



YVNE

YOUTH VENTURE
New England

Dear Lidia,

We have a lot of exciting news to share with you this month, including the launch of [Youth Venture's](#) new web site and the upcoming celebration to showcase and honor New England's Venture Teams.

Youth Venture
New England

Raise Your Profile

Venture Teams, later this month you'll have the opportunity to create your own web page on [Youth Venture's new web site](#).

Young social changemakers of the world, at last you have an online community to call your own!



Design profile pages for yourself and your team. You'll be able to interact with fellow Venturers and other civic-minded youth from across New England, the U.S., and the world! And the new site will provide all the resources needed to help create, launch, and sustain your Ventures. Ask questions, share advice, create blogs, add video, almost anything goes. Be sure and tell your friends to join the [Dream it. Do it.](#) movement.

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It's YOUR Party!

One month and counting until our exciting Celebration and Showcase* for ALL New England-based Youth Venture teams. Team Allies, Champions and Venturer parents are also invited to attend this special celebration. **Attendance is FREE for invitees!** Check your mailboxes for registration information.

One of our Special Guests will be Venturer Kyle Taylor - just before he leaves on a 2.5 month, 9 nation tour promoting Youth Venture's global changemaker movement by spotlighting young changemakers in all nine countries. You won't want to miss this! Kyle will explain how all Venturers can take part in his global tour.

This May 10 event will be held at the [Colonial Hotel](#), Gardner, MA, and is sponsored by the United Way - Youth Venture partnership. *Remember to RSVP ASAP after receiving your invite in the mail.*

If you haven't received an invitation and would like to come, or have any questions whatsoever, please send an email to Sheila Conlan at sconlan@youthventure.org

**This event celebrating the United Way - Youth Venture partnership program is co-sponsored by United Ways of North Central MA and Greater Nashua, Youth Venture, and Mount Wachusett Community College.*



**Youth Venture
New England**



Around New England

NEW HAMPSHIRE:

- Desiree Amadeo, Lead Venturer for Merrimack Bio-Diesel Crew was just awarded a \$10,000 scholarship for the college of her choice by [AXA Achievement](#). Also look for Desiree's picture on the cover of [Next Steps magazine](#). Desiree was selected as "A Super Teen" by Next Steps magazine - selected for her extraordinary extracurricular activities, community involvement, accomplishments, and plans for the future.
- Congratulations to **Beads for Needs** and the **Night Riders Renovation Team**. They are the newest teams to wow selection panels as a result of the [NH 4-H](#) Youth Venture partnership. **Beads for Needs** will teach underprivileged girls to design their own jewelry - hoping it will inspire a sense of pride and creativity in the girls. **Night Riders Renovation Team** - well...think of these girls as an extreme makeover gang. They're gearing up to renovate the nursery school of a local church that has fallen into some disrepair.
- **Beads for Needs** isn't wasting any time. The team will be selling its hand-made jewelry at UNH's Thompson Hall, in Durham, from 8am-12pm on April 24th.
- Looking for inexpensive, "gently" used sports equipment? **Suncook Valley Sports Swap**, another 4-H Venture team, will be holding their first fundraiser on April 14 at the Pittsfield Middle-High School gym. Proceeds will go to the Venture team's *sportship* program - to help offset playing fees for young, unprivileged local athletes. Call Nick Bachelder at 603-435-7892 for details.
- Samantha Bangs, [Class Act Summer Shakespeare](#) Lead Venturer will be heading to Nebraska this summer to compete in the nationals for the international [Thespian Festival](#). Also, the team will be performing their spring show "The Laramie Project" on May 10, 11, 12 at Alvirne H.S.
- Venture team [Rubber Ducky Studios](#) of Amherst, NH, is busy working on producing an info-commercial for the local Souhegan Boys & Girls Club. They're also developing a commercial to

promote their Venture's video production services.

- It's time again to shine the spotlight on [Broadway at the Cafe](#) . Members will be performing a musical Broadway Review on April 13 and 14 at [The Sad Cafe](#) in Plaistow.

MASSACHUSETTS:

- Dozens of community members looked on as the **Skaters of Shirley** (S.O.S.) team presented selection panelists with their Venture idea to create a Skate Park at Benjamin Hill Park in Shirley. The team plans to ask for donations, hold fundraisers and have a benefit dance to continue to raise the funds needed to build their new skate park. Students from Shirley Middle School, Francis W. Parker Charter School, and Lura White School are working together on this community Venture.
- Two Fitchburg High School teams have recently launched. The **Riverfront Revival of the Arts** team is hoping to bring the arts back to Fitchburg - and they're starting by holding the first annual community art exhibit on June 30th at Riverfront Park as one of the Fitchburg Civic Days. Artists, of all ages, from the community are invited to submit their works including quilting, jewelry, sculpture, drawing, painting, photography and even floral arrangements. Awards for each category will be given. The event will also feature local music including the Fitchburg High School Jazz Band and the Dance Team.
- The **From Crocker to Crocker** team is holding an after school track program for fourth graders at Crocker Elementary School. They hope to demonstrate to their young track team that participating in track events can help teach them to stay healthy, develop leadership skills and build confidence. They will hold a track meet and award ceremony for the youngsters on May 30th at Crocker Field.

In the News:

- Nashua, NH's Rhythm and Rhymes Records Venture Team received a brief write up about their launch in the March 1 edition of [The Hippo](#).
- Newly launched MA team Skaters of Shirley placed prominently on the front page of the [Shirley Oracle](#) on March 9.
- Rob Alexander, Youth Venture - New England's Program Development Associate, was quoted in a March 19 article on youth entrepreneurship in [Foster's Daily Democrat](#).
- On March 25, [The Union Leader's](#) NH Sunday News ran a great spread about teens doing great things for their communities and profiled Artists Avenue.

Select the Winning Team!

CAST YOUR VOTE TODAY for the Grand Prize Winner of the "That Was Easy Competition: Leaders in the Young Changemaker Movement." Fifty-five national organizations led by young people participated in this collaborative competition hosted by Youth Venture and Staples to celebrate the power of young people and to draw attention to the important and growing movement of young changemakers.



Visit www.changemakers.net/journal/thatwaseasy from now until April 9 to cast your vote! The Grand Prize Winner will be announced at an Award Celebration at Staples Headquarters on April 27.

A Lesson in Sustainability



One of YV's oldest Venturers, Divine Bradley, is one of this year's BRICK Award winners! The BRICK Awards honor youth service initiatives - and this year eleven young people were selected from the U.S. and Canada to receive \$10,000. However, four Grand Finalists will each receive an extra \$15,000!

Please, go **online** and **vote** for Divine Bradley and his organization [Team Revolution](http://www.teamrevolution.org) at www.brickawards.com. You can also watch Divine's latest video. Then on April 12, go to the CW Television Network and watch The BRICK awards being presented.

Technical Allies



Youth Venture Technical Allies **Special Guest Series**

Monday, April 2 at 7:30 pm

TOPIC: Team Relationships

Amy Donahue will discuss ways to improve relationships with your Venture teammates,

and how to build a strong team. Also, John Muller, Lead Venturer from **Dream City Theater Goup**, will discuss how he's tackled team building and relationships in his own Venture Team.

Monday, April 16 at 7:30 pm, TOPIC: Fundraising

Venturers, don't miss this opportunity to ask Jason, Youth Venture's resident fundraising guru, all about creative, fun ways to raise money to grow and sustain your Venture. Venturers Katie and Julia from **Running for a Reason** will be the Venturer presenters

To participate in either of these FREE conference calls, please email Haley at hbuenzli@youthventure.org to register.

New Global Partnership

[ACJ](http://www.acj.org), the branch of United Way in Brazil, has formed a partnership with [Geracao MudaMundo](http://www.geracao.org) (GMM), the Youth Venture branch in Brazil. ACJ will be providing \$15,000 in seed funding support for about 15 GMM Venture teams. ACJ operates a bit differently in Brazil than in the U.S. In Brazil, ACJ's main focus is on youth and economic development - to better prepare youth for the job market.

Your Global Community

Remember as Youth Venturers you are part of a powerful global network of young changemakers. Youth Venture has operations in Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, India, South Africa, Thailand, France, Germany and Spain - with many more planned.



GLOBAL PROFILE: Youth Parliament of Delhi, India serves as a non-judgmental platform for young people's ideas, opinions, voice and vote. Over the past four years Youth Parliament has developed numerous projects in partnership with schools and other organizations on a variety of issues, including education, corruption, disaster relief and rehabilitation, India's political and legal system, right to information, media, and HIV/AIDS. Youth Parliament's vision is to serve as a resource base that reaches out to young people, allowing them to conceptualize, develop and execute their own initiatives on issues they are passionate about.

Grant and Scholarship Opportunities

The [Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes](#) honors young people ages 8 to 18 who have shown leadership and courage in public service to people and our planet. Each year, ten national winners each receive \$2,000 to support their service work or higher education. The nomination deadline is April 30.

Yahoo! Inc. has teamed up with FYI (Film Your Issue) for the ["Issue Film"](#) competition, an unprecedented initiative to engage young adults in public dialogue about pressing issues of importance, locally or internationally. The deadline for submissions is April 15.

Youth Venture, in partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and MTV Tr3s Voces, will select teams of two or more youth, ages 13-20, every week through June 29th, 2007, who submit great ideas for encouraging their Latino peers to graduate from high school and college. [Tu Voz My Venture](#) winning teams will receive grants of up to \$1,000. Five winning teams will be awarded \$5,000 scholarships.

General Mills is looking to lend a "helping hand" to neighborhoods across the U.S. with its ["My Hometown Helper"](#) grant program. Applicants can request a one-time award of between \$500 and \$15,000 during any single month. The program will award "helping hand" grants each month from online applications received through May 2007.

Venturers: Share Your News!

New England Venturers, we know you're busy and working hard to make your Venture a success. Let us help. By email, send us updates on your team's events, fundraisers, awards, etc... Let us share your good news with your fellow Venturers. And, don't forget to email those great pictures! It's easy. Send your news and pics to YVNE Communications Manager, Lidia Pedro at lpedro@youthventure.org

YVNE Staff

For general comments or questions regarding this newsletter or Youth Venture's New England Regional office, please contact us: 603-223-9864 or yvne@youthventure.org

For specific questions, please contact the appropriate staff member:

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YOUTH VENTURE

The power to change your world.

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