

Schenectady Teens to STAR in their own Reality Show:

“LIFE UNPLUGGED”

Schenectady, NY Saturday, March 12th, 2016

Schenectady Business and Professional Women’s Club, Inc. is committed to making our youth aware of the importance for all adults to lead balanced, self-sufficient lives. That is why we are sponsoring “Life Unplugged”, on Saturday, March 12th, 2016 at Schenectady High School. The seminar will be from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. (Volunteers will be asked to report earlier to prepare for the arrival of the students.)

There is no fee to attend this program. Young people will learn about their career options, evaluate their choices, and plan appropriately for their future while “shopping” at the Reality Store.

At “Life Unplugged” students will be able to select an occupation they think they plan to have as an adult. They will then be given a checking account ledger containing the amount equivalent to the average monthly salary in that occupation. The students will then visit 15 booths where they will spend their salary on the necessities and luxuries they envision as part of their adult lifestyle. This exercise will help students learn whether their selected occupation will provide the financial resources needed to support the type of lifestyle they want.

The goals of Life Unplugged program are:

- To help all students learn basic skills in financial planning, goal setting, decision-making and career planning.
- To clarify the need for young women and men to examine their attitudes about their futures and their career expectations.
- To motivate students to stay in school, stay away from drugs and avoid pregnancy.

Six million American women are the sole support of families with children under the age of 18.

Moreover, two out of five of today’s girls will be the head of their household at some point in their lives. Young people with specific goals for their future are significantly less likely to become involved in self-destructive behavior than teens without educational/career plans.

Between the ages of 14 and 20, young women and men make critical decisions that affect the course of their whole lives; decisions about educational paths, career options, lifelong mates, and family timing.

They ought to make these critical decisions with knowledge and a sophisticated attitude about the realities and options of their futures.

In many families, financial matters are not discussed with children. Parents feel that young people should not be burdened with these dreary, often frustrating, facts of life. Parents think that their children will have to start worrying about insurance rates and mortgage payments soon enough. In some ways, this may be true. However, frank discussions about money can be a way to help young people realistically plan for their future. A teen that has never paid an insurance premium or written a check for the rent may expect to live well on earnings from a job paying minimum wage. Someone better versed in the cost of living is less likely to be so naïve and more likely to start planning realistically.

We are looking for volunteers and sponsors for this program and need your commitment by February 1, 2016. Student applications are due by February 20th, 2016.. If you or anyone you know is interested please visit www.schenectadybpw.org for more information and applications.

Schenectady BPW is a 501c3 organization.

Saturday, March 12th, 2016

Schenectady High School

Lunch included

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