

Project Istwa



Volunteer Opportunity:

Project Istwa is looking for motivated and enthusiastic people to volunteer as facilitators for the Summer 2012 workshops which will be conducted in three rural towns in Haiti. Please use this link to access the application

(<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dFhiZ3BzT185ZHlocEU0TThQVF9hZ2c6MQ>). All applications must be submitted by **Saturday, April 7, 2012 at 11:59pm**.

About Us:

Project Istwa is a series of seven day photovoice workshops for Haitian children ages 10-14. During each workshop, each participant is given a digital camera and has the opportunity to take pictures of their surroundings to show what a day in their life looks like from their perspective. Working with facilitators, the children learn about their cameras and photography, have shooting practice before photographing on their own, discuss which photos they chose to take, and at the end of the week show their photos to their family and friends in a public exhibit in their neighborhood.

The first workshop took place in Cité Soleil, Port-au-Prince, Haiti from July 11-17, 2011 in partnership with the nonprofit organizations Konbit Pou Edikayson (KPE) and the Haitian-American Alliance of New York Inc. (HAA-NY) and a second workshop was conducted from January 3-9, 2012 in the tent city Camp Acra II Juvenat in Pétion-Ville, Port-au-Prince. We plan to complete at least one **Project Istwa** workshop in each of the ten departments of Haiti, as well as a batay in the Dominican Republic, with the goal of allowing children all across the country to express themselves through photography.

While the media coverage of Haiti is significant, particularly after the 2010 earthquake, the opportunities for Haitians themselves to portray their views and perspectives directly are limited. The purpose of **Project Istwa** is to allow participants to use photography to communicate what is important to them and how they see their world. We have several goals for the project; first and foremost, the hope is that the children simply have fun and that they find the project fulfilling. While that is the main priority, **Project Istwa** is also designed both as a community building activity as the children will be participating in a group, but also as an empowering exercise that will hopefully leave them with a feeling that their voices and perspectives matter.

For More Info:

If you would like to get a better sense of **Project Istwa**, please visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/projectistwa) or Twitter page (www.twitter.com/projectistwa). You also can send your questions to projectistwa@gmail.com