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For Immediate Release

It's "Lights, Camera, Action!" For Area Teens

*Aspiring Filmmakers Find Their Voice at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's
Free Digital Video Production Class*

(PITTSBURGH, PA – September 6, 2006) –Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is searching for aspiring filmmakers. Interested teens are invited to attend an information session on Thursday, September 21st at 5:30 p.m. in the Library's Teen space in Oakland to learn about the Library's free twelve week media literacy and digital video production class.

During the initial session, prospective students will be introduced to the class, receive hands-on instruction to the video production equipment and have the opportunity to apply to the program. The information session is mandatory for all teens interested in applying to the Library's media class.

Scheduled to run September 28th - December 21st Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's media class offers participants two integrated portions as part of its curriculum: a critical media analysis portion on Tuesdays from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. and a video production portion on Thursdays from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Following the last class students and their families will be treated to a special screening of student work.

Through this program, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh hopes to inspire teens to use media to articulate their own experiences, voices, and worldviews, as well as recognize when racial, gender, sexual or class identities are presented negatively or stereotypically. Traditionally, media classes provide the tools that enable students to present authentic representations of their own culture.

"Today, students are receiving more and more of their information from television, pictures, and other media," said Joseph Wilk, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh Teen Librarian and Program Manager, "However, many students in the Pittsburgh school system are not offered opportunities to develop the information and communication skills needed to live and work with television and movies."

The Library's media class is made possible through a \$49,900 grant from Commonwealth Libraries, Library Service and Technology Act (LSTA). The funding enabled Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh to purchase a wide array of media production equipment, including mini-DV camcorders and tapes, advanced tripods, video production software, Mac G5 workstations and condenser microphones. Teens interested in filmmaking may also borrow materials through the Library's reference collection of popular and historic visual media.

The Library limits the number of program participants in order to provide individualized attention. For additional information or to register for the mandatory information session, please contact Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Teen Services at 412-622-3121.

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About Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

"Free to the People" since 1895

Through its Main Library and network of neighborhood locations, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh serves the dynamic and diverse information needs of people living in western Pennsylvania. The Library is a vital community anchor that provides universal access to literature, culture, art, music, history, business and technology.