

I'm an urban leaguer,
I'm a hip-hop reader,
My peers and I
realize that we're
community leaders,
who read, write,
heed, and recite
these lines, cipher
with some authors
who know the times,
some politicians who
don't get flustered
by the rhymes, some
real teachers who
inspire us to shine,
in triple darkness,
what's in our hearts
and in our minds,
take heed of these
rhymes because
they're signs of
the times.



WHAT IS HIP-HOP READER?



Marc Morial, President
National Urban League

Hip-Hop Reader is a youth literacy and leadership program designed to enhance the reading interest, technology usage, and civic engagement of urban high school students.

The program is being piloted in New York City through funding from the Verizon Foundation with the support of the New York City Department of Education and Public Libraries.

Students who register for the program on www.hiphopreader.com can interact with members of the Hip-Hop Reader Leadership Council, which consists of hip-hop artists, educators, public servants, and other celebrities who create the Hip-Hop Reader Reading List.

Students can earn prize-redeemable points for reading lyrics, poetry, and books on the Hip-Hop Reader Reading List, and for participating in local events. Points can be redeemed for prizes, which are donated by merchandise sponsors and shipped to students via their schools.

Top photo: Students at a Hip-Hop Reader event holding up vouchers for prize-redeemable points. Photo credit: Johnny Nunez.

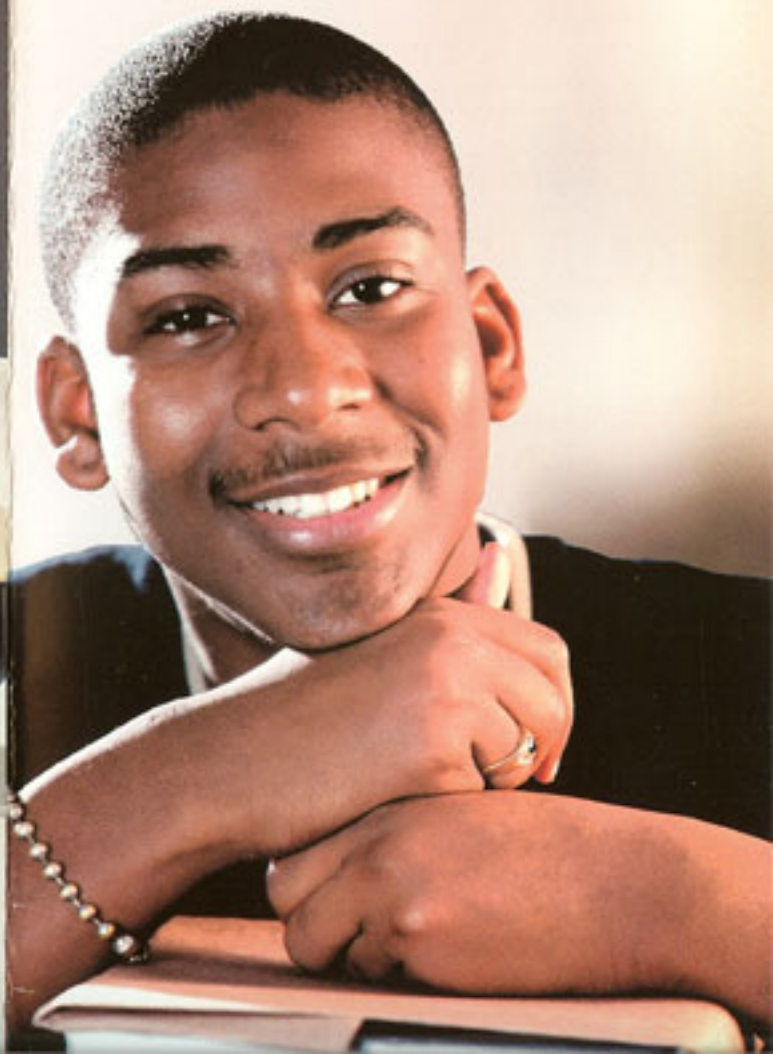
NYC SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING IN HIP-HOP READER™

A. Philip Randolph HS
Adlai E. Stevenson HS
Beacon at I.S. 168
Beacon at I.S. 220
Beacon at M.S. 222
Boys and Girls HS
Clara Barton HS
DeWitt Clinton HS
Economics & Finance HS
Franklin K. Lane HS
George W. Wingate HS
Harry S. Truman HS
Legacy School for Integrated Studies
Murray Bergtraum HS
Park West HS
School for Democracy & Leadership HS
And more ...



HIP-HOP READER™

A youth literacy & leadership program

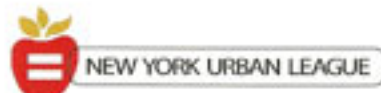




REVEREND RUN FARNSWORTH BENTLEY KEVIN LILES JOE BUDDEN RUSSELL SIMMONS BEN CHAVIS HOWARD DODSON MARC MORIAL

PROGRAM PARTNERS

The Verizon Foundation is proud to partner with the National Urban League on the Hip-Hop Reader program. Verizon is committed to being the leader in America's campaign to raise literacy levels by orchestrating a national platform that increases funding and community awareness and supports a wide diversity of literacy programs.



HIP-HOP READER READING LIST

Below is a sample of the reading materials on the Hip-Hop Reader

A Lawyer's Life
by Johnnie Cochran,
with David Fisher
100 pts.

*It's Empowerment
Time In America*
by Marc H. Morial
50 pts.

*American Paradox:
Young Black Men*
by Renford R. Reese
100 pts.

Keep Ya Head Up
by Tupac Shakur
5 pts.

December 4th
by Jay-Z
5 pts.

*Life and Def: Sex,
Drugs, Money, and
God*
by Russell Simmons
100 pts.

*EARL: The
Autobiography of DMX*
by DMX and Smokey
Fontaine
100 pts.

*The Autobiography of
Malcolm X*
by Malcolm X
200 pts.

Fences
by August Wilson
100 pts.

The Bluest Eye
by Toni Morrison
100 pts.

I Can
by Nas
5 pts.

Things Fall Apart
by Chinua Achebe
100 pts.

REDEEMABLE PRIZES

Prizes have been donated to the Hip-Hop Reader program from a variety of merchandise sponsors. Hip-Hop Reader merchandise sponsors currently include:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Run Athletics | Roc-A-Wear |
| Phat Farm | Sean John |
| Baby Phat | Barnes & Noble |
| Def Jam University | Microsoft |



Do you want to sponsor the Hip-Hop Reader program and/or provide in-kind products or services? Contact David Lowenstein at (212) 558-5347 or email him at info@hiphopreader.com

Above photo: Members of the Hip-Hop Reader Leadership Council. Photo credit: Johnny Nunez.

