



1st Annual *Do Something* BRICK Award for Community Leadership Winners

- 1 **Melissa Bradley, 28, National Grand Prize Winner-** founder and Director of The Entrepreneurial Development Institute (TEDI) in Washington DC. TEDI is a national non-profit that helps disadvantaged youth develop small businesses.
- 2 **Charles Carson, 25-** co-founder and Director of the Tacoma Center YMCA Late Nite Program in Tacoma, Washington. He designed and incorporated programs which provide tutoring, employment, training, support and recreation for youth. Charles also found Dove in Flight Productions, "a music production company "
- 3 **Karen Childress, 29-** co-founder and Director of Rural Resources in Greeneville, TN an organization that supports sustainable agriculture on family farms in Appalachia.
- 4 **Tara Church, 18-** co-founder and Youth Director of TREE MUSKETEERS in El Selgundo, CA. It's mission is to "empower young people to lead environmental improvement in Earth's communities through innovative action and education programs that motivate others to become partners in a united youth movement."
- 5 **Sean Closkey, 29-** Executive Director of Saint Joseph's Carpenter Society in Camden, NJ The Society, a non-profit housing developer, purchases abandoned houses, rehabilitates them, and sells the homes to low-income families.
6. **Trinh Duong, 22-** organizer and fund-raiser for the Chinese Staff & Workers Association in New York City She is working on the campaign to have labor laws enforced and ultimately to empower the Chinese immigrant community
- 7 **Henry Fernandez, 27-** Executive Director of Leadership, Education, and Athletics in Partnership, Inc. (LEAP) in New Haven, CT LEAP's mission is to "provide educational, social development & technology opportunities to children through the training of young people for community leadership.
- 8 **Priya Haji, 25-** co-founder and Executive Director of Free At Last, a multifaceted community organization that "operates community-based, bilingual (Spanish and English) substance abuse prevention and treatment" in Palo Alto, CA.
- 9 **Anthony (Van) Jones, 27-** founder and Director of the Bay Area Police Watch in San Francisco, CA which "provides legal help to San Franciscans who have been injured by law enforcement officers"
10. **Sarah Kass, 29-** co-founder and principal of City On A Hill Charter School in Boston's downtown area. Sarah seeks to have a community where the teachers not only teach, but are a contributing party that can feel a sense of ownership.



FACT SHEET

The 2nd annual 1997 *Do Something* BRICK Award for Community Leadership will be awarded to ten outstanding young Americans under the age of 30 who are successfully building their communities and whose work is structured to have a lasting impact. The grand prize winner will receive a grant of \$100,000 to continue his or her work in the community, and the other nine winners will each receive a \$10,000 grant.

The BRICK Award Winners

In addition to receiving the grant, all ten winners will be presented with the *Do Something* BRICK, a symbol of their commitment to laying the foundation for a better community. Winners will also be featured on an MTV special and in *Mademoiselle* Magazine.

Winners from our first year include our grand prize winner, Melissa Bradley, 28, who works with at-risk youth in Washington, D.C. to create their own businesses and become economically independent; Trinh Duong, 22, who organizes for the rights of immigrants working in sweatshops in Chinatown, New York City; Priya Haji, 26, who has built a multifaceted model organization for substance abuse prevention and treatment in East Palo Alto, CA.

The Criteria

The BRICK Award honors efforts in a geographic community no larger than city-wide. Winners will be recognized for community work that is more than just creating projects or programs, BRICK Award winners will be successfully working for higher graduation rates, safer neighborhoods, better schools, and stronger families - anything that is strengthening the community. Success will be primarily judged by the skills of the applicant, whether past action has been structured to have a lasting impact and demonstration of results. Applicants must be under the age of 30 as of April 15, 1997.

The Application Process

Applications will be available in January, 1997. To receive an application, call the *Do Something* office at (212) 523-1175, check out the March issue of *Mademoiselle* Magazine, visit your local Blockbuster Video or Music outlet, visit *Do Something's* online area Keyword: Do Something, or our website at <http://www.DoSomething.org>. Twenty-five national finalists will be flown into New York City in late June for an interview and networking session. Winners will be selected by July 1.

About...

Do Something, a national non-profit organization that provides leadership training and financial resources to emerging young leaders building their communities, will administer the program. In addition to partnering with communities to establish Local *Do Something* Funds, *Do Something* conducts a range of programs nationwide designed to encourage young people to become involved in their communities.

Mademoiselle Magazine and MTV, principal sponsors of the *Do Something* BRICK Award for Community Leadership, will be promoting the BRICK Award. *Mademoiselle* will be financially supporting the program and hosting a fundraising event in New York City honoring the ten winners. MTV will produce and air public service announcements and a documentary highlighting the ten winners.

For more information...

Do Something is seeking to spread the word about the BRICK Award in your community. Please call Claudia Jackson or Lara Galinsky if you can distribute applications and information in your community group, school, religious institution, business, or any other place where young people gather or work.