

Caribbean Life

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Brooklyn/Staten Island Edition

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OVER 500 CHILDREN AND TEENS DANCED AND SANG AT CLARA BARTON HIGH

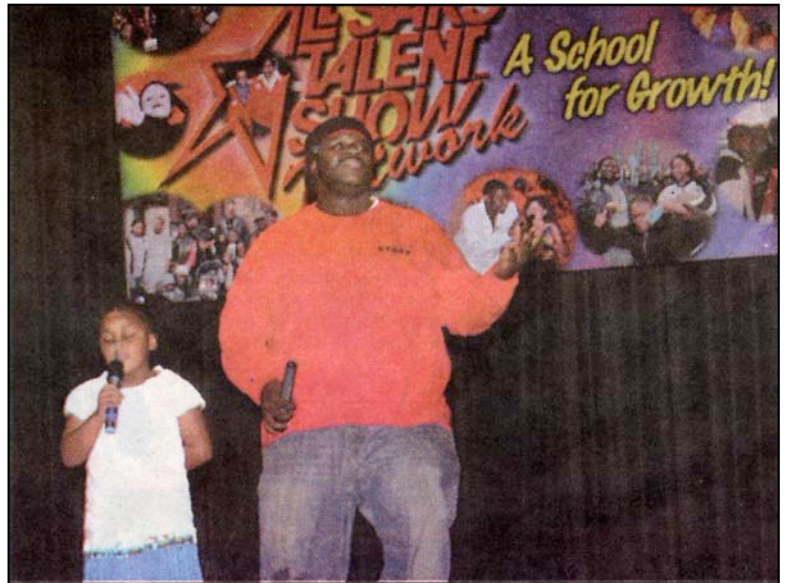
Over 500 young dancers, singers, rappers and steppers — ranging in age from 5 years to 25 years-old — took part in a city-wide youth talent show audition, Saturday, April 15th at Clara Barton High School, on Classon Ave. (between President and Carroll Streets) in Crown Heights, Brooklyn.

Young people from all five boroughs, comprising 79 acts, participated in the event. The audition, sponsored by the All Stars Talent Show Network (ASTSN) — one of the nation's leading youth development programs — began at 1:00pm and ran until 5:00 pm.

The ASTSN is an after school, performance-based enrichment program for inner city youth. Each year, thousands of children and young adults take part in All Stars events including auditions, rehearsals, talent shows and performance workshops. ASTSN events are designed to give every young person who wants one, an opportunity to perform on stage and to learn a host of skills required to produce a live performance.

Stage performances typically range from dance, singing rap, skits and instrumentals either featuring groups or solo performers.

Every young person who auditions makes it. No one is turned away. The young people — with the support of staff and trained



Even the smallest entrants are treated like stars.



Some of the 500 participants wait to take the stage.

volunteers — manage all aspects of the event including the lights, the sound, security, ticket sales, outreach and publicity.

The events take place in communities all across New York City, most often at local high schools, giving the young people a chance to perform before family, friends and neighbors. After the audition, all the young performers take part in performance workshops at the All Stars headquarters on 42nd Street in Manhattan prior to the final stage of the process, the talent show, which is taking place at Clara Barton on May 20 and June 10.

The ASTSN is sponsored by the All Stars Project, a New York City-based nonprofit organization that partners with the private sector — philanthropists and foundations — to bring outside of school educational opportunities to thousands of inner city youth in New York City and Newark, New Jersey. Its youth programs, which employ a performance-based approach to development, include the All Stars Talent Show Network, the Joseph A. Forgiore Development School for Youth, The Production of Youth by Youth and Youth Onstage!

For more information on the ASTSN and the other programs of the All Stars Project, please visit www.allstars.org or call 212-941-9400.