



YOUTH FORUM REPORT 1980-1981

CHICAGO COMMUNITIES 'Standing Tall For The '80s'

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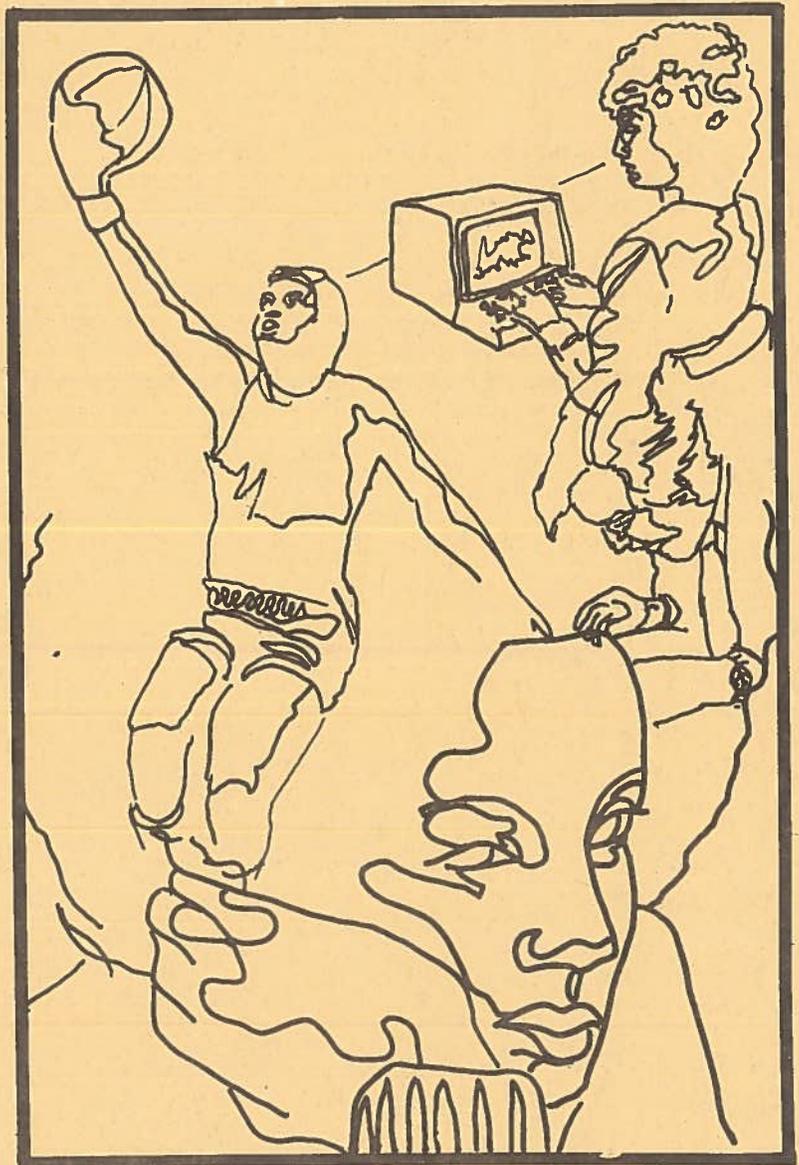
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**THE HALES FRANCISCAN STORY AND SYMBOL
CREATED BY STUDENTS DURING THE ALL SCHOOL
YOUTH FORUM FEBRUARY 11, 1981**

This isn't a "once upon a time" or a "fairy tale composition." This is a real happening. This is the HALES FRANCISCAN STORY. From an empty lot in 1962 at 4930 Cottage Grove, during the presidency of John F. Kennedy, rose a golden building called HALES FRANCISCAN HIGH SCHOOL. The Building was given optimistic support on Dedication Day by Mayor Richard Daley. Walking up those steps in 1962, 1963, 1964 you would hear the names of Father Titus, Father Joseph, Father Columban, Mr. Joseph Buckhalter. These are names in the past which have made us able to stand here today.

Walk into the gym. You can hear the roar of the crowd cheering Sam Puckett, All Lewis, Jerrell Fort, and the Gray Brothers. Listen in the classrooms to the sounds of successful alumni in every walk of life. All these symbols of the past give us the hope we have today.

The present challenge of many young Black men here at the home of the Spartans is to become the best they can become, to be able to stand out from other and say, "I AM SOMEBODY." I am the man I want to be, and I am damn proud of it. The men here at Hales today, Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors, must strive in every way to achieve academic goals, athletic standards, to do their best. These are challenges that everyone of us must face here at Hales or destroy our past and ourselves.

Gentlemen, the present is here. The struggle is now, to win, to continue a heritage of greatness. The challenge is to learn so that we can earn. The challenge is to respect our opinions, to respect with attention, the visions and hopes of others.

The future of Hales is now. The dream to again to be #1, to have a winning team. To have a winning attitude begins as we see ourselves and others as willing to sacrifice to win, to accept the challenge of tomorrow.

The future demands that we must prepare ourselves now. The money will be there if the challenge and the future are worthy of belief.

We must begin anew. We must keep the Spartan Spirit the sign of our future: "UNTO PERFECT MANHOOD!"

PREPARING TODAY'S YOUTH FOR TOMORROWS WORLD

Traditionally youth has been the hope of every society. Today's youth are searching for effective ways to participate meaningfully in our increasingly complex technological society. The Community Youth Forum is designed as a leadership and methods training experience. The aim of the Forum is to enable the group to create short-term, workable plans of community service that the group will do. This is done through methods of planning, teamwork and workshops. The following is representative of the thinking of youth taken from the documents of the Community Youth Forums done during the Chicago Program Series.

YOUTH PRESIDUM

Youth from Chicago hosted a North American Conference on youth and the future.

The Second Annual Youth Presidium was held in February of 1981, in Chicago. Seventy-three people came together from across the continent to discuss the state of the Youth Revolution, to look at trends and new directions, and to discern the role of youth in society.

The Presidium brought forth ideas and images through workshops, brainstorming and plenaries. From the data collected, five arenas of concern of youth today emerged: 1) Collapse of Family Structures, 2) Economic Stability, 3) Education for vocation, 4) Rites of Passage, and 5) Individual Engagement in Society. Fifteen trends were identified and four fundamental responses to each arena were consensed upon.

One thing that will be remembered is that there is a real power in being individuals, yet working corporately. As one of our rituals quoted:

"If I am not for myself,
who will be for me?
And if I am only for myself,
what am I?
And if not now, when?"

CHICAGO YOUTH ENCOUNTER:

- Racial discrimination
- Family collapse
- Failing family and youth support groups
- Unfocused vocational education
- Negative image of youth by the community
- Uncaring neighborhoods
- Parents blocked in participating in educational system and in community services

CHICAGO COMMUNITY YOUTH FORUMS

March 1980-March 1981

Group	No.'s
Neighborhood Boys Club	19
Youth Service Project Inc.	19
West-Side YWCA, Michelle Roberts School	35
Youth Network Council	15
St. Agatha's Church	31
Corpus Christi Church	20
Hales Franciscan School Key Club	50
Hales Franciscan School	400
Garfield Alternative High School	60
Hyde Park YMCA	10
Greater Roseland Association	15
Southwest YMCA	27
ICA Youth Presidium	73
4 Facilitators Training Sessions	70
TOTAL	774

CHICAGO

YOUTH DREAM OF:

- People of different races working together
- People of different ages cooperating in communities
- Neighborhood action programs supported by citizens, officials and groups.
- The creation of the new family supported by the community
- A new educational curriculum and activities formulated by youth, faculty and administration
- Adequate school and community preparation of youth for vocation and society involvement
- Development of youth as responsible, contributing citizens

CHICAGO YOUTH PROPOSE:

- Distribution of school newspaper in the community to communicate youth issues today
- Youth participation with community groups in solving community problems
- Youth sponsored activities to help unite the community in a common purpose
- Youth participation in school policy making
- Youth outreach meetings with alderman and representatives as a step to involvement in government
- Youth participation in community fund raising activities such as day care centers, elderly assistance programs, neighborhood beautification and community celebrations.
- Youth created events that will support the school and involve the parents



THE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM SERIES is offered under local sponsorship by a volunteer staff of specially trained community leaders. THE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM SERIES was developed by the Institute of Cultural Affairs, a not-for-profit research, demonstration and training group concerned with the human factor in world development. The ICA staff and its consultants work with local groups to coordinate program development and provide resources, training and follow-up services upon request. For further information, contact ICA.

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