



>> **Most Valuable Mentor**

Sonya—California

Take note. Sonya Bender is a name you'll be hearing more about. She is a talented singer, songwriter, actress and newest i-SAFE spokesperson. At 17, Sonya is well on her way to becoming a star. She's already a star at i-SAFE. Sonya is the host of four i-SAFE videos that are part of our newest assembly project on piracy. The assembly, produced by i-SAFE and ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers), looks



THROUGH
SONYA'S
EXPERIENCES AND VIDEO DIARY, WE
LEARN HOW ILLEGAL DOWNLOADING
HAS AN IMPACT

at the effects of illegal downloading through the eyes of an aspiring singer/songwriter. The i-SAFE production crew followed Sonya to L.A. where she met and interviewed singer/songwriter Michelle Lewis; composer Jonathan Grossman; producer and recording engineer Mark Keefner; and recording executive Michael Laskow. Through Sonya's experiences and video diary, we learn how illegal downloading has an impact on not only musicians, but many others who make their living in the music business.

Don't let anyone tell you how easy stars have it. The video shoot took several weeks. There were lines to learn, costume changes, endless re-takes and some very long and tiring days. Through it all Sonya was able to shine like the star she is, and that's why she's this month's Most Valuable Mentor.

Click here to see a clip of Sonja. 


The Student Internet Safety Newsletter Feb 2007

>> **Congratulations Adrianna**

By now, you may have seen the news that i-SAFE spokesperson Adrianna Sgarlata was not crowned Miss America 2007. The title went to Miss Oklahoma Lauren Nelson during the pageant on January 29th in Las Vegas. As the reigning Miss Virginia, Adrianna will continue to be the voice for America's youth, raising awareness about Internet safety for children, and as an anti-bullying advocate.

Since being crowned Miss Virginia last June, Adrianna has connected with thousands of students. She has visited classrooms, appeared at community events throughout Virginia, and she's featured in i-SAFE Public Service Announcements (PSA) to promote Internet safety awareness among children, parents, educators, and entire communities about online dangers. Adrianna's volunteer work—much of it raising Internet safety awareness as an i-SAFE spokesperson—resulted in being named one of the seven finalists for the Miss America Organization's prestigious "Quality of Life" scholarship. We'll continue to let you know what Adrianna is up to through these newsletters, and on i-SAFE's Web site.



It's a shame America didn't get to see Adrianna perform. She is an accomplished opera singer. If you missed the Miss America Pageant telecast on Country Music Television (CMT), re-broadcasts are scheduled to air on several cable networks this month. Check your listings. 

We Welcome Your Input

If you would like to submit an article for the newsletter or tell us your story, please contact us at:

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MISSION: i-SAFE is a non-profit foundation whose mission is to educate and empower youth to safely and responsibly take control of their Internet experience.

>> Mentors Spreading the Word about Internet Safety

This month i-SAFE has been fortunate to have a mentor contribute to our newsletter by writing an article. This is your forum too and we want to hear from you. If you've been doing something different to contribute to Internet safety, or if you have an interesting story, idea or project that you'd like to share, write to news@isafe.org. We're hoping to have a lot to read this month!

Enjoy this month's article from Breanna in Kentucky who's shown us that not only do student mentors have so many great ideas on how to educate others, but they can have a great time in the process. Thanks for your hard work Breanna.

I have been doing a lot of i-SAFE activities since the beginning of August 2006. I have done training after school with my FBLA adviser to become an i-SAFE mentor, which I'm so glad I did. I have taught the 3rd and 5th graders at the elementary about Internet safety. Also, we have done a Parent Workshop and taught parents about Internet safety at our local public library. We taught the freshman about the Internet and how to stay safe while online. At the end of the week they became Certified i-MENTORs. Soon we'll be teaching the other half of the 9th grade class how they too can become i-MENTORs.

This week we have been celebrating Internet Safety Awareness Week at our high school. Each day we have a different topic in which we hand out information to our student body. On Monday the topic was Cyber Bullying and we handed out sour punch candies and our saying was, "Take the punch out of cyber bullying!" Tuesday the topic was Personal Identity and we handed out Dum Dum suckers and the saying was, "Don't be a dum-dum, protect your personal information." On Wednesday, we had a MySpace Day. We handed out bubble gum and the saying was "Protect your bubble – don't let people get into YOUR space."

Thursday the topic is Intellectual Property and we'll hand out Smarties candy with the saying "Be smart – no



illegal downloads." Friday it's Online Predators and we'll hand out Starbursts with the saying "The Internet is like a bag of Starburst, you don't know if you'll like what you get!" People are not always who they say they are.

We had a tip of the day contest and gave a prize to the person that created that tip. We then distributed the tips to the student body to spread the word on Internet safety.

On Friday we will also have i-SAFE assemblies for our students, along with guest speakers from the Attorney General's Office and the Kentucky Center for School Safety. Ten i-MENTORs will be recognized at this assembly. Also, we'll have a community workshop and the i-MENTORs will be teaching Internet safety.

We have been very busy with this community-service project and have been encouraging more people to spread the word about Internet safety. It has been great fun doing work with i-SAFE.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely, Breanna



>> Enough of Griefers

Gaming cyber bullies, also known as griefers, can spoil an otherwise fun online or multiplayer game. Here are a few tips for handling harassers online:

- ☼ Ignore griefers – **IF YOU IGNORE THEM THEY WILL MOST LIKELY GO AWAY AND LEAVE YOU ALONE. FIGHTING BACK MAY ENCOURAGE FURTHER HARASSMENT, AND COULD LABEL YOU AS A HARASSER**
- ☼ Take a break – **IF A GAMING GRIEFER WON'T STOP HARASSING, TAKE A BREAK AND COME BACK LATER.**
- ☼ Report griefers **TO GAME ADMINISTRATORS OR THE WEB SITE.**
- ☼ Block or mute **THE HARASSING GAMER.**

How to Make a Screen Shot

On a Windows machine, if you want to take a picture of what's on your screen, hit 'print screen' or the 'Prnt Scrn' key on your keyboard, then open a program such as Microsoft Word, and hit Control + V, or 'Edit Paste'.

On a Mac, press Command + Shift + 3. The screen shot will be saved as a file to the desktop. If you would like to paste the picture in a document instead, just hold down the Control key while you press the other keys, then open your document and 'Paste'.

i-SAFE Contest—Write On!

Are you an Internet insider? i-SAFE is proud to announce its first ever Write On! Student Competition.

Give us the scoop on an important Internet safety issue in your town by writing a newspaper article and then send it to i-SAFE. The winning article will be put in an upcoming issue of Kewl Timez and sent to students all over the world. The winning student will also win the prestigious Most Valuable Mentor Award. Start pounding the keyboard and have your voice heard globally.

March 1, 2007 - Contest ends. Submit all news articles with registration forms attached to i-SAFE. Fax to (760) 603-8382 or mail to i-SAFE.

[Click here](#) to view the contest rules and download a registration form.

>> Celebrity Corner—An Interview with Michelle Lewis

Michelle Lewis is an artist who creates in the shadows, but her work shines in the spotlight. She is a singer/songwriter with an impressive list of clients who have recorded her songs, including Jessica Simpson, Amy Grant, Cher, Celine Dion, and Hillary Duff, to name a few. Michelle is featured in one of the videos that make up i-SAFE's newest assembly. The "Donny the Downloader Experience" is aimed at middle-school students and explores the impact music piracy has on musicians, producers, recording engineers, songwriters, and music publishers. We sat down with Michelle at her home-based recording studio in Los Angeles.

KT: How did you get started in this business?

Michelle: I started really young. My parents are both musicians so they sort of threw me in front of a microphone when I was five. I did commercials then moved on to voice-over work that needed kids voices and things like that.

KT: How do songwriters earn a living?

Michelle: When you write a song and someone records it, you earn something called royalties. Every time someone buys that CD you make a certain portion of that CD. It's not much, usually between seven or nine cents per song.

KT: So you must be really affected by illegal downloading.

Michelle: Yes I am! When my songs are stolen off the Internet I don't get paid for my work. If people continue to download illegally, I'm worried people won't take music seriously. People value what they pay for. It's not good for music to treat it like it's free, treat it like it's worthless. It isn't! Music brings a lot to people.

KT: What does the future hold?

Michelle: It's a great life, it really is. Sometimes I think I've written the best song I possibly can and I'm never going to write another, but I always write more. It always keeps coming. It doesn't stop. 🖱️

>> Alert!—Spam with Trojan Viruses Hits Everywhere

Have you gotten these spam e-mails? The subject lines include "Storm batters Europe," updates on Condoleezza Rice, or claims that Saddam Hussein is alive. They masquerade as news flashes such as CNN updates, but it is spam laden with Trojan viruses. The subject lines vary, but the Trojan payload is the same: executable files surreptitiously installed on your computer. The files have names such as "Full Story.exe," "Full Text. Exe," "Full Video.exe" or "Read more.exe." This spam is currently hitting worldwide and some security experts estimate at least one in every 200 e-mail messages includes this Trojan. If you see this spam e-mail, don't open the attachment, don't save it to your computer, delete it immediately! 🖱️



Michelle Lewis



>> i-SAFE Brings Worldwide Students Together for a Blogathon

It's early morning at Semely Primary School in Semely, England, and all the students want to do is go online. They know that when they log on messages will be waiting for them from the United States. The students are eager to see new designs, responses to questions, or any new contributions left for them over night.

Karl Hopwood, headmaster at Semely, and project leader for the teams collaborating on Crossing Borders: A Safer Internet Day 2007 Competition, recently reported, "Checking the message boards in the morning is high on the priority list."

As Mr. Hopwood's students slept, the students at Athens-Chilesburg Elementary (A.C.E.) school in Lexington, Kentucky, were busy creating, editing, manipulating, tweaking and collaborating on their own, spurred on by the postings and comments they found left for them on the message board when they got to school.

The collaboration between the 9 to 11 year old students at the two schools will produce a PowerPoint presentation. "The PowerPoint idea helps students to 'see' and think of possible projects," says A.C.E. school project leader Dayna Lykins. "We really like the idea of compiling small projects into one large PowerPoint."

i-SAFE brought these two schools together, and developed the collaboration message board students use as their communication tool. "We are proud to be part of SID 2007 Blogathon Competition," says i-SAFE President and CEO Teri Schroeder. "Through this competition, students are empowered to build on their Internet safety knowledge and share their learning with their peers. Our goal is to spread Internet safety awareness, and continue to provide education and empowerment to schools worldwide."

So, how did "Team Semely – Athens-Chilesburg" do? Check out their project through www.isafe.org. In addition, i-SAFE is producing a behind-the-scenes video that documents this collaboration. You'll see the entire creative process - from how decisions were made, to how challenges were met - directly from the students themselves. The world is invited to view this unique and enjoyable video documentary by visiting www.isafe.org.

The students are excited as they became more than colleagues. Some of them became fast friends. "I think my kids would be extremely excited to converse about other topics with Mr. Hopwood's kids on a regular basis," observed Ms. Lykins. 🍷

Blog On!

The Safer Internet Day Blogathon was not just for students. Sure, the students had fun working with their counterparts in schools in different countries, and the winning teams did get a prize (valued at 1,500 Euro), but the Blogathon was much more. People around the world were invited to post their comments. For a limited time this month, you can view the Safer Internet Day Blogathon by visiting www.saferinternet.org.

NAC Report

Among high school students who go online, 37% have their own Web log or "blog."

from the 2006 NAC Report

>> Superheros Take on Internet Safety

One fifth grade class in Maryland decided to get creative with Microsoft Publisher and create educational posters that would easily communicate Internet safety to younger students. The project assignment—to create their own superhero to be an Internet safety spokesperson. They also had to come up with catchy slogans and give tip, reasons, and state how and why students need to be safe online. What a fantastic job! Not only did they learn in the process, but as true mentors—they have something to pass on to younger students.



LOOK AT THIS GREAT ART!