

Radio Theater International



Who: 20 Americans and 20 Yemenis, ages 17-25

What: Radio Theater International (RTI) is a radio drama project showcasing the creative talent of American and Yemeni youth and exploring the common experiences of youth around the world. In a course in radio production and intercultural communication, young people in Seattle, WA

and at FM Shabab, our youth-run radio station in Sana'a, Yemen, will gain leadership, creative, and technical skills while developing and producing their own radio dramas. The program is co-sponsored by World Arts Access and Jack Straw Productions, a Seattle nonprofit recording studio: www.jackstraw.org



When: July 2013.

Where: Seattle, WA, USA and Sana'a, Yemen.

Why: RTI is about empowerment and interpersonal connections. It gives youth from different cultures an opportunity to connect and learn from each other, a platform for their voices to be heard, and a variety of skills including writing, editing, and technical production. It also provides a unique opportunity for the American and Yemeni public to hear the creative voices and perspectives of local and foreign youth and to learn from a demographic whose voice is often marginalized. Technical and interpersonal skills learned in this program are valuable for young people as they navigate school and transition into the professional world. The success of this project will set RTI on the path to becoming a recurring program and a sustainable platform that expands to multiple countries, connecting the local to the global.

How: With guidance and support from our advisors and teaching artists, Seattle and Yemeni youth will decide on common themes for their dramas through Skype conversations, exploring cultural similarities and differences and exchanging stories and ideas. Participants will write, develop and produce four short radio dramas in each country, focusing on issues affecting young people. Their work will be broadcast online, and be downloadable as podcasts, and all dramas will be recorded before live audiences. At the conclusion of the program, youth in Seattle and Yemen will listen to and discuss each other's dramas (translations will be provided). In Seattle, youth will perform their dramas live at a public event, which will also include a video presentation of the Yemeni dramas.



www.worldartsaccess.org