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January 22, 2003

for immediate release

**FLUX Art Space in collaboration with The Children's Aid Society's Intel
Computer Clubhouse**

present

Me and My Money

Interdisciplinary art project
at

The Children's Aid Society's Frederick Douglass Center
885 Columbus Avenue at 104th Street
New York, NY 10025
(212) 865-6337
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From **February 10, 2003** through **April 1, 2003**, **FLUX Art Space** in collaboration with The **Children's Aid Society's Intel Computer Clubhouse**, will produce ***Me and My Money***, an interdisciplinary art project lead by Christian Nguyen, which will expand for eight weeks and will take place at **The Intel Computer Clubhouse part of Frederick Douglass Center**, New York City. Opening reception in celebration of the 50th Years Anniversary of Frederick Douglass Center will take place on **April 8, 2003 from 6-9 pm**.

Participants in ***Me and My Money*** will create a multimedia interactive collage representing the group's ideas and beliefs concerning money, its various manifestations in every day life and its larger effect within contemporary American culture. They will initially create their own logos, icons and tags and then compose unique currencies that hold no fiscal purchasing power but instead represent values determined by each individual participating in the project. This stage will be the foundation for the further development of the project where participants will use their skills in video, audio, animation, photography and fine art creating a multimedia interactive collage.

Participants' unique currencies will be featured and archived on FLUX Art Space web site (www.fluxartspace.org) where anyone with access will be able to download, own and exchange these currencies thus transforming the computer into an ATM machine. In addition, the currencies that participants in ***Me and My money*** create will become collectables, remnants of an artwork. Yet they will only hold the value determined by its creator, effectively denying the market based art economy in which we are increasingly embedded.

Me and my Money will expose underprivileged youth to contemporary art and art practice for use in communication, self-expression and social change. Embedded within the practical side of this project is the rigor of art making and its relation to theory, history and contextual relevance. By addressing community issues creatively and learning how art can be used as a vehicle for



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social change and personal growth, all participants will start to understand how much potential they have, strengthen their interpersonal and community relationships and feel empowered to work together towards economic viability. The project will demonstrate vitality to participants that they have options beyond those previously disclosed to them.

About FLUX Art Space

FLUX Art Space presents and exhibits digital art works and interdisciplinary projects by both established and emerging artists, providing an artistic forum for underprivileged and underexposed sections of multicultural communities in NYC.

FLUX Art Space goals and objectives are to provide a multicultural, multimedia platform upon which artists can present their works to a wide range of communities in NYC; to enable the underprivileged and underexposed communities of NYC to experience the processes of art through digital art, whilst supporting the communities and advocating their need for access to technology; to stimulate economic growth in underprivileged urban sectors by raising the cultural profile of those sectors, thereby attracting businesses and contributing to the creation of new jobs.

About Intel Computer Clubhouse

The Computer Clubhouse provides a creative and safe after school learning environment where young people from underserved communities work with adult mentors to explore their own ideas, develop skills, and build confidence in themselves through the use of technology.

About The Children's Aid Society

For nearly 150 years, The Children's Aid Society has had a single mission: to do whatever New York City's neediest children need. Our goal is to ensure the physical and emotional well-being of children and families, and to provide every child with the support and opportunities needed to become a happy, healthy and successful adult. Our services address every aspect of a child's life, from infancy through adolescence, and include education, health, counseling, adoption and foster care, career readiness, arts and recreation, and emergency assistance.

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Visitor Information

The Children's Aid Society's Frederick Douglass Center is located at 885 Columbus Avenue at 104th Street, New York, NY 10025. Visit by appointment: contact Natalia Mount at FLUX Art Space (646) 321-6829.

To learn more about *My and My Money* visit <http://www.fluxartspace.org>