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HITN HOSTS OPEN HOUSE FOR BROOKLYN'S ONLY FILM CRITIC BOOT CAMPS FOR TEENS

Brooklyn, NY – HITN, the non-profit Spanish-language media network that provides educational and entertainment programming to more than 44 million households around the United States, will host an open house at its studio located at the Brooklyn Navy Yard for parents interested in learning more about the Summer 2017 HITN/KIDS FIRST! Film Critics Boot Camp.

The HITN/KIDS FIRST! Film Critics Boot Camp is a highly interactive program that provides young teens from Brooklyn and the surrounding boroughs with an introduction to the world of film and media in a professional studio. The boot camp is designed to offer local youth, ages 9-15, the opportunity to learn the skills to critique and review films, present their reviews on-camera and conduct interviews.

"KIDS FIRST! Film Critic Boot Camps is an opportunity for children to build confidence, skills in journalism, in film, and to build friendships and memories," says Ranny Levy, Founder and President of Coalition for Quality Children's Media. "We are so happy that we were able to do this again with **HITN** and to add an additional third week for beginners."

The boot camp will offer four (4) one-week sessions. The first three (3) will be for beginners and the last one-week session will be for advanced students. All campers will watch the latest films, write critiques, produce video reviews, and learn interview techniques while meeting actual film critics, producers and actors.

"We are so excited to host an open house for our 2017 KIDS FIRST! boot camp", says Ed Greene, Vice President of Partnerships and Community Development of **HITN**. "This reception will provide an opportunity for kids and families to hear from our KIDS FIRST! graduates and learn of the educational and instructional elements of the boot camp experience."

All campers who complete the program have the opportunity to join the national team of the KIDS FIRST! Film Critics. These select few will review new film releases, interview talent and share their views on entertainment. On a national platform, every month, reviews and coverage of the KIDS FIRST! Film Critics reach more than 7 million people.

Open house event will take place on April 5, 2017. Guests must RSVP by March 31, 2017 by e-mailing <u>filmeritics@hitn.org</u>. For more information, visit <u>www.hitn.org/kidsfirst</u>

KIDS FIRST! a project of the 25-year-old Coalition for Quality Children's Media whose mission is to teach children critical viewing skills and to increase the visibility and availability of quality children's media. KIDS FIRST! is supported by major entertainment industry leaders, teachers, librarians, media professionals, lobbyists, policymakers, child advocates, educators, parents and families nationwide with a cumulative membership of over 17 million.

HITN is the leading Spanish-language network focused on educational and cultural programing for the whole family. It reaches over 44 million homes across the United States and Puerto Rico through DIRECTV, DISH Network, AT&T U-verse TV, Verizon FiOS TV, Comcast, Charter Spectrum, Frontier Mediacom, CenturyLink Prism, and Cablevision. For more information, log in to www.hitn.org.

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