

**The WBEZ Alliance, Inc.
Licensee of WBEZ-FM, WBEQ-FM, and WBEW-FM
EEO Annual Report, 2008-2009**

Outreach Activities and Initiatives, 2008 - 2009

Outreach Activity/Initiative # 1: Internship Program

The WBEZ Alliance, Inc. (hereafter, “WBEZ” or “Chicago Public Radio”) realizes the important role an internship program plays in introducing new and diverse voices not only to its own broadcast communities in Chicago, IL, Morris, IL, and Chesterton, IN, but to the broader landscape of public radio. For this reason, its interns receive as much hands-on, in-the-field experience as possible, which requires a significant level of time commitment from our participants. Chicago Public Radio offers internships in various areas, from on-air production to non-profit management. Options for interns range from working on WBEZ’s flagship news magazine program Eight Forty-Eight, learning the art of fundraising by interning with our development department, or work with internet audio technology as a web team intern. A list of available internships, along with an application form, is available year-round on the Chicago Public Radio website, www.chicagopublicradio.org

Chicago Public Radio offers its internships at its main studio location in downtown Chicago. Internship terms are available four times a year. Interns have an opportunity to learn about various aspects of Chicago Public Radio and have the opportunity to learn a variety of skills such as writing for newscasts, researching story ideas, digital audio editing, interviewing, working with sound, field reporting, producing feature segments, studio operation, or in other areas, such as the membership and marketing departments, in order to gain exposure to the different areas of public radio. As part of their learning experience, interns attend workshops in the above listed skills lead by senior staff members. George Lara, who is in charge of the internships and mentorships, oversaw the program, which also involved the following WBEZ employees: Chip Mitchell - Bureau Reporter; Melba Lara - News Anchor; Adriene Hill - Business Reporter; Ammad Omar - AM News Producer; Cate Cahan - Metro Desk Editor; Vanessa Harris – Vocolo.org Project Coordinator; Lloyd King – Vocolo.org Content Director; Jeff Dunlap - Director Major Gifts and Julie Shapiro - Artistic Director, Third Coast Festival. During the summer of 2008, WBEZ partnered with the Louis Carr Foundation (<http://www.louiscarrfoundation.org/>), which provided an intern in the WBEZ Marketing Department.

The Internship Program is open to college students, recent graduates, non-traditional students, and members of the community. Members of minority groups are encouraged to apply on the WBEZ website. Most internships are for a minimum of 15 hours per week; the only exception is the Eight Forty-Eight and News Desk internships, each of which requires a 35 hour a week commitment. In the June 1, 2008 - May 31, 2009 reporting period, The WBEZ Alliance hosted a total of 22 interns in various departments of the station and Vocolo.org (WBEW-FM).

Outreach Activity/Initiative #2: Mentoring Program

WBEZ sponsored a mentoring program during the period November 2008 through January 2009, for a series of workshops about radio journalism (one workshop every two weeks throughout this period). A group of five local citizen journalists, working out of WBEZ's Humboldt Park News Bureau, participated in the program. Subjects covered in the workshops included journalist ethics, field recording, audio editing, how to tell a radio story, and writing for broadcast. Bureau Reporter Chip Mitchell and Editor Julia McEvoy were the primary contacts for that project. George Lara was responsible for overseeing the program.

Outreach Activity/Initiative #3: Vocalo.org/After School Matters Program

In 2008, Vocalo.org (WBEW-FM), partnered with After School Matters (<http://www.afterschoolmatters.org/about/>) and community organization Batey Urbano, where Vocalo.org employees worked with 16 high school-aged students for an innovative six-week radio book camp.

After School Matters (ASM) is a non-profit organization that partners with the City of Chicago, the Chicago Public Schools, the Chicago Park District, the Chicago Public Library, the Chicago Department of Children and Youth Services, the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, and Community-Based Organizations to expand out-of-school opportunities for Chicago teens and provide an arts-related job-training program. Its headquarters are located in what was once an abandoned Chicago city block known only as Block 37. Through its innovative Gallery37, Science37, Sports37, Tech37, and Words37 programs, Chicago teens take part in engaging activities that provide skills that translate to the workplace. Through positive relationships with adults and peers, they are exposed to educational and career opportunities in their neighborhoods and the city at large. By coordinating city resources and anchoring the programs around clusters of public high schools, parks and libraries, ASM enriches the lives of teens and helps to revitalize Chicago's communities. ASM is a non-profit organization that also partners with the City of Chicago, the Chicago Public Schools, the Chicago Park District, the Chicago Public Library, the Chicago Department of Children and Youth Services, the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, and various community-based organizations, such as the WBEZ Alliance, to expand out-of-school opportunities for Chicago teens. Through ASM's innovative programs in art, science, sports, high tech, and writing programs, Chicago teens take part in engaging activities that provide skills that translate to the workplace. Through positive relationships with adults and peers, they are exposed to educational and career opportunities in their neighborhoods and the city at large. By coordinating city resources and anchoring the programs around clusters of public high schools, parks and libraries, ASM enriches the lives of teens and helps to revitalize Chicago's communities. After School Matters is recognized as one of the strongest after-school initiatives nationwide and is acknowledged as the largest program of its kind serving teenagers in the United States. After School Matters has grown from serving only 180 teens in three neighborhoods to offering nearly 600 programs in 58 schools around the city, including the Vocalo radio boot camp program.

Batey Urbano is a Puerto Rican and Latin youth cultural center located in the Humboldt Park

neighborhood. of Chicago. It was founded by the Puerto Rican Cultural Center, along with college students from various universities throughout the City of Chicago, joined together to create Café Teatro Batey Urbano, a grassroots space dedicated to the Puerto Rican/Latino youth of Humboldt Park and Chicago. Its work is carried out by a group of student volunteers from the following universities: Northeastern Illinois University; University of Illinois at Chicago; and University of Chicago. One of Batey Urbano's initiatives is Batey Tech, a program created to fine-tune the academic and technological skills and critical thinking abilities of community youth. Batey Tech takes place during fall and spring with an academic focus based on tutoring and educational enrichment, while in the summer the focus shifts to multi-media arts and project-based learning through reading, writing, research, recording, and reciting. The program involves youth in a variety of training programs, workshops, creative arts, multi media, and technology classes. As part of this project, the students participate in four main media areas, including print journalism, online radio, hip-hop/ poetry reading and writing, and civic engagement/ community service. Batey Urbano's partnership with WBEZ /Vocalo.org was the online/radio project of this Batey Tech initiative.

Batey Urbano advertised the class, facilitated students' enrollment, and provided facilities and access to computers. Batey Youth Organizer Michael Reyes led workshops on the topics of gentrification in Humboldt Park and participatory democracy. After School Matters funded the classes. Vocalo.org staff provided the instruction, specifically including staff members Sarah Lu, Shannon Heffernan, Jesse Seay, Bibiana Adames, and Darlene Jackson. Vocalo.org also provided a broadcast platform both online and on-air for the students completed radio programming and audio work.