

JN's 'Resolution X: My generation' under way

'Resolution X: My generation' is the theme for the 2013/2014 JN Foundation Resolution Project, which commenced its 10th cycle of workshops to train students about advocacy through photography, on October 9.

The workshops were conducted in four rural parishes over the past two weeks – Ocho Rios, St Ann; Montego Bay, St James; Mandeville, Manchester; and Savanna-la-Mar, Westmoreland, with Morant Bay, St Thomas scheduled for October 24, Alicia Glasgow, project manager of the JN Foundation Resolution Project announced.

"This year's theme, which focuses on 'Youth Identify and Culture', will highlight the positive and negative perceptions of young people and how they see themselves," Glasgow explained. "These views could either be physical, social, spiritual, or as intellectual beings. And the theme will also explore how the rest of the society sees the youth in today's environment."

Glasgow said student photographers from some 45 schools across rural Jamaica will participate in this year's competition programme, set to end in April 2014.

She explained that the Resolution Project facilitates youth advocacy, by empowering young people to voice their concerns and express their opinions through the art form of photography.

Students participated in focus group discussions on subthemes of the competition such as the: definitions of beauty and body image; sexuality; norms and reality; gender roles; and dreams, visions and aspirations.

Twelve-year-old Shannon Troy Evans was among the participants from the Dinthill Technical High School who attended the St Ann workshop. He said his cousin, who participated in the programme two years ago, encouraged him to get involved.

"From I was small, I always loved taking photos; and my father would take me all over Jamaica to take photographs. I see the JN Resolution Project as a way of formally improving my skills," said the future entrepreneur and part-time photographer.

Shannon's teacher, Chunguloo Munroe, said she recognised Shannon's interest in photography and was so impressed that she decided to include him in this year's programme.

Initiated by Earl Jarrett, general manager of Jamaica National, the JN Resolution Project, formerly called Youth Zoom, is an annual rural high school photography

competition. Resolution Project equips and trains approximately 200 students per year in the art of photography and advocacy. The

Resolution Project offers a creative avenue through which young people in rural Jamaica can express and give voice to their concerns.



Alicia Glasgow (standing in centre), project manager of the JN Resolution Project, shows students who attended a JN Resolution Project workshop in St Ann recently a photograph that was taken by past participants in the JN Resolution Project. The JN Resolution Project conducted four workshops in rural parishes across Jamaica.