



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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\*\*\*ATTENTION: COMMUNITY & TECHNOLOGY REPORTERS, ASSIGNMENT EDITORS\*\*\*

## North Lawndale Teens Make Their Voices Heard

### Youth "Digital Connectors" Host Community Discussion on Hip Hop Culture

CHICAGO – On **Wednesday, March 26**, North Lawndale youth participating in a citywide initiative that promotes leadership development, digital education, and community service will host an interactive community forum titled “North Lawndale Youth Speak Up about the Hip Hop Music Industry!”

As part of their participation in the Digital Connectors program, youth completed a four-month civic journalism program that integrates investigative writing skills, digital media, and guest speakers from publications including the Wall Street Journal. Their work, as well as an expert panel, will be highlighted Wednesday at an event presented by 247 Town Hall ([www.247townhall.org](http://www.247townhall.org))--an on- and offline community forum dedicated to change. In light of the increasing violence in public schools in Chicago’s west side communities, the event will engage students from Crane and Manly High Schools as the west side promotes reconciliation and healing.

One Economy’s Digital Connectors program identifies talented young people, immerses them in technology training, and helps them build their leadership and workplace skills to enter the new economy. In Lawndale, the Digital Connectors program is supported by the Motorola Foundation and the City of Chicago’s After School Matters program.

***Media interested in attending this event should RSVP to Austin Bonner at (202) 393-0051 or [abonner@one-economy.com](mailto:abonner@one-economy.com).***

**WHO:** **North Lawndale Digital Connectors**  
**Norm Baldwin**, the Young Men’s Education Network  
**Trey the Choklit Jock**, Morning Disc Jockey at 92.3, Crawford Broadcasting  
**Kimbril Kelly**, Senior Editor, *the Chicago Reporter*  
**Rev. Phil Jackson**, House Covenant Church.  
**Michael Stewart**, Videographer  
**Shaunese Teamer**, Manager, WTTW Channel 11

**WHAT:** Panel discussion: ***The Impact of Hip Hop in Today’s Culture***

**WHEN:** **Wednesday, March 26**  
5 to 7 p.m.

**WHERE:** **North Lawndale College Preparatory High School**  
1615 South Christiana Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

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**One Economy Corporation** is a global nonprofit organization that uses innovative approaches to deliver the power of technology and information to low-income people, giving them valuable tools for building better lives and entering the economic mainstream. We help bring [broadband into the homes](#) of low-income people, [employ youth](#) to train their community members to use technology effectively, and provide [socially responsible media properties](#) that offer a wealth of information on education, jobs, health care and other vital issues.