



In AS220's Focus program, eight youth, drawn from the neighborhoods of Providence, are paid to experience what it means to be a professional artist. For six weeks, participants walk in the shoes of a fine arts photographer, choosing a theme, planning shots, mounting a show and discussing their work in front of an audience of artists, teachers, friends and family. Throughout the process, they receive a firm grounding in camera and darkroom technique.



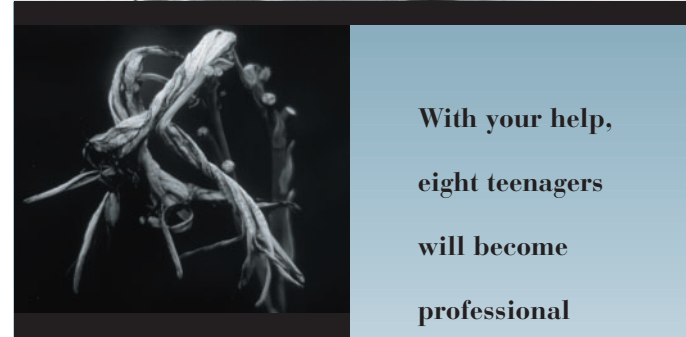
Focus is part of AS220's Muse Union, a suite of youth outreach programs that also includes the Broad Street Community Studio, Hip Hop 220 and the Muzine.

AS220 is a nonprofit center for the arts which exists to provide opportunities for Rhode Island artists and audiences. AS220 strives to facilitate all steps of the creative process, from inspiration to presentation.

*For more information
about the Focus
program, contact
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AS220

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**With your help,
eight teenagers
will become
professional
photographers
this summer.**





Focus must raise \$486.83 for each of the eight students participating in the program. This sum breaks down into three components:

[SUPPLIES \$61.90]

Focus provides students with use of a camera, time in AS220's Community Darkroom, and all of the film, paper and mounting supplies they will need to shoot, enlarge and hang their portfolios.

[TEACHERS \$228.13]

Each class is led by two teachers with experience in education and in freelance photography. Hands-on instruction in basic photography skills is augmented with discussion periods and field trips to local photographers' studios.

[STIPEND \$196.80]

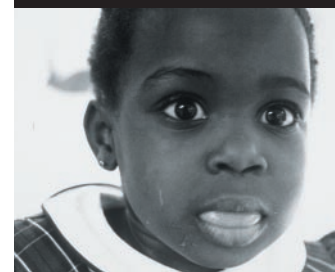
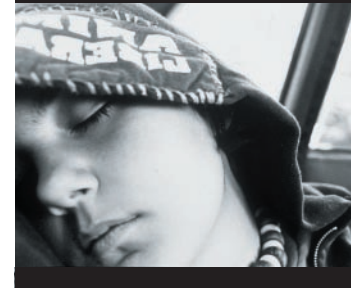
By offering a stipend, Focus is able to attract youth who need to earn money during their summer vacations. The stipend also makes it possible to demand a high level of accountability, participation and initiative from participants.

"I learned that I possess the power to do something that I used to be intimidated by. I now feel that have the ability to use the darkroom by myself."

Stephanie Richardson, Focus participant

"It just touched me. I'm glad I had this chance. The critiques had a great effect on how I felt about my work. I wasn't sure I was headed in the right direction but I discovered that I was."

Justeen Houle,
Focus participant



Please be as generous as you can, and support quality training in the arts for the youth of your community.