

## Youth Venture Newsletter

May 2009

Dear Kristin,

School is almost out and it's time to make summer plans! [Register](#) for the 2009 National YV Summit and meet Venturers from around the country and world in Boston June 26-29. To find insider tips on the YV Summit and the Boston area check out [YV's Blog](#).

Are you following Youth Venture online? Check out [Follow YV](#) to get updates on Youth Venture in all your favorite online social networks.

The Finalists for the 2009 Staples Youth Social Entrepreneur Competition have been announced, check out [YV Global](#) to learn more about the teams.

Want to have your Venture featured in the YV Newsletter? Send us an [email](#) with updates and info you would like to share with the YV Community.



**ASHOKA  
INITIATIVE**

### What's New This Month

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### Golden Opportunities

Check out these grants, programs and scholarships

#### [Collegiate Inventors Competition](#)

Open to college students who want to share their inventive ideas with the world.

Prizes from \$2,000 to \$25,000.

Deadline to Apply: June 16, 2009



## YV National Updates

### What's new around the US

The 2009 National YV Summit is coming to Boston University, MIT and Harvard on June 26-29! [Click](#) for more info.



Hosting the Summit and all of its activities at these schools will be like taking a bonus informal college tour.

Download our [Registration](#) form and lock in your spot at the Summit.

Submit a [Workshop Proposal](#) for a chance to present your very own workshop at the Summit.

Apply to be a [Summit Staff](#) member and help Youth Venture run the Summit.

Check out our [Fundraising Tips](#) to raise money to attend the Summit June 26-29.

*Act fast, deadlines are approaching! Visit [GenV.net](#) to find out about other exciting programs that Youth Venture is sponsoring!*

## Featured Venturers

### Spotlighting...

#### Venture Aims to Collect One Million Cell Phones by 2010

[Recycle to Eradicate Poverty](#) is taking a unique approach to raise money for the microfinance organization, [The Chiapas Project](#). Instead of collecting donations, the team helps reduce electronic waste by urging individuals to recycle used cell phones through [Phoneraiser](#), wherein each phone generates \$1 to \$150 (depending on the model). This money is then used to fund microfinance loans to women in Latin America.



[LEARN](#) more about the environmental dangers of electronic waste.

[DONATE](#) a used cell phone.

*Learn about more changemakers and [Venture Teams](#) just like you.*

## MySpace Impact Awards

Each month nominate organizations and individuals who are using their MySpace pages to make a difference. The winning organization will receive \$10,000.



### Bank of America Local Heroes Award

Open to individuals who champion causes in their communities and inspire others to get involved.

Deadline to Apply: June 30, 2009.



Want more info about scholarships, programs, and grants? More are listed on [GenV.net](#). Check out these links: [Opportunities](#) for Venturers and [Grants and Scholarship Opportunities](#) for Venturers.

## Communicate with the Media

Communicating with the media can be a good way to advertise and spread the word about your Venture. It may also help by promoting fundraising efforts, increasing membership, finding volunteers, and raising awareness about your cause. The media often has certain criteria that need to be met before they decide to cover a story. Learn about these criteria and find more media tips on [GenV](#).

*For additional helpful tools like Networking, Sustainability and more, go to [Grow It](#) on GenV.net.*

## In Your Neck of the Woods

### What YV and Venture Teams are doing in your region

#### Fitchburg, MA

The 7th Annual United Way - Youth Venture Year End Event will be held Thursday, May 7th. The event will be a gathering of all the United Way teams in the New England area and will celebrate all they have accomplished this year.



#### Seattle, WA-

YV Seattle is hosting a Venture Celebration on Saturday, May 30th. The celebration will coincide with the Community Panels for the Spring Dream It. Do It. Challenge participants and will be a chance for all local Venturers to gather and reflect on their impact over the past year.

*Access your neck of the woods~ [New England](#), [Midwest](#), [NY and Tri-state](#), [Seattle](#), [Mid-Atlantic](#) -to share ideas, seek advice, and stay informed as to what is going on in your broader community to help to grow and sustain your Venture.*

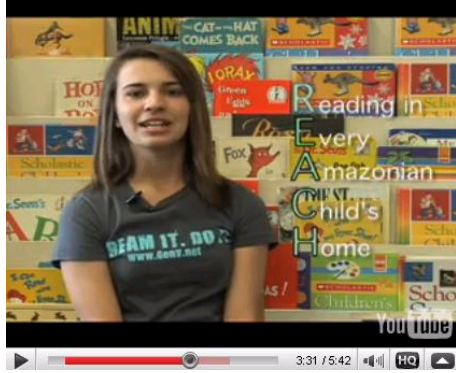
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## Follow YV:

## Shout Out

[R.E.A.C.H. 4 Books](#) provides Spanish books to children living along the Peruvian part of the Amazon River.

[Watch their video](#)



In less than a year, the team has collected over 2,000 books. The team is now planning to build and supply a new library that will serve 12-15 villages along the Peruvian Amazon River.

Share your Venture with others. [Email YV](#) for consideration in future newsletter issues.

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**Ralph Waldo Emerson**

"Do not go where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."

**Harriet Tubman**

"You have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars and change the world."

## Check Out the Finalists for the 2009 Staples Youth Social Entrepreneur Competition

Highlighting young changemakers from around the world



For the third consecutive year, Ashoka's Youth Venture® and [Staples Foundation for Learning®](#) are proud to sponsor the Staples Youth Social Entrepreneur Competition. Nominations were submitted from Youth Venture offices around the world. The 10 global finalist teams are from: Argentina, Brazil, France, Germany, India, Mexico, Thailand and U.S.A.

[Check out the finalists and their projects.](#)

Judges will select five winning teams who will be flown to Boston to participate in the National YV Summit and attend the YSE Award Ceremony. At the ceremony, one team will be presented the Excellence Award, along with a prize worth \$5,000! The four remaining teams will each receive a \$500 cash award. The winning teams will also receive an array of additional [prizes](#). Winners will be announced on May 26.



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