

FEBRUARY 3, 2004
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Listen Up!
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**SPY HOP PRODUCTIONS AND LISTEN UP! PREMIERE
DOCUMENTARY SERIES,
"THE WAY WE SEE IT: YOUTH SPEAK OUT ON EDUCATION"**

In April of 2003, nine teams of youth producers garnered national recognition when they were each awarded \$10,000 grants from the MetLife Foundation and Listen Up! to produce a short video documentary answering the questions, "What makes a teacher worth paying attention to?" and "What makes school worth going to?" **Spy Hop Productions and Listen Up!** will premiere the documentaries along with a panel addressing the importance of youth voice in education at their Salt Lake City Town Hall Screening. The Screening, hosted by **Spy Hop Productions and Listen Up!**, will take place on **Wednesday February 25th, 2004** at the **Salt Lake City Library Auditorium- 209 East 400 South at 4:00-5:30 p.m.**

The "**Youth Speak Out on Education**" project includes youth production teams from Educational Video Center –EVC- (New York, NY), Española Valley High School (Española Valley, NM), Evanston Township High School (Evanston, IL), Communication Arts High School (San Antonio, TX), Frazer School/Vid Kids (Ft. Peck Reservation, MT), New Orleans Video Access Center –NOVAC- (New Orleans, LA), **Spy Hop Productions (Salt Lake City, UT)**, Wide Angle Community Media (Baltimore, MD), SCOOP (Detroit, MI) and Youth Media (Oakland, CA).

Spy Hop Production Youth Producers come up with a winning production recipe: Interview students expressing their experiences with teachers who teach to different learning styles. Mix in the creative work of students as they share the product of their learning experiences. Blend with dynamic editing that likewise presents information in formats geared toward different learning styles and the final product is a provocative short that doesn't just tell the viewer about diverse learning styles but engages them in the learning process. **Spy Hop Productions** is a highly effective not-for-profit youth media center specializing in educational solutions through the multimedia arts. Our mission is to cultivate the visions and voices of an emerging generation – via the big screen, the airwaves, and the world-wide-web.

The " Youth Speak Out on Education" project is funded by the **MetLife Foundation**, which has a longstanding commitment to strengthening the quality of education by supporting activities and programs that improve the public education system. Listen Up! receives additional funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and the Annenberg Foundation. The Open Society Institute and Surdna Foundation, Inc are past funders.

The New York Town Hall Screening will take place on **Wednesday February 25th, 2004** at the **Salt Lake City Library Auditorium- 209 East 400 South at 4:00-5:30 p.m.** For more information on Listen Up! call Sharese Bullock at 212-725-7000 or visit the Listen Up! website at www.listenup.org/education.

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