



Friends Of Prevention Coalition Underage Drinking Committee  
Presents:

The 2009  
***"Too Smart to Start"***  
**Teens Against  
Underage Drinking  
Step-Team Exhibition**

In the early seventies, colleges and universities used step-shows as a recruitment tool. The energetic and expressively choreographed steps became motivational tools to rally people behind a cause of a particular organization (Fraternities, Sororities, Political organizations, etc.). Since then, step-shows have become a huge platform to engage young people's interest and encourage creativity. They often attract large crowds ranging from 10 to 1,000-plus at a single event. Recently, there have been major motion pictures highlighting the skill and the culture of step-teams (i.e. *Stomp the Yard*, *School Daze*, *Step Up*, etc.). The Friends of Prevention Coalition wants to bring this phenomenon to the young Richmond audience.

We plan to use our step-show as an opportunity to rally the interest and increase involvement of youth in the Richmond Metropolitan Area regarding alternatives to drinking alcohol. The *"Too Smart to Start: Step-Team Exhibition"* is designed to convey the message of positive youth action against underage drinking while showcasing the exciting and innovative culture within our neighborhoods. There is *"new hope"* and *"change"* getting ready to take place in our community that we want our youth to embrace and become agents of positive change.

During the step-show intermissions we will provide informational segments on community events, organizations, or activities of sponsoring agencies focused on keeping our young audience excited about and engaged in productive underage drinking prevention programs.

The step-show will host Middle and High school Step-teams from youth-serving agencies in the City of Richmond. This is an event you and your step team WILL NOT WANT TO MISS!!!

Once your organization returns the required paperwork, your advisor will be contacted and given an audition date and time from a representative of the Underage Drinking Committee (UDC). As we can only accommodate a limited number of teams for the show, team slots will be reserved based upon the decision of the audition panel.



**Important Dates to Remember:**

**Friday March 27-** All Applications are due (mailed or faxed)

**Mon-Wed March 30 -4/1** – Notification of Audition (Your specific Time and audition location)

**Saturday April 4-** Step-team Audition (All music, lyrics and steps must be confirmed)

**Friday April 10-** All selected step teams will be notified of their acceptance

**Monday April 13-** Step Team Sponsor conference call Meeting (Further information will be given to the sponsors of the selected teams on April 3<sup>rd</sup>)

**Thursday April 30-** Dress rehearsal (All costumes must be selected by this date to be approved)

**Saturday May 2-** The *Too Smart To Start Step-team Exhibition* at the Landmark Theater 2pm

**\* All Step-teams wishing to participate in the Step-show MUST adhere to requirements and attend all above dates. All participating teams will be required to present a “walk through” of their performance at the above date and a time specified by the committee. If by chance your team is unable to make the designated time, then you will forgo your “walk through” time and may be excluded from the competition. Also, all team sponsors MUST participate in the conference call on April 13<sup>th</sup> at 6pm or they will relinquish their team’s participation in the step-show. Teams are required to be at the show no later than 12:30 pm on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The stepping portion of the show will start promptly at 2 pm and doors will open for all spectators at 1:30am. The show will last roughly around 2.5 hours. *Deadline for application must be received or postdated by March 27, 2009.***



## Step-Show Entry Form

\* **Step Teams must consist of no less than 4 members to participate\***

1) Name of Organization/Address

\_\_\_\_\_

2) Name of Step Team

\_\_\_\_\_

3) Team Sponsor /Coordinator Name

\_\_\_\_\_

4) Address \_\_\_\_\_

5) City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

6) Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

7) Phone No. (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

8) Email: \_\_\_\_\_

9) Number of Persons Stepping \_\_\_\_\_

10) Please list the names of your step team members (Roster may be submitted)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**All registration forms and contracts must be received or post marked by Friday March 27, 2009.**

Send form to:

**Wayne Williams**

Manterfly Youth Development, Inc.  
10049 Midlothian Turnpike Suite M  
Richmond, VA 23235

For any additional information, Please contact:

**Mark Taylor at 612-3484 or 330-2877**

**Or email at [manterfly@msn.com](mailto:manterfly@msn.com)**

Once the application and contract have been received, a Friends of Prevention representative will contact the step team sponsor.



## Rules & Regulations

- 1) All teams must report to the audition(s) and scheduled events on time.  
  
\*If a team member is found to be grossly un-sportsmanlike or causing a disruption to the show, the team will be disqualified. This will include any profanity, nudity, vulgarity and especially excessive gyrations, humping the floor, eating pie, sexually explicit material, etc. or unnecessary disrespect shown to anyone, or any organization on or off stage by any team member, will result in removal.
- 2) No pyrotechnics (fire), helium balloons or confetti is permitted. The UDC representative must approve all other props and special requirements. Props and all special requirements must be submitted for approval 48 hours prior to the event.
- 3) Each team will have a total of 3 minutes to perform; this includes both the introduction and exit steps. Teams exceeding their time will have selected music terminated.
- 4) Each team must have all music cued on one CD prior to the performance date. Teams will provide a back-up CD. Music submitted is the music that will be played during the performance. A person should be assigned to instruct the sound person as to when music is needed during the show.
- 5) Members of your organization other than those specified to perform may not be backstage or on stage any time during the show.
- 6) Anyone found attempting to sneak people, alcohol, drugs or other contraband into the show will have their team expelled from the performance and removed from the property.
- 7) Friends of Prevention Coalition, and Underage Drinking Committee members, will not be held responsible for the actions of the participants.
- 8) Each team will be required to include a traditional step in the show. All step materials such as music, step routines, and lyrics will be subject to review by the Underage Drinking Committee Review board.
- 9) Step-teams should consist of Richmond area Middle and High school students only. If you are not attending a Middle school or a High School in the Richmond Area then you may not be aloud to participate in the ***Too Smart to Start Step-Team Exhibition***.
- 10) THIS STEP SHOW IS ABOUT THE DANGERS OF UNDERAGE DRINKING!!  
Each original step performance must express, orally, the underage drinking message of the event.  
\*\* Any performance not including a clear message against underage drinking may not be permitted in the showcase.



## Underage Drinking Committee Step-Show Contract

The Underage Drinking Committee (Hereinafter "UDC") and \_\_\_\_\_ (Hereinafter "Step Team").

1. Whereas the UDC agrees to plan, organize and execute a step show to be called the "*Too Smart to Start: Step-Team Exhibition*" (hereinafter called "Step-Show") to be held at the Landmark Theater on Saturday May 2, 2009 from 2-5pm.
2. The UDC agrees to provide a suitable venue for the Step-Show, including but not limited to efficient sound equipment, secure staging, staffing and all other production requirements to facilitate the successful presentation of the program.

### Step Team Agrees:

1. To adhere to the Rules, Regulations and Performance Criteria, which is part of this agreement. Anyone found attempting to sneak people, alcohol, drugs or other contraband into the show will have their team expelled from the performance and removed from the property.
2. To perform at the Step Show according to the agreed upon audition routine and guidelines as stated in the Mandatory Sponsors Conference call.
3. To arrive at audition (s) and performance, and to participate in the mandatory conference call (or appoint a designee) as indicated by the UDC.
4. To return the contract as per the stated deadlines. Information must be mailed and/or faxed to the address provided.
5. The Step Team represents by the signature below that they are authorized to enter into this performance agreement by their sponsoring agency.

\*\*\* All Sponsoring Agencies must provide proof of parental/guardian consent for each participating step team member.

6. The Step Team represents by the signature below that they grant Friends of Prevention Coalition and UDC the rights to use their image for use in video production and promotional materials related to ***Too Smart to Start: Step-Team Exhibition*** activities and the **Friends of Prevention Coalition**. By granting permission, participating individuals release Friends of Prevention from all liability.
7. The Step Team assumes all risk in its performance of all activities authorized by this agreement and is responsible for all actions whatsoever committed by your team that may cause harm or injury to persons or property. Friends of Prevention Coalition, and Underage Drinking Committee members, will not be held responsible for the actions of the participants.



In witness thereof, the Step Team and UDC representative have executed this agreement the day and year indicated below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
UDC Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Step Team Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date