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## Scenarios USA and the Public Internet Channel Raise HIV/AIDS Awareness Online

The Public Internet Channel ([www.pic.tv](http://www.pic.tv)) will air four films that look at HIV/AIDS from youth perspectives

WASHINGTON – Scenarios USA has partnered with global nonprofit One Economy Corporation to make four films about HIV and AIDS available free online. The compilation contains films written by youth in response to the Scenarios USA “What’s the REAL DEAL?” writing contest and directed by some of Hollywood’s finest directors, including:

- **Reflections**, directed by Gina Prince-Bythewood (*Secret Life of Bees*). In *Reflections*, written by 17-year old [Keyana Ray](#) of Maywood, IL, a suburb outside of Chicago, three best friends learn to take the risk of HIV/AIDS seriously as they navigate romantic relationships in an urban environment mired in economic strife, drugs, and limited options.
- **Just Like You Imagined?**, directed by David Frankel (*Marley & Me*). *Just Like You Imagined?*, written by 18-year old [Verena Faden](#), an aspiring Cuban-American high school filmmaker in Hialeah, FL, is a glimpse into the lives of six young people dealing with the pressures of dating and relationships.
- **Nightmare on AIDS Street**, directed by Kinan Valdez (*El Teatro Campesino*). In *Nightmare on AIDS Street*, written by 15 year-old [Nicole Zepeda](#) and was shot in her hometown on the Texas/Mexico border, 17-year old Isabel knows she can't take back what happened during one hazy night with a guy. She decides to take responsibility and bravely face her greatest fear.
- **The Monster**, directed by Academy Award winner Adam Davidson (*Lunch Date*). *The Monster* was written by Randy Walton, Naeqwan Clarke, Jarel Turner and Brinton Newson, a group of youth incarcerated on Rikers Island. In the film, three boys chat up the new girl on the block, only one gets lucky. He, however, is forced to deal with a secret that not even his closest friends know about.

Scenarios USA's films will air on the Public Internet Channel ([www.pic.tv](http://www.pic.tv)), a new public-purpose online network that delivers relevant, current and accessible content with a clearly defined public purpose. Each film is also accompanied by a lesson plan available in the educator's center at [www.scenariosusa.org](http://www.scenariosusa.org).

"The Public Internet Channel is committed to producing and distributing the best of the best public-purpose media," said Daniel Fellini, executive producer of the Public Internet Channel. "What Scenarios USA has done, and continues to do, is a wonderful example of quality, relevant programming. And what's most remarkable is how Scenarios USA brings out the best in young people by matching them up to well-known industry pros. We are thrilled to distribute this programming."

Rob York, the Managing Producer of Film for Scenarios USA stated, "We couldn't be more pleased about partnering with the Public Internet Channel. It's an exciting network with programming that complements our mission perfectly and gives us an opportunity to bring our message to many more people."

*Reflections*, *The Monster*, *Just Like You Imagined*, and *Nightmare on AIDS Street* began airing April 24 on the Public Internet Channel at [www.pic.tv](http://www.pic.tv).



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### **About One Economy**

One Economy Corporation is a global nonprofit organization that uses innovative approaches to deliver the power of technology and information to low-income people. More than 15 million people have used One Economy's online tools and resources to build better lives. Learn more at [www.one-economy.com](http://www.one-economy.com).

### **About Scenarios USA**

The history of the Scenarios project is a story of global partnership. Scenarios USA replicates and builds on the successes of Scenarios from the Sahel, a program developed by a coalition of West African organizations. Teens write about the issues that shape their lives for the annual "**What's the REAL DEAL?**" writing contest, and thousands have responded with their raw and revealing insights. The winning writers transform their stories into award-winning short films. 15 million people a year watch the Scenarios USA films at film festivals, on television and in high schools nationwide. Scenarios USA believes that by valuing youth and listening to their opinions we can have an impact on promoting healthy relationships and lowering the rate of HIV, STDs and pregnancy among teens.