

## Select Media Coverage

***This document has two sections:***

- ***Section A*** offers an overview of select media coverage.
- ***Section B*** provides the correspondingly numbered media resource.

### A. Overview of Select Media Coverage

**April 29, 2011**

**New Orleans, Louisiana**

1. Times Picayune  
[http://www.nola.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/04/jon\\_bon\\_jovi\\_meets\\_with\\_at-ris.html](http://www.nola.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/04/jon_bon_jovi_meets_with_at-ris.html)
2. Fox affiliate / WVUE  
<http://www.fox8live.com/news/local/story/Bon-Jovi-on-a-White-House-mission/Twq4OBjtMkmZGw3TdveMBA.csp>
3. New Orleans Public Radio / WWNO  
<http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/wwno/news.newsmain/article/6586/0/1796721/WWNO.News.Reports/Jon.Bon.Jovi.Visits.Cafe.Reconcile.For.White.House.Council>

**May 13, 2011**

**Atlanta, Georgia**

4. Atlanta Journal Constitution  
[http://www.ajc.com/news/atlanta/jon-bon-jovi-gets-945162.html?cxtype=rss\\_news\\_128746](http://www.ajc.com/news/atlanta/jon-bon-jovi-gets-945162.html?cxtype=rss_news_128746)
5. UPI Wire  
\*the wire created a news item from the AJC story -  
[http://www.upi.com/Entertainment\\_News/Music/2011/05/14/Bon-Jovi-meets-with-Atlanta-kids/UPI-82761305385967/](http://www.upi.com/Entertainment_News/Music/2011/05/14/Bon-Jovi-meets-with-Atlanta-kids/UPI-82761305385967/)
6. NBC affiliate / WXIA  
The piece aired during the 6pm news that day. No accompanying story below.

**May 16, 2011**  
**Houston, Texas**

7. Houston Public Radio / KUHF  
<http://app1.kuhf.org/articles/1305667770-Bon-Jovi-Talks-With-Houston-Teens.html>
8. Houston Press  
[http://blogs.houstonpress.com/hairballs/2011/05/photos\\_by\\_allison\\_wagonerhoust.php](http://blogs.houstonpress.com/hairballs/2011/05/photos_by_allison_wagonerhoust.php)
9. Fox affiliate / KRIV  
<http://www.myfoxhouston.com/dpp/news/local/110516-jon-bon-jovi-listens-to-houstons-youth>
10. CW affiliate / KIAH  
<http://www.39online.com/newsfix/kiah-newsfix-ballad-of-youth-story,0,3816514.story>
11. NBC affiliate / KPRC  
NBC - KPRC covered events, but the video clip is not available on their Facebook page or website. No accompanying story below.

**B. Full Stories from Select Media Coverage**

Full stories appear on the pages that follow.

## 1. Times Picayune

[http://www.nola.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/04/jon\\_bon\\_jovi\\_meets\\_with\\_at-ris.html](http://www.nola.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/04/jon_bon_jovi_meets_with_at-ris.html)

### Jon Bon Jovi meets with at-risk youth in New Orleans

Published: Friday, April 29, 2011, 10:20 PM Updated: Saturday, April 30, 2011, 6:24 AM



By Katy Reckdahl, The Times-Picayune

Singer, philanthropist and sex symbol Jon Bon Jovi was the center of much of the attention today during a roundtable with at-risk young people at Cafe Reconcile, which hosted the event with other youth-program strongholds in the city: Liberty's Kitchen, the Youth Empowerment Project and the Tulane Youth Drop-In Center.



*Kerry Maloney, The Times-Picayune. Jon Bon Jovi and Vauven Loiseau were photographed after the roundtable discussion Friday at Cafe Reconcile.*

But despite a near mob scene afterward, when kids and their advocates posed with the star for photo after photo after photo, the rock star was quick to shine the spotlight on those he'd just listened to as part of his work for the [White House Council for Community Solutions](#).

When Cafe Reconcile graduate Carl Harris, 20, needed to leave to get to work at a steakhouse, Bon Jovi stood up, shook Harris' hand and thanked him.

Harris didn't know who Bon Jovi was until Friday afternoon. "But now I do," he said, recounting how the star had asked questions about the cafe and listened as Harris bragged about his advocates at the Youth Empowerment Project.

"Always, every step, they were with me," Harris said. With their help, he made a conscious choice to step away from trouble, he said.

Others praised staff at the Drop-In Center and Cafe Reconcile for similar devotion. "They pretty much rescued me. Pulled me out," Reconcile grad Vauven Loiseau said.

## 2. Fox affiliate / WVUE

<http://www.fox8live.com/news/local/story/Bon-Jovi-on-a-White-House-mission/Twq4OBjtMkmZGw3TdveMBA.csp>

### Bon Jovi on a White House mission



Reported by: Natasha Robin, Reporter

Email: [nrobin@fox8tv.net](mailto:nrobin@fox8tv.net)

Last Update: 4/29 11:29 pm



*Bon Jovi connects to at-risk youth  
(see video at link above)*



*Jon Bon Jovi poses for a photograph. He was in town as a member of the White House Council for Community Solutions listening to how programs helped turn young people's lives around.*

New Orleans- Smiling teens posed with rock star Jon Bon Jovi, but their visit with the famous musician was about so much more than a quick picture.

Young men and women, who have been rescued by community-based programs, sat down for a candid conversation with the Grammy-winning star.

Bon Jovi is on a tour of sorts, not to perform, but to listen as a member of a White House Council for Community Solutions.

“The president entrusted us with this opportunity to listen to the youth and each of these stops will be unique. New Orleans is very different from Seattle and New York, but they are all challenged because the opportunities are few and far between,” says Bon Jovi.

The teens talked to Bon Jovi and the other council members about their past and what life is like for them growing up in New Orleans.

“We have different issues like prostitutions, also drugs,” says participant Rashad Jame.

The teens told Bon Jovi how organizations like Café’ Reconcile, Liberty’s Kitchen and the Youth Empowerment Project have changed their lives.

By learning how the local programs work, the White House hopes to duplicate the success around the country.

“If I wasn’t introduced to this program, I would probably be hanging out with a gang or probably still on the corner doing things I shouldn’t do,” says participant Carl Harris.

The council took note on how the programs made a difference for the youth.

New Orleans was the first stop for the White House council. They will visit three other cities and then write a report on their findings in June.

The completed report will be handed over to President Obama.

### 3. New Orleans Public Radio / WWNO

[http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/wwno/news.newsmain/article/6586/0/1796721/WWNO\\_News.Reports/Jon.Bon.Jovi.Visits.Cafe.Reconcile.For.White.House.Council](http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/wwno/news.newsmain/article/6586/0/1796721/WWNO_News.Reports/Jon.Bon.Jovi.Visits.Cafe.Reconcile.For.White.House.Council)

#### **Jon Bon Jovi Visits Cafe Reconcile For White House Council**

Eileen Fleming (2011-05-02)



NEW ORLEANS, LA. (WWNO) - Bon Jovi sat with New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu and other officials with young people representing programs designed to help them get through tough circumstances. Several stories at the meeting held at Cafe Reconcile involved drugs and crime. Bon Jovi said afterwards that their troubles can be lifted with a group effort.

"Engagement in their community is why I'm here, why we're here on behalf of the White House Council on Community Solutions because community is what has made this city be great and unique and why New Orleans is back on its feet, because its community believed in itself and we want to duplicate that around the nation."

He praised Cafe Reconcile's job training program, saying a similar enterprise he runs in New Jersey has been a success.

"Opportunities are fewer and far between no matter who you are. These days it's not easy for disenfranchise or disconnected youth to gain employment or opportunity."

One of the young people participating in the roundtable was Jalicie (jah-LEE'-see-eh NOH-ten), who says it's important that youth know they have a voice that's heard.

"If people stop judging and show that they care and reach out, I think New Orleans, or the United States where they're having youth problems, it will be a better place if people just stop judging and just reach out to the young people that's having problems."

The White House Council's listening tour continues with stops planned in Atlanta, Houston and New York City.

© Copyright 2011, [WWNO](http://www.wwno.com)

#### 4. Atlanta Journal Constitution

[http://www.ajc.com/news/atlanta/jon-bon-jovi-gets-945162.html?cxtype=rss\\_news\\_128746](http://www.ajc.com/news/atlanta/jon-bon-jovi-gets-945162.html?cxtype=rss_news_128746)

#### Jon Bon Jovi gets serious with at-risk youth

By [Melissa Ruggieri](#)

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Jon Bon Jovi is used to being on stage in sold out arenas and stadiums.



Brant Sanderlin, [bsanderlin@ajc.com](mailto:bsanderlin@ajc.com)  
Giovan Bazan, 20, got a handshake and hug from Jon Bon Jovi.



Brant Sanderlin, [bsanderlin@ajc.com](mailto:bsanderlin@ajc.com) Jon Bon Jovi listens during a White House Council for Community Solutions session at the Goodwill Career Center on Buford Highway in Atlanta Friday afternoon.

On Friday, the rock icon worked a much smaller crowd, sitting in a circle with about a dozen youth gathered in a back room at the Goodwill Career Center on Buford Highway.

Bon Jovi came to Atlanta a day before his band's scheduled performance at Philips Arena as part of his involvement with the White House Council for Community Solutions. The 25-member group was formed in December by President Obama to identify and address community needs.

Along with fellow council member Michael Kempner, CEO of the New Jersey-based public affairs and public relations firm MWW Group, Bon Jovi, a longtime philanthropist and creator of the Jon Bon Jovi Soul Foundation, has embarked on a series of listening sessions with youths from community-based organizations.

"We get to amplify their voices," said Kempner.

The Friday meeting with young adults from Atlanta-based CHRIS Kids and Visions Youth Leadership Academy, as well as civic leaders including Atlanta City Council member Michael Julian Bond, was the second session for Bon Jovi and Kempner. The first was last month in New Orleans and more, scheduled during days off on Bon Jovi's tour, are planned in Houston and New York.

Now with two listening sessions behind them, Kempner and Bon Jovi, who happily posed for photos with the group after the meeting, are hearing some similar requests.

“It’s all about trust. In both cities, we’ve heard they want a role model to believe in them, and there’s a real need for life skills,” Kempner said.

“They love the idea of being mentored,” Bon Jovi added, “and want to remind you that behind the facade, they’re kids. These kids are determined to buck the system and that is just exemplary.”

One member of Friday’s group, Giovan Bazan, 20, spent 11 years in foster care in California and Georgia, where he said he was abused and neglected.

By the time he became a teen, normal rebellion, coupled with his challenging home life, led to repeated visits to juvenile detention centers.

Now the young man, sharply clad in a black suit and red satin tie, lives in a CHRIS Kids apartment and works as a youth support specialist for the State Office of Department of Family and Children and is a project coordinator for Georgia Youth Empowerment.

At Friday’s session, Bazan said he told Bon Jovi and Kempner about the importance of a strong support system for teens and the need to scrutinize prescription medication doled out in the foster care system.

But his immediate goal is, simply, to make his voice heard.

“My whole thing is that there are so many people who have so much passion,” Bazan said. “But you can do the biggest thing in the world and if nobody knows about it, it doesn’t matter.”



## 5. UPI Wire

\*the wire created a news item from the AJC story -

[http://www.upi.com/Entertainment\\_News/Music/2011/05/14/Bon-Jovi-meets-with-Atlanta-kids/UPI-82761305385967/](http://www.upi.com/Entertainment_News/Music/2011/05/14/Bon-Jovi-meets-with-Atlanta-kids/UPI-82761305385967/)

### **Bon Jovi Meets with Atlanta Kids**

Published: May 14, 2011 at 11:12 AM

ATLANTA, May 14 (UPI) -- Rocker Jon Bon Jovi spent part of a day off in Atlanta counseling at-risk youth about how to overcome obstacles and succeed in life.

Bon Jovi met with about a dozen youth at Atlanta's Goodwill Career Center Friday as part of his work with the White House Council for Community Solutions, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported. President Obama formed the 25-member group in December to identify and address community needs.

Bon Jovi and fellow council member Michael Kempner, CEO of the New Jersey-based public affairs and public relations firm MWW Group, took turns addressing the group.

"We get to amplify their voices," Kempner said.

Bon Jovi, a long-time philanthropist and creator of the Jon Bon Jovi Soul Foundation, said the time to discuss potential problems in now.

"They love the idea of being mentored," Bon Jovi said. "And [they] want to remind you that behind the facade, they're kids. These kids are determined to buck the system and that is just exemplary."

© 2011 United Press International, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

## 7. Houston Public Radio / KUHF

<http://app1.kuhf.org/articles/1305667770-Bon-Jovi-Talks-With-Houston-Teens.html>

### Bon Jovi Talks With Houston Teens

May 17, 2011

by: Bill Stamps



*He's got the money and the means to do just about whatever he wants. So why is musician Jon Bon Jovi traveling the country talking to teenagers? Bill Stamps caught up with him on a visit to Houston.*

Forty-nine-year-old Jon Bon Jovi has made millions of dollars as a recording artist. He's won numbers awards for his albums and he's even campaigned for three presidents. But it was a request by President Obama that eventually brought him to Houston.

"The president's directive was quite simple: show me organizations that are working and bring back results."

The Obama Administration formed what's called the Council for Community Solutions, prominent men and women who travel across the country and hold round table discussions with American youth.

"I'm absolutely not here to offer advice. I'm here to listen, take information and report it up the ladder. I'm not in an official capacity here as you part of, anything more than a counsel."

During his Houston stop, Bon Jovi heard from teens involved in several local programs. People like 18-year-old Ray Rangel, who's had a rough childhood, but is trying to staying positive.

"I came up in a single parent home. My mom struggled most of our lives to support me and my brother and my sister. Basically, I'm here through Communities in School. It has helped me with a lot of stuff, mainly motivation, because the most part I've lacked through — I see the struggles and I just want to give up sometimes."

Bon Jovi also listened to Houston's Maria Baldit. A teenage mom who's hoping to have a better life then her immigrant parents.

"I'm actually going to get to be somebody, not just working full time in restaurant or something. I'm actually going to go to college and be somebody, for my baby and myself."

With the money and freedom to do just about whatever he wants, I asked Bon Jovi why he got involved in the president's program.

"I've been blessed a million times over and I love my job. But my job is just what I do, it's not who I am. And I'm also a father. A father of four and I feel a part of who I am is giving back and this is something where I don't need a scientist to create the cure. We can fact find. We can make a difference we can implement change."

The famous singer will take what he learns from his discussions and give the information to the white house. Bon Jovi says he's had a good life, now he's hoping to make life better for others as well.

## 8. Houston Press

[http://blogs.houstonpress.com/hairballs/2011/05/photos\\_by\\_allison\\_wagonerhouston.php](http://blogs.houstonpress.com/hairballs/2011/05/photos_by_allison_wagonerhouston.php)

### Bon Jovi Rides His Steel Horse to Meet Annise Parker

By [Allison Wagoner](#), Tue., May 17 2011 at 10:01 AM



*Photos by Allison Wagoner*

**Houston Mayor Annise Parker and Jon Bon Jovi stand with their autographed plates that will be featured on SEARCH's "Wall of China."**

Even though there's a famous [APB on him](#), Jon Bon Jovi met with Mayor Annise Parker yesterday and was not arrested.

Bon Jovi has a concert at Toyota Center tonight, but he came to Houston a day early to do some voluntary community-service work for the President. It was not the type of community service that required shirtless physical labor -- unfortunately -- but more along the lines of clothed community conversations.

President Obama asked the New Jersey rocker to participate in The White House Council for Community Solutions in December of 2010 and since then, he has visited New Orleans, Atlanta and now Houston. The council is focused on education, youth development and employment on local levels.

Bon Jovi, along with 24 other members, visits neighborhood organizations in order to examine the ways that communities implement change through their youth. The council has been instructed to gather up information from their discussions in each community and meet back in Washington, D.C., to evaluate the information.

"I was the only person from the entertainment business that the President asked to take part in this Council for Community Solutions. The President's directive was simple: Show me organizations that are working and bring back results," Bon Jovi said. "They're very aware that this demographic is going to be in need of jobs and education."

Bon Jovi and Mayor Annise Parker held the youth round table meeting at SEARCH Homeless Services in Midtown. The two sat down with the young adults that SEARCH serves, as well as kids from Goodwill Houston, Community in Schools and Gulf Coast Trades Center.

Parker reflected on the importance of holding a forum with the young adults helped by SEARCH, and giving them a chance to talk about their situations together as a group.

"As many of you know, I have three kids who came from foster care and tough situations. They don't want to listen to their parents, but they will listen to their peers," Parker half-laughed. "We really need a network of peer-to-peer communication."

Bon Jovi added that he could remember a time earlier in his career when he thought that the youth of America seemed relatively optimistic; but since personally meeting and speaking with a new generation of kids, he has noticed a shift in formative hopefulness.

"I think I've made my own reputation over the last three decades of optimism and the belief in oneself. I'm starting to see now that kids are believing in themselves again and are more inter-dependant on each other than on what their parents did before them," he said.

It seemed like all eyes were on the bronzed, radiant musician as he took time to sign autographs for the kids, as well as some mesmerized adult women, but he remained almost demure about his role in solving the pressing issues that at-risk youth face in the current economic environment.

"Part of who I am is giving back," Bon Jovi said. "We don't need a scientist to create a cure - we can fact-find, we can make a difference, we can implement change."

**9. Fox affiliate / KRIV**

<http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/news/local/110516-jon-bon-jovi-listens-to-houstons-youth>

**Jon Bon Jovi Listens to Houston's Youth**

Updated: Monday, 16 May 2011, 10:23 PM CDT

Published : Monday, 16 May 2011, 10:23 PM CDT

HOUSTON - Rock superstar Jon Bon Jovi spent the day finding out what Houston's young people hope for their future.

He visited 'SEARCH' which helps homeless youth with a place to stay...

Bon Jovi is part of the President Barack Obama's Council for Community Solutions.

He's taking part in a "listening tour" in major cities to find out what kids are concerned about.

"The one underlying premise that keeps coming back is information," Bon Jovi said. They need to know how and who to get help from and then they embrace it."

Bon Jovi will take the information he's gathered from kids and report back to the White House.

He'll play at Houston's Toyota Center Tuesday night.

**10. CW affiliate / KIAH**

<http://www.39online.com/newsfix/kiah-newsfix-ballad-of-youth-story,0,3816514.story>

**Ballad Of Youth - Jon Bon Jovi Helps Houston's Homeless**

NewsFix KIAH

8:38 a.m. CDT, May 18, 2011

HOUSTON, TX— For over three decades Jon Bon Jovi has had audiences rocking out. The tables have turned on the rock superstar it's now his time to listen.

Bon Jovi and mayor Anise Parker were part of a listening session at search homeless services in mid town to hear what young adults had to say about challenges they are facing.

Bon Jovi was picked by president Obama to be a council member on the white house council for community solutions. The council's focus is empowering the youth of America through partnerships. Many of the youth attending the session say that having someone of Bon Jovi's stature being part of the program means a lot.

Bon Jovi, a father of four, says the listening tour gives him the opportunity to show that being a rock star is just his job but not who he is.