

Jamel Shabazz  
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Jamel Shabazz has been documenting Urban life for over 30 years. Born and raised in Brooklyn, N.Y., he picked up his first camera at the age of 15 and proceeded to record the world around him.

Jamel has drawn inspiration from the great James Van Der Zee, Gordon Parks, Robert Capa, Chester Higgins, and Eli Reed. The author of 3 monographs, 'Back in the Days', 'The Last Sunday in June' and 'A Time Before Crack' He is presently working on his fourth book, entitled 'The 90's : A Time of change.'" A 20 Year Veteran, of the N.Y. City Department of Correction, Jamel is dedicated to mentoring youth, both in the field of photography and career planning.

Shabazz is a volunteer with the RUSH ARTS PHILANTHROPIC FOUNDATION, which is an organization that is geared towards exposing inner city youth to the arts. In addition, Jamel has worked with the Studio Museum in Harlem's 'EXPANDING THE WALLS' project, a workshop focused on teaching youth the connection between photography, history, and community. He has recently worked with the organization 'PLAYS FOR A LIVING', another community base organization dedicated towards the well being of young people. The theme of the project was 'Compassion' and he used his photographs to inspire and educate on that subject matter.

Jamel Shabazz is a philanthropist, whose recent donations aided The Harlem Art Project, The Queens council on the Arts, Project Hope, The Studio Museum in Harlem, and The Rush Philanthropic foundation.