Girl Be Heard develops, amplifies, and celebrates the voices of young women through socially conscious theatre-making.

**GBH has performed at the White House, TED Conferences, the United Nations, and has been commissioned by the U.S. State Department to perform for ambassadors, elected officials, artists, activists, students, refugees, and countless other community members in seven countries.**

**WHY WE MATTER**

**Being a girl is risky business.** Seven out of ten girls have or will experience physical or sexual violence in their lives. A fear of speaking out feeds the cycle of more violence against girls. Nearly 75% of NYC’s 800,000 girls are of color, and a significant portion, live in poverty. On top of the obstacles girls already face – teen pregnancy, sexual violence, bullying, and body image issues – our girls navigate the complex intersection of race, class, and gender inequality, all during their most formative years.

Girl Be Heard addresses the needs of teen girls by using theatre, education, and storytelling. Our **listening model** provides a safe space for girls to speak honestly, develop community, engage in self-expression, think critically, hone artistic and leadership skills, and become activists for issues they care about most.
OUR PROGRAMS

● **Girl Power Workshops:** At the heart of GBH is its year-long Girl Power workshop, where young women ages 12-21 audition to become part of the GBH family as new company members. The selected group of participants meet weekly to hone their creative talents, develop professional skills, grow their voices, and create lasting bonds. The workshops culminate in a year end performance.

● **After-School Programs:** GBH offers customize programs based upon the individual needs of middle and high schools to allow young women to design, craft and ultimately present work created during the school year.

● **Performances:** Staying true to its commitment to social justice, GBH curates thematic performances that focus on timely and relevant social issues – from gun violence to campus sexual assault – with the aim of elevating the voices and minds of all who participate.

● **Community Engagement/Advocacy:** Strategic partnerships and alliances allow GBH to drive and influence public policy and position GBH as strong advocates for social justice issues.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

"Girl Be Heard is awesome. These young ladies are doing groundbreaking work -- using art as a means of creating awareness about very difficult issues that face our daughters, in conflict zones, on their school campuses, in the home and in the community. I see future Nobel Laureates among you!" -- Leymah Gbowee Nobel Peace Laureate

"I have seen the Girl Be Heard, and I want to invite you to join in the joy and learning and anger and recognition of listening to truth-telling as told by clear voices of girls before pretense or pressure have quieted them…" -- Gloria Steinem

“Each day I get stronger and stronger and could look at myself in a better light. I can give myself compliments here and there.” -- Joni, 16, student Susan McKinney High School, Fort Greene, Brooklyn

“Girl Be Heard provides a safe space to discuss things that are important to the girls and a platform for young women to share their stories through a dramatic presentation. I can’t say enough about the visiting artists who worked tirelessly with our students and the positive results that they were able to achieve.” -- Karen Best, Assistant Principal of Susan McKinney High School, Fort Greene, Brooklyn

“In 2011, I auditioned for and got into Girl Be Heard, where I’ve had the chance to work with positive women and girls who channel their creative energies toward helping women across the globe. GBH has inspired me to continue making a difference in this world because I saw that there are people who care. I’ve entered a gateway filled with openhearted girls working together to change the world. These girls are my new best friends. There’s no better feeling than being surrounded by positivity.”

— Jai Raphael, Company Member, East Flatbush, Brooklyn

For more Girl Be Heard information, check out our website at [girlbeheard.org](http://girlbeheard.org) or follow us on social media.