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### **Filmmaker Corinne Manabat to Lead Seattle Youth Media Justice Organization**

Youth Media Institute (YMI) is proud to announce the addition of Seattle-based filmmaker Corinne Manabat as our executive director. Manabat joins Youth Media Institute with over a decade of media and youth organizing experience.

Originally from New York City, Corinne Manabat started off as an independent documentary filmmaker and media educator. She is the winner of the 2005 ImaginAsian TV's PSA Contest for Asian-Pacific-American Heritage Month with her spoken word montage "Proud and Free," dedicated to her deceased grandfather. As a filmmaker, she has been dedicated to using documentary media to tell the stories of people on the periphery of mainstream media, especially youth of color.

Manabat was also a coordinator and educator for a pilot program called Asian Girls Empowerment through Media (AGEM) Workshop, a 10-workshop series in video production and media literacy for Asian female teenagers during the summer of 2009. That same year, media arts organization Third World Newsreel selected her documentary short, "Excuse My Gangsta Ways," to be screened at the New York City Museum of Modern Art and went on to screen at venues across the nation.

YMI founder Sharon Maeda, praises Manabat's experience in both the worlds of media and youth organizing. "Third World Newsreel in New York has a national reputation for making and distributing social justice media. I know that Corinne will carry on that great tradition here. I have no doubt that she will mentor YMI youth to become awesome media makers and social justice advocates."

Corinne Manabat begins officially begins in January 2012 where Youth Media Institute has much planned for the new year, including this summer's Youth Out Loud Program and expanding their fee-for-service offerings.

YMI Board President Marcos Martinez is excited to have Manabat lead the organization. "She is an accomplished media producer with a focus on youth development and a strong social justice orientation; and she is also a capable administrator. These are exactly the qualities the Youth Media Institute requires in a leader."

More about Youth Media Institute can be found at: [www.youthmediaseattle.org](http://www.youthmediaseattle.org).