

Youth Venture

GIRL, PLEASE MAGAZINE VENTURE TEAM



THEIR IDEA:

- Provide a forum for students to voice their opinions, uncensored.
- Learn skills related to journalism, editing, and publishing a magazine.
- Encourage school-wide participation in their Venture.

THEIR IMPACT:

- Printed and distributed two issues in their school so far, with a third on the way.
- Expanded to involve a diverse team of student staff writers and contributors.

Mary and Manaya, students at El Colegio High School in South Minneapolis, launched *Girl, Please Magazine* in 2007 in order to give a voice to urban young people at their school. They wanted to provide a place for students to fully express their thoughts in a youth-run, uncensored forum.

Girl, Please Magazine is a magazine Venture that aims to involve the entire student body in discussing topics that are important to young people, while exploring the field of journalism and publishing along the way.

Girl, Please has tackled some interesting and significant topics in their magazine so far. The most recent issue featured articles on the presidential election, sexual education, respect, and an interview with a new El Colegio teacher. The team of writers consistently asks for input from other students in an attempt to give more young people a voice in the magazine and increase readership. The magazine also regularly holds fundraisers to help pay for printing costs and increase awareness about their work.

In the future, *Girl, Please Magazine* hopes to become a model for youth self-expression and branch out to many other schools and organizations. They hope to inspire other young people to speak out about issues that are important to them in an uninhibited manner. And they hope to continue to produce issues filled with interesting, topical material, giving a voice to urban youth.



“WE ARE NOT ONLY A MAGAZINE THAT TALKS ABOUT NEW TRENDS AND ISSUES, WE ARE ALSO AN INSPIRATIONAL MAGAZINE... ALMOST LIKE ROLE MODELS FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE TOO AFRAID TO STAND UP.”