



## The Coalition for Youth OF LOWER MERION AND NARBERTH

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### **8 HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL ACTS will be FINALISTS in "BATTLE OF THE BURBS" FEB. 4TH**

On Saturday, February 4, eight high school bands/acts will perform at Milkboy Ardmore in a teen music competition, "Battle of the Burbs." The event will be co-sponsored by the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) of the Coalition for Youth of Lower Merion and Narberth, Milkboy Coffee and Harcum Music School. YAC is a consortium of 30 students from eight public and private high schools, including Agnes Irwin, Baldwin, Barrack Hebrew Academy, Friends Central, Haverford School, Harriton, Lower Merion and Shipley.

The competition begins at 7 pm. Admission at the door is \$5.

Emceeding will be Andy Blackman Hurwitz, an entertainment lawyer and founder of Ropeadope and Baby Loves Music record companies. Hurwitz is working with students at Lower Merion and Harriton High Schools to create a high school record label. The judges include: "Schoolly D," a hip-hop pioneer; Jamie Lokoff, a partner in Milkboy Coffee and Milkboy the Studio, and Pete Anderson, a recording executive.

"Our goal is to bring together teens from schools in the greater Main Line area through the common denominator of music, and to showcase youth talent," says Paula Singer, a Coalition for Youth member who is advising the students organizing the show. "Our community partners, Milkboy and Harcum Music School, are making it possible for the teens to produce a fantastic entertainment event."

The finalists will be chosen from 28 musical acts that auditioned in January from high schools including: Lower Merion, Harriton, Baldwin, Barrack Hebrew Academy, Shipley, Merion Mercy, Radnor, Conestoga, Marple Newtown and Nueva Esperanza Academy.

The grand prize will be five hours of recording time at MilkBoy the Studio and release of a single through ATR Records, a Lower Merion and Harriton student record label. Second prize is two hours of recording time, and third prize is a month of guitar lessons at Harcum Music School.

Mike Caroto, an instructor at Harcum Music School, who sponsors an "Open Mic" night at Milkboy on the first Wednesday of each month to give young musicians a venue to perform, says, "It is such a great experience to provide education and performance opportunities to the students. We're really excited to be a sponsor of this show."

In conjunction with the concert, YAC students will be raising funds for Girls Rock Philly, a music and mentoring organization dedicated to empowering girls through music.

Generous donors to "Battle of the Burbs" include: Milkboy the Studio, Bryn Mawr Hospital, Todd Marrone graphic artist, Custom Discount Apparel, Virgo III Ltd. , Lucky Girl, and Summer Music Programs.

YAC was founded in 2009 in response to a survey of some 5,000 Main Line students that showed that youth felt very low support from the community outside their homes and schools. The Coalition for Youth of Lower Merion and Narberth is a partnership of community agencies, adults and young people working to create a safe and healthy environment for youth, and to reduce drug and alcohol use. For additional details, call: 484-337-8731 or <http://www.coalitionforyouthlmn.org/>

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