



Information on the CMP For Kids By Kids Project Map

The CMP For Kids By Kids Project is a project-based media arts vocational training and literacy program for youth ages 16 to 21 at Chinatown Manpower Project headquarters. Modeled on a real-world media production environment, the For Kids By Kids Project participants work in teams to design, write, and produce a full-color interpretative map of Manhattan's Chinatown that is targeted for youth. The For Kids By Kids Project is the first peer-to-peer publication of its kind to be produced in Chinatown, and highlights the favorite spots of our participants—young immigrant teens—who live, work, and play in the neighborhood.

Created in 2007 with seed funding from the Verizon Foundation and the Ong Family Foundation, the Project provides immigrant youth with an opportunity to explore alternative career options in the media arts by developing a unique set of skills while engaging in a creative, community-oriented multimedia publishing project. Our participants are English language learners, having recently arrived in the United States with their families. Our goals are to teach them how to research, write, and edit a document for publication for both print and online media through the combined targeted instruction in English as a Second Language and multimedia technology.

The For Kids By Kids Project provides multiple learning avenues, including developing valuable skills in teamwork and leadership, project management, collection of data and database management, digital camera technology, web design, publishing, bilingual communications, marketing, and public relations. Equally important, the Project provides our participants with a wonderful outlet for creative expression, connect them with youth beyond their immediate community, and give them an opportunity to take pride in the products they create.

An estimated 47 million people visited New York City in 2008, and Chinatown remains one of the main downtown attractions along with Ground Zero and the Financial District. The CMP For Kids By Kids Project Map is designed from a youth's perspective and recommends to young tourists places they should visit in Chinatown. We expect to distribute 1,000 copies of the map in its initial print run throughout the New York City Chinatown visitor centers in an effort to promote tourism in the community.

About Chinatown Manpower Project:

Established in 1972, Chinatown Manpower Project, Inc. is a private, not-for-profit, community-based organization that has served tens of thousands of low-income new immigrants and refugees throughout New York City through free vocational training, employment services, English as a Second Language classes, youth programming, and small business assistance. CMP has provided the necessary training for them to become economically self-sufficient and contributing members of society.