



*"Empowering youth through multimedia"*

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**News Release**

**2 PRESTIGIOUS GRANTS TOTALLING \$125,000, REINFORCE SPY HOP'S POSITION AS A NATIONAL LEADER IN THE YOUTH MEDIA INDUSTRY.**

**Salt Lake City, UT – September 24, 2007**

Spy Hop Productions was awarded 2 large grants. **The Hot Topic Foundation**, funded by a well-known national teen clothing store, presented the youth media organization with **\$75,000** to support their Audio programs which include the audio apprenticeship course, Loud & Clear Youth Radio, adding a new program called Radio Documentary, and expanding Open-Mic Night to be offered on Saturdays. The Hot Topic Foundation joins Spy Hop because they "believe music and the arts make everyone's life a whole lot better, so we've decided to enrich kids' lives by enabling them to express themselves musically and artistically!"

Veteran musician, sound engineer, and Audio mentor Matt Mateus says "This grant is essential. What Hot Topic is doing is putting money where no one else will. For once you see a business who appreciates the people who shop there...and those people are the kids. I think they're really cool and they understand the kids, they're authentic."

In addition to this very generous grant, **Spy Hop Productions was awarded \$50,000 by the Adobe Foundation Fund at Silicon Valley Community Foundation**. This grant, associated with the \$10 million global initiative called *Adobe Youth Voices*, allows the Interactive Media apprentices to design, build, and launch a website (using donated Adobe software) around a particular topic decided upon by youth participants, representing the three media disciplines: Interactive Media, Sound Engineering, and Filmmaking. "Young people have great potential to stimulate dialogue and improve their communities. We want to ensure that they have the skills and tools needed to make this possible," said Bruce Chizen, Adobe CEO.

As one of the national leaders in the Youth Media field, Spy Hop Productions is making waves in the big scene. This organization continually strives to provide up-to-date technology and qualified mentors with the backgrounds and skills necessary to set the standards for this emerging market pioneered by Spy Hop and only a few other innovators in 1999. With entries in film festivals and screenings around the United States, the creative works of Salt Lake City Youth have reached audiences of over 1,000,000 people.

Excited and energized by these two sizable grants, among the generosity and support of many local loyal patrons, Spy Hop continually looks toward the future, aiming to enhance the opportunities available to youth in the multi-media fields.

*Spy Hop Productions is a not-for-profit youth media arts education center, and provides out-of-school programs in the documentary arts, film/video production, audio engineering, and interactive media, whose mission is to cultivate the visions and voices of an emerging generation via the big screen, the airwaves, and the world-wide-web.*

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