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**Bed-Stuy's biz wiz**

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No wonder they called him "Hustle Man" in high school.



By

Four years after graduation, Brooklyn's industrious 22-year-old Marvin Scarborough hasn't let up on his business-minded ways.

The nonprofit organization Scarborough created to clean up Bedford-Stuyvesant earned him the Young Entrepreneur of the Year award in April from the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship.

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"He wants to make sure people take ownership of their community and make it a better place to live," said Angela Davis, director of national alumni services for the foundation. "He is trying to give something back to his community."

Scarborough - who in high school roamed the halls selling everything from Mother's Day and Valentine's Day cards to laser lights and sunglasses - built Bed-Stuy's Project Re-Generation Inc. to teach inner-city kids how to start and run their own businesses.

"He's determined," said Scarborough's older brother, Marcus Calliste. "When we were smaller, he always looked for the opportunity to be profitable."

Scarborough, who was awarded \$1,000 to go toward his business or education, said he "started the business because of the need for young people to do something other than negative."

**Planning for real life**

Rights of Passage, or ROP, is a key component of Scarborough's Project Re-Generation Inc. In ROP, students are taught holistic health, résumé writing, interview skills, goal setting and the basics of being an entrepreneur.

They also plan neighborhood cleanups in the Bed-Stuy area to increase property values. They are working on the inaugural Community Pride Day next month, where local youths will clean up 10 blocks in Bed-Stuy, then enjoy a picnic at which representatives from community businesses will discuss how to land local jobs.

Michele Matthews, 18, an aspiring journalist from John Dewey High School, said the ROP program is preparing her for college.

"I've learned a lot about saving money, opening bank accounts and managing credit, things I can use in real life," she said.

In return, she plans to do volunteer work in the Bed-Stuy area.

"I think that whatever you take from the community, you should try to give back. Cleaning the community is a way to give back," she added.

Scarborough, who plans to graduate from New York City Technical College in May 2006, prefers to go by the name Barnabas Shakur. The name means "encourager and thankful to God." Scarborough - better known to friends as Shakur - said he was a "born encourager."

He said the success of his business, incorporated in January 2001, comes mainly from persistence and passion, mixed with a little humor and charisma.

"I eat, sleep and drink my organization," he said. "I was always an entrepreneur."