18th Annual Allied Media Conference Celebrates 10 Years in Detroit

DETROIT June 6, 2016 - The 18th annual Allied Media Conference (AMC) will take place June 16-19 at Wayne State University, celebrating its 10 year anniversary in Detroit. Every year the conference brings together a vibrant and diverse community of people using media to incite change: filmmakers, radio producers, technologists, youth organizers, writers, entrepreneurs, musicians, dancers, and visual artists.

Over 18 years the AMC has grown to become the largest and most important national convening exploring the intersection of technology, media arts, and social change. The AMC is a space where every year new books, curricula, toolkits, and online tools and apps are released. It has been a critical gathering space for the launch or acceleration of successful campaigns such as:

- Prison Phone Justice which lobbied to end extortionary rates in the U.S. Prison Telephone Industry;
- The Low Power FM movement which resulted in the landmark Local Community Radio Act, expanding access to the airwaves;
- The first national convening of the Black Lives Matter movement, held at the 2015 AMC.

Through a year-round decentralized organizing process, the AMC has built a local and national community of hundreds of coordinators, volunteers, and organizers who collaboratively develop the thematic focus areas and sessions that make up the conference.

“The AMC community includes people from across the spectrum of identity,” said Morgan Willis, Program Director of the Allied Media Conference. “Many of our participants are people who live at the margins of conventional conference spaces such as immigrants, youth, elders, black and brown folks, queer and trans folks, and parents, who step into their power and become the heartbeat of the AMC.”

The full schedule of 300+ sessions is now available online at amc2016.sched.org and covers an incredibly diverse range of topics such as:

- Black digital activism on campus
- Using design for a social purpose
- Breaking HIV stigma through dance
- How to collaboratively design open source software
- Beat making and sampling
- Youth media's role in the 2016 election
- Fundraising for your project or campaign
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New this year are “Community Dinners,” intimate evening gatherings for AMC participants and Detroit community members, and “AMC Homeroom” sessions, which will orient first time attendees to the AMC. The AMC is also hosting a separate conference within the conference, through a partnership with the Contemporary Interactive Women in Hip Hop Conference. All of their sessions and activities, held within the AMC, will be open to AMC participants and vice versa.

AMC programming goes beyond daytime workshops and presentations with “AMC @ Night,” a five-day music showcase featuring live music performances, karaoke and bowling, dance parties, cabaret, networking events, and more. Featured performers include DJ Minx, Scott Grooves Overdubs, and Juliana Huxtable.

Registration for the conference is offered on a sliding scale rate, from $75 - $500. Individuals can register in advance online: http://bit.ly/1S96EkL

The Allied Media Conference is a project of Allied Media Projects, with support from The Nathan Cummings Foundation, Ford Foundation, Institute of International Education and the National Endowment for the Arts. Allied Media Projects’ mission is to cultivate media strategies for a more just, creative, and collaborative world.

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