



April 11, 2013

Hey, fashion fanatic! Here's a paid internship opportunity for you!

The Dr. Beverly J. Robinson Community Folk Culture Program (FC) is accepting applications from youth 14-21 for its Summer 2013 season. The theme for Summer 2013 is "**STUDIES OF SWAG!**" Together, we will explore why we do what we do in fashion (both male and female) and how fashion relates to who we are. We are particularly interested in exploring African, Caribbean, Latin American and Indo-Asian immigrant communities.

**Summer 2013 runs from July 16 – August 15, 2013, Tuesday through Thursday from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM each week. Interns will receive a stipend totaling \$300.00-400.00 for participation, completion of assignments, attendance and number of years experience in the FC Program.**

FC Interns will explore fashion, clothing and adornment through the generations. The hottest fashion designers, textile designers, tailors/seamstresses, fashionistas and fly guys of the community will be interviewed and presented. Activities will also include street-fashion research, field trips and photography/videography lessons. *Pure fire!* We also need you to research the dress arts in your own family...

**The FC Program requires dedicated interns who will be on time and present each day, in addition to completing their multi-media assignments.**

Important dates for the FC Program are as follows:

- The submission deadline for applications is Wednesday – May 29, 2013 at 5:00 PM.
- Applicants who submit complete applications by the deadline will be interviewed June 12-14, 2013.
- Successful applicants will be informed on Friday, June 21, 2013.
- The Dr. Beverly J. Robinson Program begins at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, July 16, 2013.

Note: If you hand-deliver the application and I am not in the office, please make sure it gets into the hands of Betsy Hastedt, the General Manager of Mind-Builders. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the FC Program and/or application. I may be reached at Mind-Builders (718) 652-6256. You can also contact me at [folkculture@mind-builders.org](mailto:folkculture@mind-builders.org).

Sincerely,

Jade D. Banks, Director

The Dr. Beverly J. Robinson Community Folk Culture Program



# DR. BEVERLY J. ROBINSON COMMUNITY FOLK CULTURE PROGRAM

**"Studies of Swag!"**

**Summer 2013**

**Application**

## **GENERAL INFORMATION FORM**

Today's Date

How did you learn of the Folk Culture Program?

First Name

Last Name

Address

Apartment #

City

State

Zip

Age

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY)

Social Security# (is needed to pay you)

Home Phone

Mobile Phone

Email address

Facebook name and/or address

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Parent / Guardian Name

Relationship to You

Home Phone

Work Phone

Mobile Phone

Email Address

Emergency Contact #1 - Name

Relationship to You

Phone (home or mobile?)

Email Address

Emergency Contact #2 - Name

Relationship to You

Phone (home or mobile?)

Email Address

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School /College (current)

Grade Level (current)

Favorite Subjects

Special Interests / Hobbies / Talents / Abilities

Future Career Goals

What do you wish to gain from this experience?

What will you add to the Dr. Beverly J. Robinson Community Folk Culture Program? How will you be an asset?

## WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT

The following assignment is in three parts.

You must complete all three parts.

### PART ONE – CLOTHING (SARTORIAL) AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Complete the following activity. Answer completely on a separate sheet of paper (identified as **PART ONE**) and attach to your completed application.

Using the questions below and a photo of yourself in a favorite outfit, write your own clothing (sartorial) autobiography in essay form. Please refer to a sample Sartorial Cultural Autobiography on the following page by a teen intern of the Dr. Beverly J. Robinson Community Folk Culture Program. Include that photo of yourself – which shows off your clothing (sartorial) style – with your essay.

1. How do you dress?
2. Why do you dress the way you do?
3. What does your clothing say about you?
4. Please describe some of the groups that you belong to, are related to, or identify with. These groups or communities may be formal or informal. They may be based on family, ethnic or cultural, social, educational, neighborhood, political, religious/spiritual, occupational, or friendship ties (e.g., Senegalese, Dominican, spoken word artist, high school student, Harlem, radical, conservative, Catholic, Rasta, artist, skateboarder, etc.).
5. How does your dress relate to your community/communities?
6. Does your dress style change according to the event and/or the people around which you plan to encounter? Why/why not? Please describe.

### PART TWO – ADORNMENT ACTIVITIES

Choose **one (1)** activity from the list below. Answer completely on a separate sheet of paper (identified as **PART TWO**) and attach to your completed application.

1. Using current magazines, catalogs or websites, construct an outfit for yourself from head-to-toe. Cut out photos including: 1) hairstyle/headgear, 2) clothing, 3) jewelry and 4) footwear. Paste/glue photos onto a separate piece of paper. To make it really interesting, you may want to also include photos of piercings, tattoos and makeup (if applicable).
2. *Fresh*, *phat* and *def* are old-school, hip-hop adjectives used to describe a fashionable person in the early-mid 1980's. List three (3) adjectives used by today's hip-hop generation to describe a well-dressed person in current fashions. Please provide a definition for each word and then use in separate sentences.
3. Using a current magazine ad/photo featuring a stylish person, please describe what makes the person stylish by today's standards. You must include the following in your description: hair style, head-gear (if any), makeup (if any), clothing, jewelry, footwear, tattoos (if any), piercings (if any) and hosiery.

### PART THREE – RESOURCES FROM IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES

Complete the following activity. Answer completely on a separate sheet of paper (identified as **PART THREE**) and attach to your completed application.

1. Provide the name, address, telephone number, e-mail address and website (if possible) of an immigrant artist/artisan (from Africa, the Caribbean or Central America) in the traditions of jewelry-making, dress-making, textile design, fashion design, tailoring, hat-making, tattoo arts, piercings and makeup.

# Sartorial Cultural Autobiography

By Trevor Pascal  
a/k/a "Trevs"



There are many different words that can describe the way I dress: "skater-esque", "city-boy", "preppy", "stylish"—but my favorite word has to be "different." Not because I don't like to be like everyone else, but because I'm creative. I am always doing something different with my clothes, and because of it, I belong to a multitude of communities of style.

A typical outfit of mine now is a crew-neck tee shirt, a cardigan, and my dark-colored skinny jeans. On my arms, I wear I about three or four bracelets: an "eyeball" bead drawstring cuff bracelet, a luau from my prom that I braided and wrapped around my wrist as a mobile memory of my prom and ultimately, my senior year of high school. I have another drawstring cuff, which I sometimes call my good luck bracelet, with a scorpion amber fossil bead. I also have a yin-yang bracelet

that I wear sometimes. I almost never leave my house without my Chuck Taylor Converse. I have them in six colors and styles. And how ever could I forget my 80s style "schoolboy" glasses?

I am a part of many different style communities: New-York-City-urban, Black-American, school kid, preppy, and artist, just to name a few. My urban community is basically one that everyone is familiar with, and can encompass anyone. So, I feel that there really aren't any standards for dress in this day and age.

*Senior intern, Trevor Pascal, sports a "stingy brim" hat during an interview of Audrey Bailey, milliner, at Mind-Builders Creative Arts Center in the Bronx. Fellow senior intern, Diane Williams, is pictured with Trevs. (Photo courtesy of the Dr. Beverly J. Robinson Community Folk Culture Program at Mind-Builders Creative Arts Center.)*



## PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT

**This page must be completed by a parent/guardian, if you're under 18 years of age.  
If you're 18+ years of age, you may complete it yourself.**

I understand that (applicant's name) \_\_\_\_\_ would like to be chosen as an intern for the Dr. Beverly Robinson Community Folk Culture Program. If s/he is selected, I agree to give the minor mentioned above permission to:

- (1) Participate fully in activities, interviews and presentations – both onsite and offsite.
- (2) Interview me and other family members in order to gather information about family cultural backgrounds and childhood memories as part of field research assignments.
- (3) Partake in program fieldtrips throughout the Bronx and other boroughs of New York City; ride on buses, subways and in hired vehicles.
- (4) Be photographed, audio-recorded and video-recorded during the documentation of the Program and its related activities; images and/or sound may be published in print and/or online.

### MEDICAL INFORMATION

Has the applicant listed above been exposed to any communicable disease during the three weeks preceding attendance (e.g., mumps, chicken pox, German measles, etc.)? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Medication(s) currently taking:

\_\_\_\_\_

Does the applicant listed above have any conditions and/or allergies which modify activity (e.g., asthma, seizures, heart conditions, convulsions, rheumatic fever)? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please explain:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Does your child have any learning differences (e.g., ADHD, speech or hearing impairment, autism, etc.) we should know about in order to provide an optimal learning experience? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please explain:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**I hereby authorize Mind-Builders' program staff to obtain necessary emergency medical treatment for my child with the understanding that the child's family will be notified as soon as possible.**

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR *COMPLETE* APPLICATION  
TO MIND-BUILDERS CREATIVE ARTS CENTER  
BY 5:00 PM WEDNESDAY – MAY 29, 2013.**

**INTERVIEWS FOR SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS  
WILL BE HELD JUNE 12-14, 2013.**

**ALL CANDIDATES WILL BE NOTIFIED OF ACCEPTANCE INTO THE PROGRAM  
BY FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2013.**

**PROGRAM START DATE IS TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2013.  
PROGRAM ENDING DATE IS THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2013.**

For further information, please contact:

**The Dr. Beverly J. Robinson Community Folk Culture Program  
Mind-Builders Creative Arts Center**

Jade D. Banks, Director

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