

Youth Storefront Project

Jan. 1996

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The Youth Storefront Project began in the spring of 1995 with a series of meetings held to discuss the possibility of creating a place where young people could gather, work on projects, and ultimately sell product to the public. The Storefront concept encapsulates classroom, art space, workshop, retail sales space, performance center and other student generated creations.

During the fall of 1995 student effort led toward the grand opening of the Youth Storefront Project on Dec. 16th. The grand opening began with an acknowledgement of T.U.S.D. personnel and other special friends who helped implement the program and continue to provide welcome support. Music, food, art and photograph displays, as well as musical entertainment were presented by adults and high school aged students.

The Youth Storefront Project's space is a large warehouse facility opening onto Arizona Ave. between Fifth and Sixth Avenues and one-half block south of Broadway. It was cleaned up by the students and decorated with their artwork.

At this point in time, we at the Storefront have a long list of wants and needs. We are currently operating on a very limited budget. This is expected as start-up for any business is always a difficult time. There is considerable lag between the acts of producing product for sale and the actual flowing in of monies from sales. We are seeking donations, both of cash and materials to enhance our operation. As far as specific needs at this point the following would be very helpful. Much refurbishing still needs to be completed at the Storefront. We are seeking flooring materials to up grade at least a part of the floor. We need soundproofing materials to allow our musicians to play without disturbing the neighbors. The shirt printing business needs a dryer to complete the curing of the shirts and we need funds to buy additional shirts and the inks to print with.

One of the more exciting prospects is the creation of a video production class. We have access to Instant Access, across the street from our location. However, we need a major electrical upgrade to provide the power we need for this program. Along with the video production class, we intend to begin improv and theater classes. Materials, assistance with the production, and any volunteers would be appreciated.

This is an exciting project to be involved with. Your support will ensure that it grows and prospers. If you have any questions please call Thomas Anderson or Susan Chalker at 617-6460 at Project M.O.R.E. We thank you for your help and support.

*Address: Corner of 118 South 5th Avenue
Space 200 (Off Of Arizona Alley/Ave.)*

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