

ILLINOIS QUALITY AFTERSCHOOL

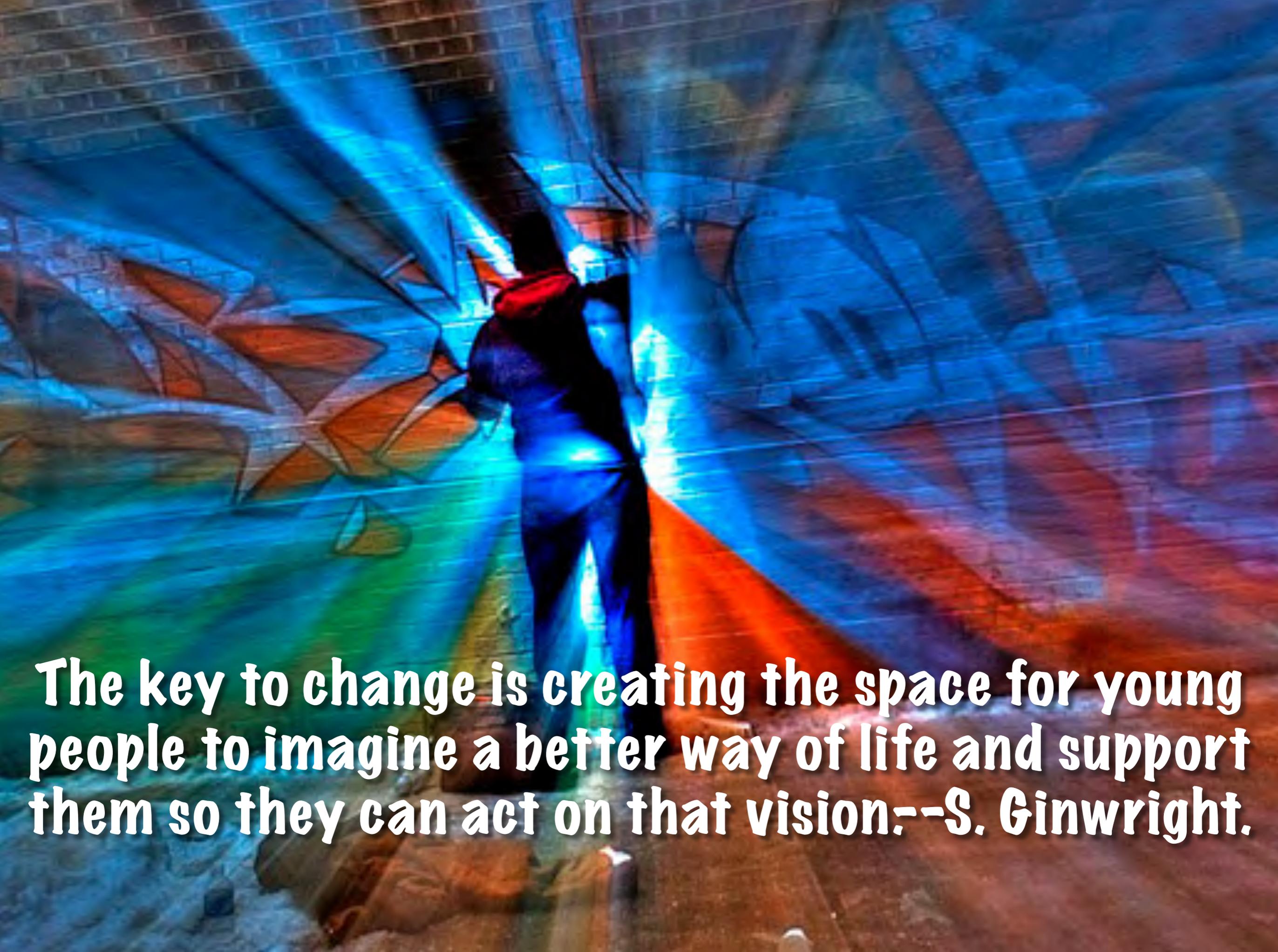


# Pathways to **SUCCESS**

Illinois 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Spring Conference



Hosted by the Illinois State Board of Education and SEDL



**The key to change is creating the space for young people to imagine a better way of life and support them so they can act on that vision.--S. Ginwright.**

A person wearing a red hoodie and blue pants stands in a tunnel. The walls are covered in graffiti, and the scene is lit with blue light. The person is looking towards the camera.

# Building Hip-Hop(e)

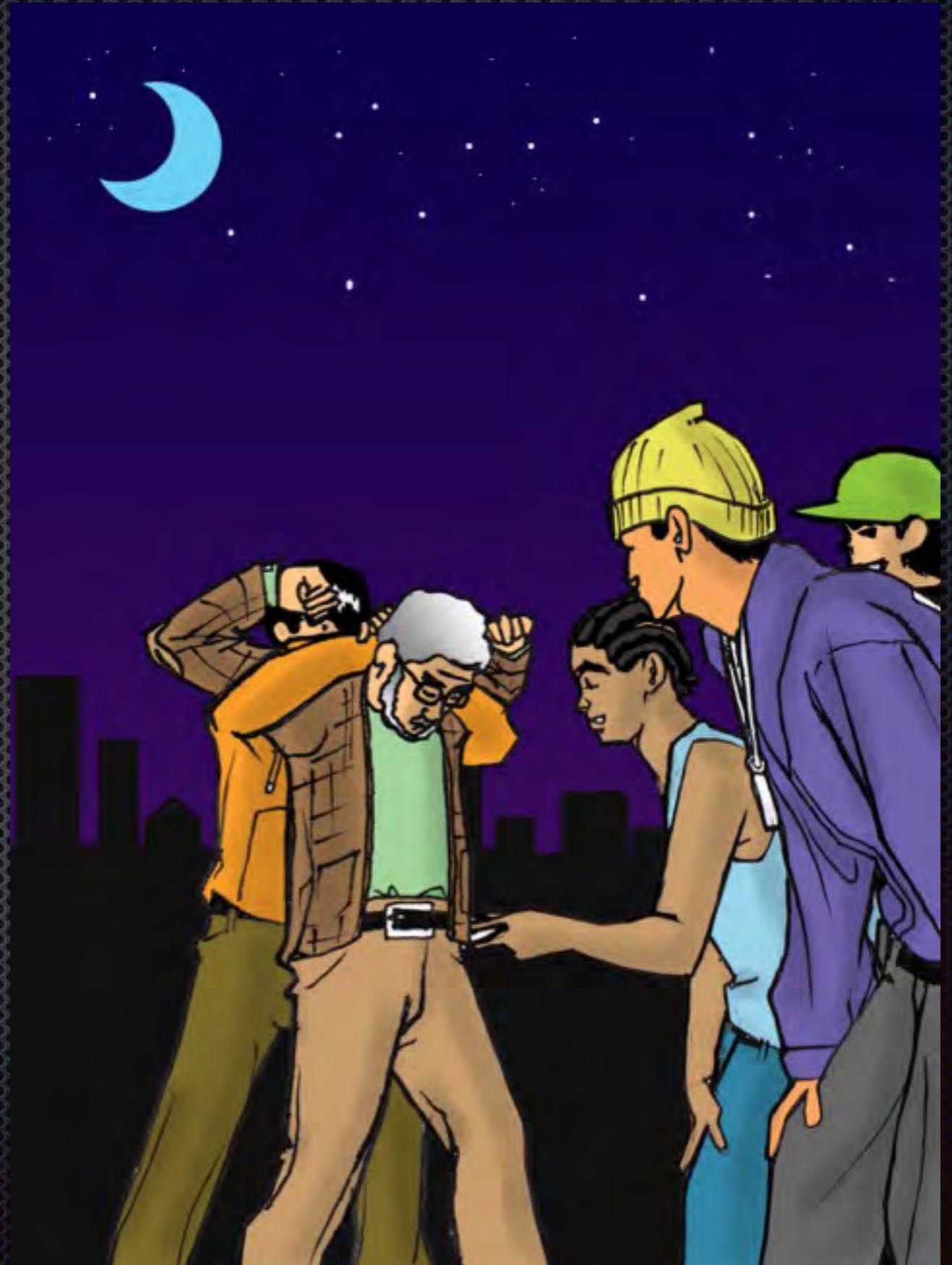
- **Building Communities of Hope That Engage Youth to go From Surviving to Thriving**

# The Goodlife Org.



Galvanizing adults towards the positive development of youth, and mobilizing youth towards the positive development of communities.

# Case Study: Carlos



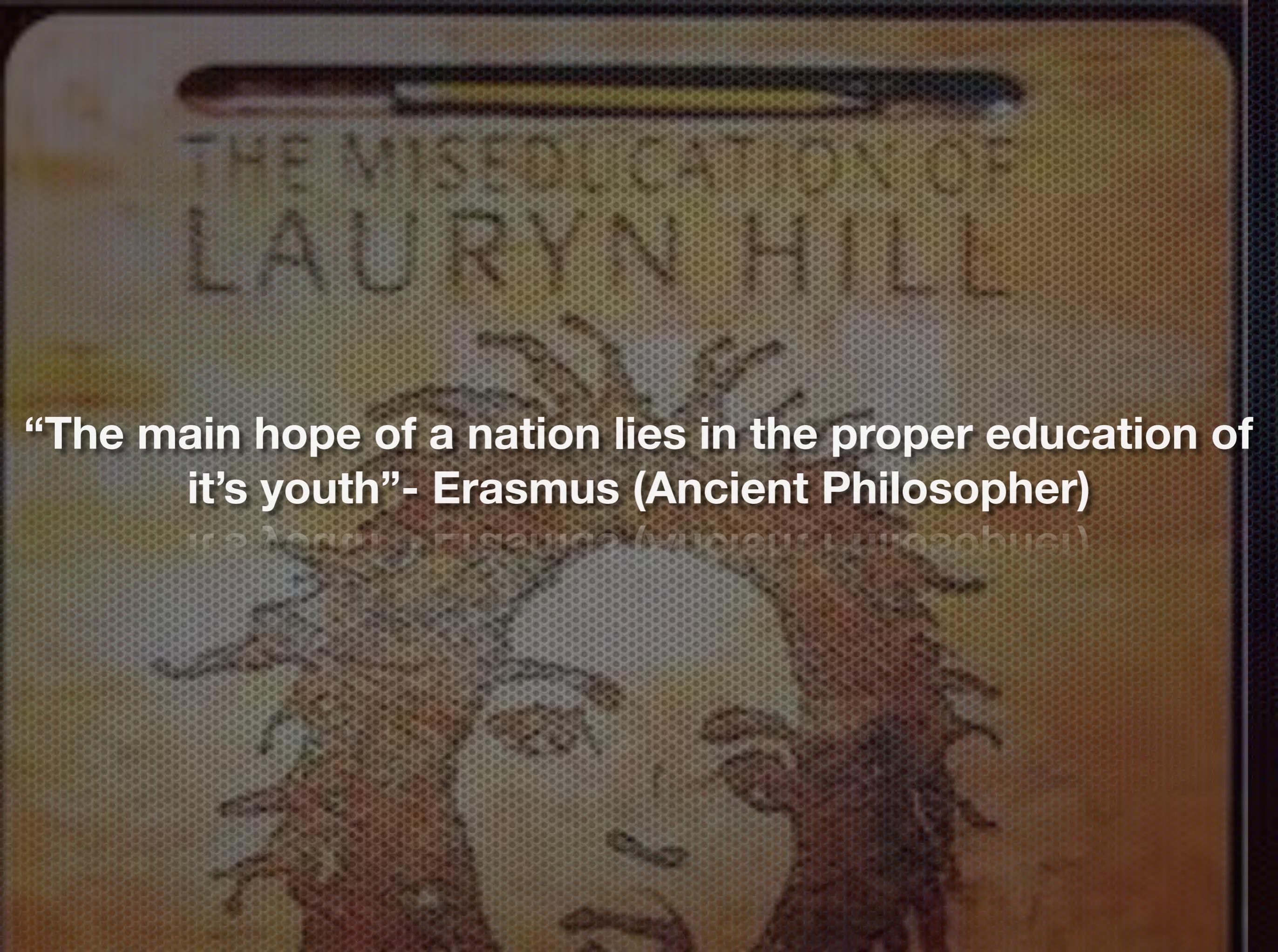
# Great Life Legacy



**“I seek to only chip away the rough pieces that have trapped the sculpture.”-Michelangelo**



**The root word for education is from the latin term: “educare”, which means to bring out.**



**“The main hope of a nation lies in the proper education of  
it’s youth”- Erasmus (Ancient Philosopher)**

*in a nation's future (ancient philosopher)*

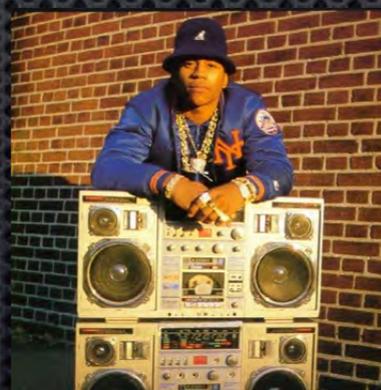
**“Hope is found between acknowledging our concrete realities and actively working towards the dreams of what is still possible.” --Paulo Freire**



# HipHop Culture



- **“Get Free or Die Trying”--1971**
- **Hiphop- The modern day phenomenon of oppressed people finding liberation through creative and spiritual means.**



# Hiphop Industry



- "Get Rich or Die Tryin"--1991
- Exercises power over young people, promotes hyper-consumerism, and rugged individualism.





# Outcomes:

**1 Point Increase**

**YMCA-Top Afterschool Assoc.**

**100% Graduation**

**Academic Journals**

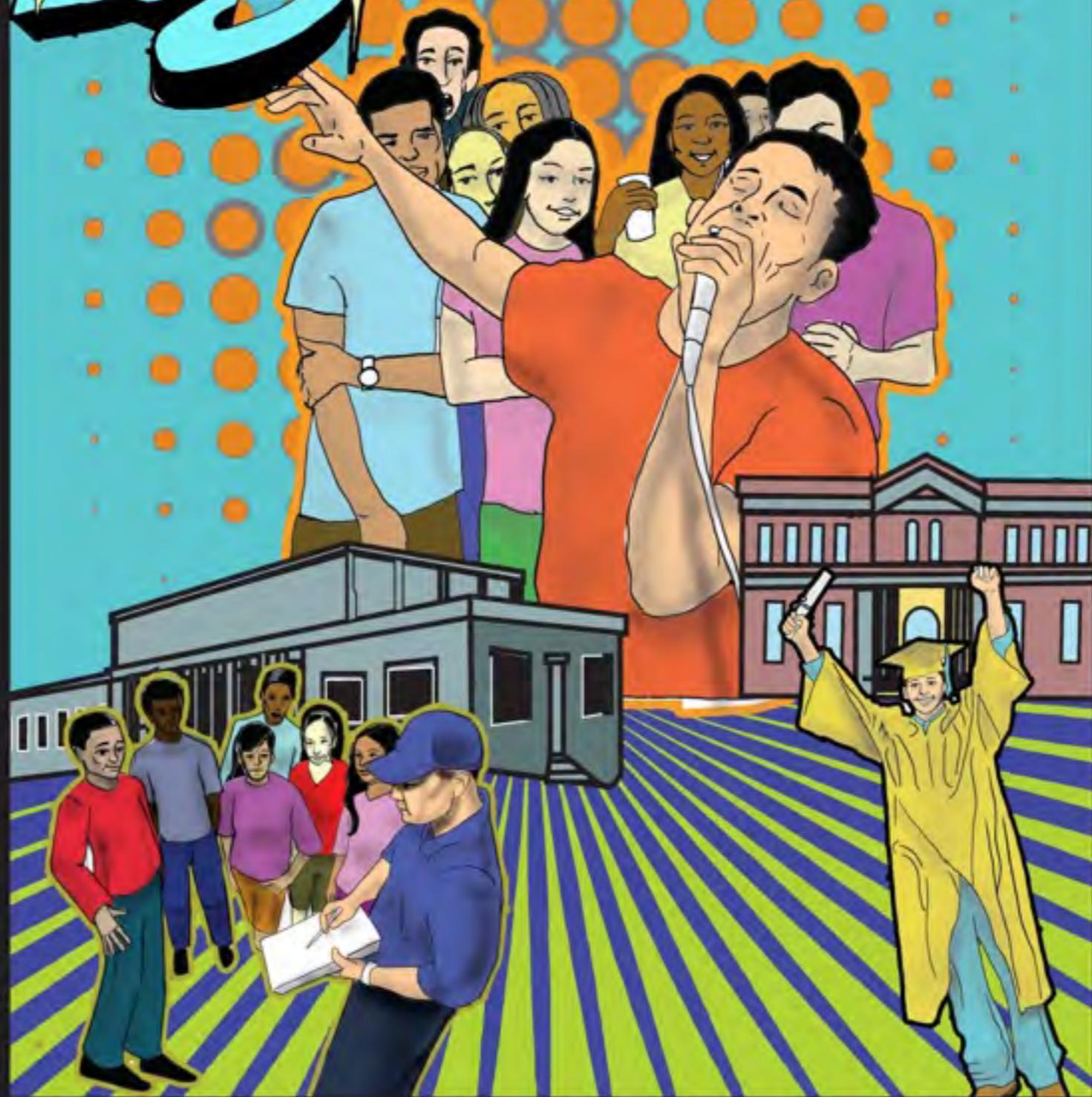
# Case Study in Los Angeles



# Sampling Consciousness



# Soul BLING



Custom Build  
Dimp  
My Ride



# Case Study in Los Angeles



# Search Institute Study: Thriving Youth Have:

The **RELATIONSHIPS** teens need to support their  
yets more than one-third of 15 year-olds (38  
percent) surveyed did not score high on any of  
the strengths. And only 7 percent experience  
high levels of all three strengths, and  
opportunities to influence things that matter to  
them.

**#Similar Context**

# Relationships



The Relationships and Opportunities Index (ROI) measures several dimensions of a child's life, relationships beyond the family. The survey reveals that just 1.9 percent of 15 year-olds score suggestions that only one in five 15-year-olds has the web of positive sustained and meaningful relationships with adults.



In communities in the south in the 1960's students violated

segregation laws in South Africa in their protest against white

children being forced to live on the streets without their families or any

other social supports, a thousands of these street children, with the support

establishments, the activity triggered a new direction in the civil

rights movement and highlighted how a marginalized group can take

take over the Brazilian congress and force them to adopt the United

Nations Conventions: Rights of the Child.





**From Black Lives Matters, Dia Sin Latinos, to Nobel Peace Prize winners, an young generation is raising up!!!**



**To move youth from surviving to thriving, young people  
need : Relationships**

**How can we develop our own  
vision of youth being part of the  
solution?**

**What can we do to communicate  
verbally and non-verbally that we  
see youth this way?**

**#hiphope**

# Sparks

**A “Spark” is something inside a teenage that gets him/her excited. It is something that makes a teenager want to jump out of bed in the morning. Spark is the thing that gives teenagers (and actually all people) meaning.**

**The data that he and the Search Institute have collected indicates that 43 percent of boys and 65 percent of girls find their sparks within the creative arts, another 37 percent of boys and 16 percent of girls find their sparks in athletics, and 18 percent of boys and girls find their spark in learning (history, science, literature, and so on) (Benson, 2008).**

**Research with over three thousand youth indicates that youth who spend time focusing on their sparks demonstrate increased academic achievement, decreased depression, and a drop in violence.**

**Research From Peter Bensons Book: Sparks**



## Elements of Intelligence:

**DJ**-Music Smart

**MC**- Word Smart

**Breaking**-Body Smart

**Graffiti**- Picture Smart

**Spiritual Element**-Big Question Smart

**Street Knowledge**-Environment Smart

**Promoter**-People Smart

**Street Entrepreneurship**-Numbers Smart



**To move youth from surviving to thriving, young people  
need : **Support with Sparks****

**What are your sparks?**

**What are the hidden sparks of your youth who are not  
engaged?**

**Who can we connect them to that will help mentor them  
and nurture these sparks into a flame?**

**#hiphope**

# Youth VOICE

**LEADERSHIP**-Has had a leadership role in the past year.

**COMFORT EXPRESSING VOICE**-Feels comfortable suggesting activities, sharing ideas about rules, and helping to organize events.

**COMMUNITY PROBLEM SOLVING**-Believes he or she can help solve community problems.

**CIVIC INVOLVEMENT**-Plans to be involved, or has already been involved, in political and civic life

# Youth VOICE

Definition of Youth Voice (as defined by youth): An Expression of the human spirit that is shown in different forms such as art, words, poetry, and music. Engaging in the creation of your own opportunities to SPEAK OUT to authority...Believing and putting our voices into practice so youth can be taken seriously.





The Annenberg Institute found that civic engagement  
**Benefits of Youth Voice To Organizations:**

- 1. Helps organizations become more effective.
  - 2. Energizes adult leaders/workers in organization.
  - 3. Allows organizations to increase their funding streams.
- (Mediratta et al., 2008)



**To move youth from surviving to thriving, young people  
need : **Voice****

**In what ways can we begin to  
increase youth voice into more  
programs and communities in  
Illinois?**

**What transformation could take  
place in the process? #hiphope**

We create  
communities of  
hope  
that lets youth  
thrive by:

1. Relationships
2. Sparks
3. Voice





**Every generation has been named by what has happened to them, what if this generation could be named by what they made happen?**

# **Link to powerpoint, Hiphope Resources, and Program Samples**



**[www.thegoodlifealliance.org](http://www.thegoodlifealliance.org)**