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*PRESS RELEASE*

Capital Roots kicks off Produce Project’s
10th anniversary celebration

TROY, N.Y. – On Tuesday, Capital Roots, a local food access nonprofit, kicked off its 10th anniversary celebration of its Produce Project, a job readiness and life skills training program for Troy High School teens.

Produce Project students and staff welcomed guests from the Capital Region community to an open house at their 8th Street Urban Farm in Troy, offering guided tours of the 2.5-acre farm, sharing stories with former student alumni and staff, and selling their fresh local produce at their weekly Farm Stand.

The year-round program, which began in 2009, provides students a stipend and educational credit—as well as a harvest share to bring home—in exchange for operating the urban farm which overlooks downtown Troy. The program was born from a growing need to provide local high schoolers a competitive advantage through basic job skills while also educating them about proper nutrition due to the inaccessibility of fresh food in urban areas such as Troy. Today, the program continues that work while growing the next generation of Capital Region leaders.

“I am so proud of our Produce Project students and staff who have worked tirelessly over the last ten years to meet the demands of the local urban agriculture industry,” said Amy Klein, Capital Roots’ Chief Executive Officer. “An important aspect of the program is running the farm stand using the produce the students have worked to grow. We believe this nurtures an entrepreneurial mindset and encourages the students to advocate for themselves and feel confident to assume leadership roles when they arise.”
Produce is available for sale directly from the students every Tuesday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the farm, located at 261 8th Street in Troy. Produce can also be purchase each week at the program’s stand at the Delmar Farmer’s Market, Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

More information on the program can be found at www.capitalroots.org.