🗣 May Music Bridge the Gap!
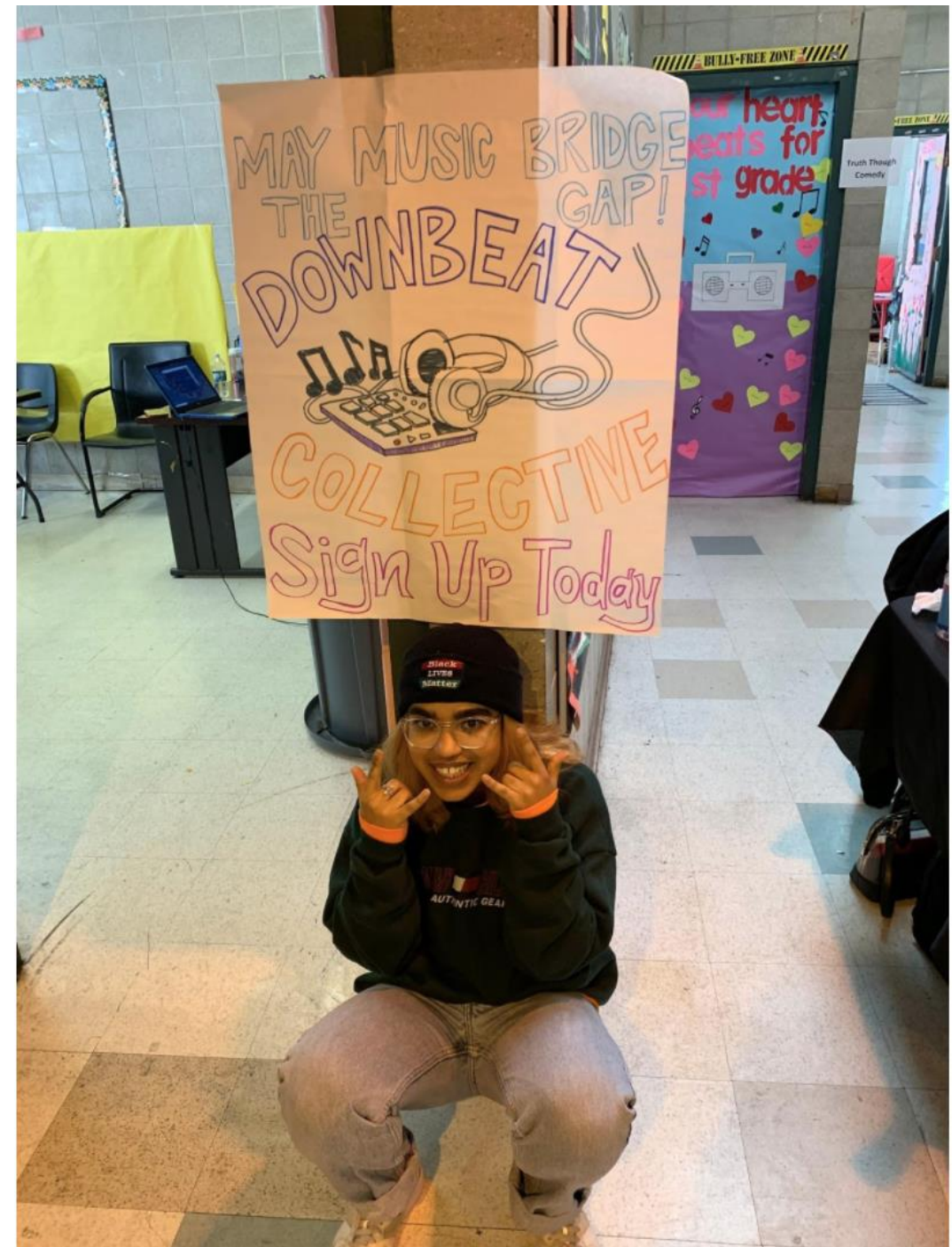
How Downbeat Collective is Helping Young People in the South Bronx Find their Voice and Reclaim their Space...

A Lil' Background

- Founded in 2019 in the Bronx with a diverse team of producers, volunteers, and mentors

- Fueled by my experience in music, sociology, community organizing, education, and youth work

- Funded by the MPHG, our pilot program was held at East Side House Community Center from this February 7th to March 13th

Tying in the Theory

- Paulo Freire's **Pedagogy of the Oppressed** was our cornerstone

- Centered around exploring critical race theory, feminist theory, queer theory and putting into practice radical educational tactics.

- Dialogue circles, question-based curriculums, and an emphasis on hands-on music making

Our Experiences!

"This quickly became mutually beneficial as we came to an understanding and I got to witness these kids from the Bronx learn and embrace the genre that was birthed in the borough where they grew up."

–Ignis, Music Mentor

"The kids were always disappointed when it was time to wrap up, and when they came back the next week, they had lyrics and ideas ready to share."

–Muso, Music Mentor

DOWNBEAT COLLECTIVE

The Lessons

- Patience is necessary in order to ensure people are heard and that their experiences are centered.

- Creating the space is enough, the kids can take it from there.

- Making sure students the are centered is more important than making sure you complete the   lesson plan!

- As an educator, there is no room for regret or guilt. Learning from my mistakes, doing better, and   COMING BACK is all I can do.

THANK YOU!

- When able, we will resume programming with MPHG funds.

- My mentor, Dr. Desha Osborne, has helped me transform this program from a dream to a reality

- Thank you, Jamie Banks for the phone calls and support!

- Big shout out to our music mentors, volunteers, this MPHG cohort, and my community who have supported throughout this Labor of Love!

Downbeat Collective Spring 2020 Recap!