Night" ♥ Wrestle ♥ Play games ♥ Watch videos ♥ Sing an original song ♥ Cuddle/embrace ♥ Candlelight dinner and a movie ♥ Verbal encouragement ♥ Small non-monetary things (phone calls, candy, cards made) ♥ Take long walks ♥ Give a full body massage ♥ Give something valuable ♥ Spend time with them ♥ Do something spontaneous (buy flowers "just because") ♥ Go out to dinner together ♥ Go dancing together ♥ Cook together ♥ Whisper "sweet nothings" in their ear ♥ Hold each other ♥ Spend time together chillin' ♥ Be honest with each other ♥ Go places together



Local Teen Births Declining, But Still Too High

"The number of 12- to 16-year-old girls in Cincinnati who gave birth in 2003 remained at near historic lows," announced *The Cincinnati Enquirer* in conjunction with National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Day, May 5, 2004. The PSI study tallied 228 births in 2003 to young girls who reside in Cincinnati Public School zip codes, compared to 391 births in 1993. The 42% drop in births represents the second lowest number since Cincinnati PSI teen leaders first started teaching. The annual PSI study reviews hospital teen birth records.

The local trend is part of a national trend in declining teen birth rates. Yet, teen pregnancy remains a national problem because compared to other western countries, the U.S. rates are double, triple, even ten times higher. **Thirty-four percent** (34%) of teenage girls in the U.S. get pregnant at least once before they reach age 20, resulting in 820,000 teen pregnancies a year.

Teen Leader Alumni

PSI Teen Leader alumni have become an integral part of current PSI operations. **Jacquelynn Byrd** (Hughes '99) became the fourth alum in six years to serve a 10-month PSI Adult Leader internship with Public Allies of Cincinnati, Inc. **Candace Simpson** (Hughes '99) volunteers as an Adult Leader. **Leslie Barnes Stephens** (Walnut Hills '95) is the newest member of the PSI Advisory Committee.



PSI Public Ally/Teen Leader alumna, **Jacquelynn Byrd**, aka "Nzingha," between PSI Teaching and Technology Interns **Christian Wright** and **Marrison Beal**

Tamaica Lee (Hughes '96) volunteers as a speaker for PSI classes. **Martina Black** (Hughes '03), and **Mark Robbins** (SCPA '02) assist in training new teen leaders. And **Shannon Lanier's** (Hughes '98) acclaimed publication, *Jefferson's Children: The Story of One American Family*, inspires PSI staff about the common bonds of a racially mixed community, and the power of a young adult to educate on great social issues where many older adults have failed.

Deep Inside the Teen-age Mind

In December 2003, PSI Public Ally/Teen Leader alumna **Nzingha**, along with Way With Words Poets' Society edited and published *The X-Files*, a collection of poetry and short stories by PSI teen leaders and their newly created group Expressions. "This anthology is like none I've ever come across," writes the Editor. "[T]heir works are mature and

clever...if you read closely, you'll see how full of freedom this book is... I couldn't believe the passion and realism the first time they read to me. If I had written at their level today I'd be nationally acclaimed." See www.waywithwords_2002@yahoo.com for purchase of the \$6.00 book.

UC & Xavier Partner With PSI

In two unprecedented partnerships with local universities, PSI has earned the esteem of higher education. The University of Cincinnati's federally funded GEAR UP college readiness program has chosen to sponsor PSI in 15 Cincinnati Public Schools and East End Community Heritage School. Within two months of the announcement, 15 of the 16 schools signed written commitments to bring the PSI Teen Leaders to their 6th, 7th and 8th graders in 2004-05. GEAR UP provides academic enrichment like



tutoring to the lowest performing, low-income public schools. PSI will encourage teens in these schools to graduate. Dr. Steffi Gilbertson directs GEAR UP through the Center for Research, Development and Policy in Teacher Education at UC.

In April, 2004, Xavier University's Student Philanthropy Project recognized PSI's importance in mass media communications. Xavier students in a course on Ethical Issues in Marketing awarded PSI a small grant for teens to produce new video segments that will supplement the educational series in future years. The unsolicited award will help PSI film five scenes on peer pressure that 3000 young teens will view and discuss annually.



PSI Teen Leaders Tiana Steagall (Hughes '07) and Ebony Marshall (Hughes '06) teach Ms. Caball's 6th grade South Avondale class

they're ready for sex." "Qualities one should look for in a wife: affordable, has a conscience, mannerable, intelligent, able to have a job and stay on it, reasonable, loving, caring, home cooperation, favorable, loves a good time, lives a good life, no crime record, has love for their family..."

In 2003-04, 2,508 young teens and preteens completed evaluations at the end of their fifth PSI session. Preliminary and independently tabulated results show that after completing Cincinnati PSI, over 78% felt confident that they can resist the pressure to have sex; 72% better understand the pressures in society to have sex; and 70% have had at least one conversation with guardians about saying "NO" to sex.

Teen Leader Ambassadors

This year, several PSI Teen Leaders were selected to represent Cincinnati PSI regionally and nationally. **Darrell Kindell** (Hughes '06) and **Phillishea "Fe" Carden** (SCPA '04) trained 14 teen leaders in Highland County, Ohio. **Rashawn Brown** (Hughes '04) and **Ebony Marshall** (Hughes '05) trained 11 teen leaders at New Miami High School in Butler County, Ohio. **LaMar Ashe** (Hughes '04) and Ebony trained

17 primarily Native American teen leaders in Williston, North Dakota. Twice during the year, RaShawn went to Washington, DC to serve on the teen advisory board of the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (www.teenpregnancy.org). On May 6, 2004, former sixth grade classmates **Martina Jones** (Walnut Hills '04) and **Dericko Broomes** (Hughes '04) hosted PSI's annual celebration at Children's Hospital, "Express Yourself." PSI also nominated **Kendra Davis** (Hughes '05), **Charmaine Harris** (Jacobs High '05) and **Steven Turner** (R.A.Taft '05) as delegates to the National Conference of Community and Justice's "ANYTOWN Youth Leadership Institute" in July 2004.

Teacher Evaluations and Honorees

Over 43 Cincinnati teachers hosted 442 PSI sessions in 2003-04. Seventeen responded to a survey in which 88% felt their students benefited from the Teen Leader presentations. Some comments from the teachers: "Teen leaders talked to students at their level and the kids in turn were comfortable to talk to them." "A young man [teen leader] wore pink which conveyed confidence to the males in the classroom. They in turn started wearing pink."



PSI Teen Leader Ambassadors Darrell Kindell and Phillishea Carden with trainees in Highland County, Ohio

PSI honored four of the host teachers in May, 2004: **Lori Cahall**, South Avondale, "for exuding Zen-like calmness throughout the day;" **Mary McMichael**, Mt. Washington, "for inspiring middle school students with a love of science;" **Elliot Schwartz**, Eastwood Paideia, "for creating an environment in which 99% of your students consistently turn in completed PSI homework assignments;" and **Trina Tolbert**, Pleasant Ridge, "for creating a classroom culture in which students talk to each other, respect each other, and value each other."

UNreleasedsm – Young Artists Live

Projector Productions' **Carmen Hillman** produced PSI's benefit concert, UNreleased. Over 700 patrons attended the Saturday night, January 10, 2004 performance at Princeton High School's Matthews Auditorium. There were over 65 teen performers from 17 Tri-state schools. Special guest judge Tondalaya, from MTV's "Making the Band," along with local radio celebrity judges "Big Greg" (WIZF the WIZ), Khrys Styles (WCIN and NXS), Jazz and R & B recording artists William Menefield, Reggie Calloway, and Jiana Hunter, and KISS 107.1 program manager/DJ "Donna D" evaluated the 23 musical acts, ranging from rap, rock

and R & B to gospel, hip-hop, country and classical. Clark Montessori Senior vocalist/dancer **Julius "Jay Luv" Hawkins** won the \$600 first place recording package from Sonic Arts Recording Studio. Runner-up performers and prizes were vocalist **Pernell Lockard** and crew, a.k.a. "Truth," who won a Heyman Talent consultation, and classical violinist **Emma Sutton** who won Spring quarter tuition at The Preparatory Department of UC College Conservatory of Music. It was a uniquely diverse assembly of teen talent performing to raise money for PSI. Thanks to MediaBridges, live recordings of UNreleased air periodically on Cable Access and in the waiting room of Cincinnati Children's Hospital's Teen Health Center.

Advisory Committee

Shelia Becker, Chair
Nicole Black
Paula Braverman, MD
Randy Compton
Thomas Gougeon
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Joseph Rauh, MD
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Leslie Stephens
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PSI Staff and Consultants 2003-04

Christopher Kraus, JD, MTS, Director
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Jacquelynn Byrd, a.k.a. Nzingha, Public Ally
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Christian Wright, Hughes '04, Teaching Intern
Darrien Ervin, Winton Woods '04, Teaching Intern
Ra'Shawn Brown, Hughes '04, National Campaign Board Member
Jill Huppert, MD, MPH, Research Consultant
Carmen Hillman, Projector Productions, UNreleased Artistic Director
Mary Morris, UNreleased Print Marketing
Don Freeman, Princeton High School Technical Theater
Kasib Hasan, Phantasee Entertainment
43 Classroom Teachers from Cincinnati Public Schools
Kathy Cooper, Milford Exempted School District
Brenda Young, RN, C-FNP, New Miami School-Linked Health Center
Tina Falgner, LSW, MSW, Highland County Educational Service Center

Cash Contributors

Bond Hill Presbyterian Church
Cincinnati Public Schools (24)
Community Action and Development Program, Williston, North Dakota
Fine Arts Fund
Healthy Visions, Inc.
JTM Provisions Co., Inc.
Ohio Department of Health, Abstinence Education Program
Procter & Gamble
Skeffington's Formalwear
United Way & Community Chest of Greater Cincinnati
University of Cincinnati, GEAR UP Program
VISIONS/Dominican Community Services
Xavier University Student Philanthropy Project

School Partners, 2003-04

24 Cincinnati Public Schools invested \$20 per pupil for 1,878 students in 2003-04:

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|---|------------------|
| Academy of Multi-lingual Immersion Studies (AMIS) | Project Succeed, |
| Bramble | Swifton |
| Central Fairmount | Roberts |
| Cheviot | Rockdale |
| Clifton | Rothenberg |
| Dater Jr. High | Saylor Park |
| Eastwood | Shroder |
| Fairview | South Avondale |
| Linwood | Walnut Hills |
| Losantiville | Whittier |
| Mt. Washington | Winton Hills |
| Parham | Academy |
| Pleasant Ridge | Woodford |

Young Teens Do Their Homework

The PSI series includes four homework assignments. The following comments from the homework of 8th grade students at **Roberts Paidiea Academy** illustrate the impact of PSI. "The reason I picked out this picture [Britney Spears HBO concert advertisement] was because some girls try to be like her. I mean girls put on make-up and dress like her. Little girls lie their age... Another reason... is because girls figure if they almost look like her maybe