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SPY HOP PRODUCTIONS RECEIVES GRANT TO FUND MULTIMEDIA APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH – Spy Hop Productions announced today that it has received a \$30,000 Daniels Fund grant to support its Multimedia Apprenticeship Program (MAP).

The Spy Hop Multimedia Apprenticeship Program is designed to provide young people with experiential and project-based learning on a number of levels. Focusing on Spy Hop Productions' mission of empowering youth through multimedia education, MAP offers apprenticeship opportunities in three distinct disciplines: Web and Graphic Design, Sound Engineering, and Film and Video Production. Each program allows students to divide much of their time between formal instruction and independent lab periods. With the help of professional mentors, Apprentices also engage in project-based work, designing, developing, and implementing affordable media works (websites, public service announcements, TV commercials, short documentaries, and print collateral) for local non-profit organizations. "The Daniels Fund grant will enable our program to continue providing young people, from all backgrounds in the Wasatch community, a way to gain necessary life experience by learning specific skill sets, working with clients, and operating in a group setting," said Rick Wray, Spy Hop's Executive Director.

On top of gaining valuable experience through the program, Spy Hop Media Apprentices also receive a modest series of stipends throughout their five month participation. "Providing a stipend for the [MAP] students, which is part of what the Daniels Fund grant will go towards, serves a couple purposes," said Apprenticeship mentor Jeremy Nielsen. "It allows students who can't normally pay for a class, or those who have to work to support themselves, an opportunity to participate. It also gives all the students involved a sense of validation for the time they have spent learning skills and working on their projects." The Spy Hop Multimedia Apprenticeship Program is now in its seventh year and with the generous support of contributors like the Daniels Fund, it continues to serve and support Utah newest generation.

The Daniels Fund operates the Daniels Scholarship Program and the Daniels Grants Program in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. The Fund was established in 1997 by Bill Daniels, a pioneer in cable television known for his kindness and generosity to those in need. Visit www.danielsfund.org for more information.

Spy Hop Productions is a non-profit youth media arts and education studio, dedicated to empowering youth (k-12) through multimedia. Spy Hop offers many programs in filmmaking, design, and audio production. Since its inception in 1999, Spy Hop has served more than 10,000 young people from across the Wasatch Front. With the help of professional mentors, the work produced by Spy Hop's young artists reached an audience of several million nationally in 2005. Recent grant awards include Time Warner Foundation's 21st Century Literacy Skills Award, Community Technology Center's Network (CTCNet) for Youth Visions and Stronger Neighborhoods, 2004 and 2005, and the 2005 Martin Luther King Junior Youth Leadership Award. For more information about Spy Hop Productions, call 801.532.7500 or visit www.spyhop.org.

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