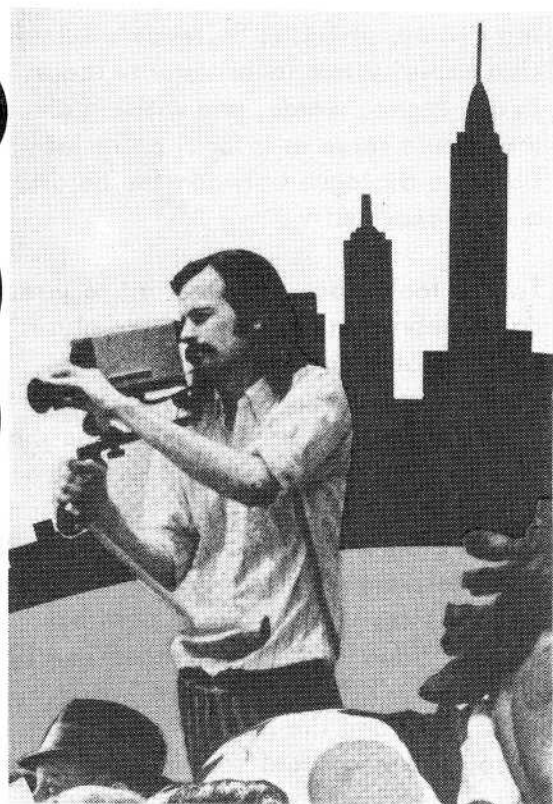


# PUBLIC ACCESS

A report from Survival Arts Media

The Celebration was envisioned as a three day information generating process which would link the activities occurring in a network of viewing/access centers throughout Manhattan, creating a multi-media two-way public information system.

The design of the overall structure originated in cooperative planning sessions, generated by the interaction of many individuals, independent media resources; representatives of two cable systems, cultural, educational, and service institutions, and members of specific communities. These planning sessions enabled us to continually re-define the design of the celebration by utilizing the constantly mushrooming resources of life energies and technological hardware.



The overall aims of the Public Access Celebration were the following:

- 1) To promote public awareness and participation in programming the public access channels.
- 2) To facilitate interaction between independent media resources programming the public access channels.
- 3) To foster awareness in cultural, educational, and service institutions of the potentials of communicating with their communities via closed-circuit video systems and/or the public access channels.
- 4) To help emerging communities define their information needs by participating in the public access experiment and to facilitate the participation of communities newly defined by information needs.
- 5) To create models for viewing/access centers.
- 6) To explore possibilities of directly involving cable subscribers and viewers

in interactive television formats.

- 7) To explore possibilities of integrating various media into communications nets to create a flexible, broad-based public access information system.

Viewing Centers during the Public Access Celebration were set up to give people familiar with public access cable channels an opportunity to see "a wide variety of programs." Also, people who had cable tv and had been watching would have an opportunity to respond. What happened at each viewing center, what type of programming was done, and how much community involvement there was depended upon the efforts of the individual centers. The following reports reflect the expectations and actual experiences in several different centers.

As an extension of our commitment, for the past year, in generating community health information, Survival Arts Media chose to work with Bellevue