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## Art Youth & rehabilitation: A Topical Forum and discussion

AS220

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ART  
YOUTH  
&  
rehabilitation

A TOPICAL FORUM  
*and discussion*

J U N E 1 , 1 9 9 9  
5-7 PM

*Tim Rollins*

*Lemoyne Waite*

*Joseph Schechtman*

*Jonny Skye Njie*

*Warren Hurlbut*

## About the Panelists ○○○

### TIM ROLLINS

Born in Pittsfield, Maine, 1955. Education: University of Maine, AS, 1976. School of Visual Arts, NYC, BFA, 1978. New York University, Department of Art Education, NYC, 1980. Teaching: New York Marxist School, NYC, 1980-1981. Learning to Read Through the Arts Program, NYC, 1980-1982. I.S. #52, South Bronx, NY, 1982-1987. Distinguished Visiting Professor, University of California at Davis, 1995. School of Visual Arts, 1997. Co-founded Group Material, NYC, 1979. Founded K.O.S. (Kids of Survival) and the Art and Knowledge Workshop, Inc., South Bronx, NY, 1982. Lives in NYC.

### LEMOYNE WAITE

Personal Statement:

Born and raised in Providence, RI

1977, wrote a book of poetry while incarcerated at ACI

Does that mean I am a poet?

I don't know

I do believe that poetry in some ways has saved me from myself

It has given me a vehicle in which to get in touch with feelings, my own and others

Am I a poet?

Again I don't know

I like to think of myself as a romantic in love with the world, children, poets and poetry.

Lemoyne Waite has been teaching Creative Writing since 1983. His professional affiliations include the Providence School Department, the Rhode Island Training School, the ACI, the Talbot House, West Bay and the Providence Center. He currently is employed by Job Link, Providence, RI.

### JOESPH SCHECHTMAN

Mr. Schechtman is a national consultant, trainer, motivational speaker and adjunct faculty member at Cambridge College. Consulting to schools, residential treatment centers, and non-profit organizations, he specializes in leadership training, developing high performance teams and creating safe and effective classrooms. In his private practice, Mr. Schechtman works primarily with students who have been diagnosed with ADHD, and people who have been physically and/or sexually abused.

## A SHORT HISTORY

For the past 6 months, AS220 has been building a working relationship with the Rhode Island Training School (RITS), Rhode Island's juvenile correctional facility. Since November 1998, AS220 has:

- Provided administrative support for an evening of performance and spoken word at RITS
- Initiated a book drive with Rhode Island School of Design
- Contributed administrative, accounting and editorial help to the publication of IMPACT, an anthology representing the work of over 60 poets from RITS (172 pages, over 250 poems)
- Hosted an exhibit of calligraphy by over 40 New England artists highlighting select poems from the IMPACT anthology

Working with the RITS has been an eye-opening experience. With this forum, AS220 hopes to share some of what we've learned from this relationship and allow the community to help shape the future of our work with RITS.

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## COMMENTS?

Please rip off this lower half and put in the big hat!

He has worked in education and treatment settings for over 25 years as a teacher, counselor, therapist and Executive Director. Mr. Schechtman received his M. Ed. in counseling from Boston University. He is trained in Transactional Analysis, Gestalt Therapy and Accelerated Learning. During his years working with residential treatment, Mr. Schechtman developed a very successful behavior management system "Winning with Youth", which is being used in a number of public and private schools across the country.

## **JONNY SKYE NJIE**

Jonny Skye Njie acquired her undergraduate degree from Brown in Visual Art and a Master's in Art Education from RISD. After graduation she initially worked at Central High School as a substitute teacher. She then went on to work at the RISD Museum, as coordinator of Family Programming. She was responsible for creating partnerships with the public schools and community centers which would culminate in "Family Days" at the Museum once a month. Jonny currently works at Roger Williams Middle School as an Art Teacher. Under her guidance, a 100 foot long mural project, which involved over 60 students and 25 Brown students, has just been completed. The theme of the mural is "A City Bus Ride Through Providence". The conceptualizing, drawing and painting were all done by RWMS students, in about a 5 month period. Jonny currently has a proposal in with RISCA for a "Graffiti Arts Program". This program will concentrate on strengths and abilities of students, rather than expecting them to meet a "standard".

## **WARREN HURLBUT**

Mr. Hurlbut attended Rhode Island College, receiving a Master's of Social work. From URI, he received a Certification in Drug and Alcohol Counseling and a BA, with a concentration in Human Services.

Mr. Hurlbut has done extensive work with the DCYF. Currently he is the Acting Superintendent of RITS, where he oversees all operations. Other positions held at DCYF include: Assistant Director for Human Resources, Assistant Director at DCYF, Assistant Director of Juvenile Correctional Services, Administrator of Operations, Assistant Superintendent, and a Unit Manager of Detention Center. Mr. Hurlbut also served as a Classification Counselor with the Department of Corrections. Before his work with the DCYF Mr. Hurlbut was Director of Program Services at the Montgomery County Residential Treatment Center in Rockville, Maryland and a teacher at Salve Regina College.

# *MODERATOR*

*UMBERTO CRENCA*

*CO-FOUNDER AND ARTISTIC  
DIRECTOR OF AS220,  
PAINTER AND MUSICIAN*

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*FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE AS220 AND RHODE ISLAND TRAINING SCHOOL COLLABORATION  
PLEASE CONTACT KIM KAZAN, AMERICORPS\* VISTA, AT (401) 831-9327*