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**YOUTHBUILD'S OPERATION P.E.A.C.E. TO UNITE YOUTH
THROUGH SERVICE, URBAN ART AND FREE CONCERT**

Nina Capone and Young Gunz Expected for National Youth Service Day Event

Philadelphia, April 2007 – YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School in conjunction with the Nicetown Community Development Corporation (CDC) and The Artists United will present Operation P.E.A.C.E. (Positive Energy Activates Constant Elevation), a community hip-hop concert (free to the public) and civic awareness event to celebrate National Youth Service Day (April 20, 2007). The event was conceptualized by students from the YouthBuild service learning class of the same name, which uses hip-hop music and culture to engage students and encourage them to think critically about the challenges facing their communities.

The concert will feature local high school students and local professional performers. Nina Capone will host the show, with Nicetown natives Young Gunz of Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam Records invited to close. Also included in the day's events are live graffiti paneling by local artists and an information station with representatives from various cultural and civic organizations in Philadelphia.

Prior to the concert, YouthBuild students/staff and Nicetown volunteers will beautify Nicetown Park and the surrounding areas, in addition to planting trees in the park.

WHO:

- Host Nina Capone
- Special invited guests Young Gunz
- Professional performers Montana Black and Abyss
- Student performers (including YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School, Bartram High School, Overbrook High School, South Philadelphia High School and Fels High School)
- Service project volunteers from YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School (more than 200 students and staff) and Nicetown CDC
- Information distributors (including Blueprint for a Safer Philadelphia; the City of Philadelphia Managing Director's Office, Mayor's Office of Community Services and Operation Safer Streets; EducationWorks; the Mural Arts Program; Spiral Q; and, The Village of Arts and Humanities)

- 100.3 The Beat
- Community participants

Major sponsors include State Farm Companies Foundation through a Good Neighbor Service-Learning grant), 100.3 The Beat, Nu Millennium Sound and Blueprint for a Safer Philadelphia.

National Youth Service Day – the largest service event in the world – mobilizes youth to identify and address the needs of their communities through community service.

WHEN: Friday, April 20, 2007 (service project at noon, information tables beginning at 3 p.m., welcome and acknowledgements at 4:30 p.m. and concert at 5 p.m.)

WHERE: Nicetown Park, 4301 Germantown Ave., Philadelphia

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YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School is a not-for-profit organization that provides out-of-school youth in Philadelphia the broadest range of tools, supports and opportunities available to become self-sufficient, responsible and productive citizens. YouthBuild Philadelphia offers an innovative program, which blends a rigorous academic curriculum with valuable community service experience and on-the-job training in construction, technology or nursing.

Students at YouthBuild Philadelphia can earn their high school diplomas and make successful transitions to full-time jobs, post-secondary educations, or further service with AmeriCorps. For more information, visit www.youthbuildphilly.org.

The Nicetown Community Development Corporation (Nicetown CDC) is a grassroots non-profit organization with a mission to provide community-driven, socio-economic development initiatives to the residents of Nicetown and the surrounding communities. Primary goals and objectives include establishing safety and security, commercial corridor and neighborhood revitalization, and strategic projects and programs that improve the overall quality of life for the Nicetown community. The Nicetown CDC is the fiduciary administrator for the Nicetown Neighborhood Advisory Committee and the Northwest Curfew Center.