



L.A. County youth -- Singers, Songwriters, Musicians -- We Want Your Songs!

Have you ever felt 'dissed' by someone because of who you are? Would you like to write a song about ending hatred, perform it with others, get professionally produced, start your recording career and change people's prejudices and perceptions through your music?

The Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations' **zerohour: No Haters Here!** youth initiative and the non-profit organization **Oneness** are proud to announce **Project: One**, a county-wide search for musically talented youth, ages 14-18. Everyone who attends **Project: One's** free songwriters' workshops and trainings will have a chance to write and perform songs that could lead to a professional recording opportunity and inspire positive change in our community...& the world.

Music can unify people, cultures and society. Now more than ever, we need music that champions racial equality, social justice and ending hatred. To encourage the creation of that powerful new music, the L.A. County Commission on Human Relations' **zerohour** program, in collaboration with **Oneness**, a national non-profit music industry organization focused on eliminating racism and promoting the oneness of humanity, announces this innovative effort to nurture and inspire the talent of tomorrow. Speaking out against racism and intolerance, and promoting social justice through music, **Project: One** invites all L.A. County youth to write and perform songs that challenge ignorance, insensitivity and disrespect – songs that will help bring our community together.

Project: One came about through the original *Songwriter's Summit for Oneness* first created six years ago. This year, through the Human Relations Commission's **zerohour** sessions and workshop, the opportunity to work with state-of-the-art recording equipment and mentorship by award winning, hit-making producers and songwriters, participants will have the opportunity to create a message with their music. **Project: One** invites all L.A. County youth to write the songs that bring out the best in themselves, and challenge the "haters" to stop.

Project: One offers a powerful and potentially life-changing experience, as well as unique ways for diverse youth to come together and create music that inspires positive change. Young songwriters will draw upon their personal experiences with racism, bias, sexism, and sexual orientation or religious intolerance from peers, classmates, family, neighbors, the media and others – and then write the "soundtrack" for a new generation.

The program has three phases. Phase 1 is designed to aid youth in addressing issues of intolerance with their music through a series of "Music & Dialogue" sessions. Phase 2 is the actual Songwriters' Workshop, a day-long event where students will create songs inspired by the ideals of understanding, acceptance and unity. Phase 3 is featuring music written at the summit at concerts, on the internet, and on participating radio stations. Selected teams of musicians and songwriters will later join professional producers in their studios to produce and record their songs. A panel of diverse music professionals will consider a variety of factors, including response to the songs posted on youtube.com, and choose 10 of the participating teams and their songs for inclusion on the final **Project: One** CD.

For more information go to the **zerohour** website (www.zerohour.com), you can also visit the **Project: One** MySpace page (www.myspace.com/projectonela), or go on Facebook and add **zerohour Los Angeles** as a friend.