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Sent: Friday, December 14, 2007 12:59 PM
To: Kumar Raj
Subject: News from Youth Venture New England

December 2007 Newsletter

Dream it. Do it.



Dear Lidia,

All of us at Youth Venture New England would like to wish you a Happy Holidays!



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\$68,000 Scholarship!

Youth Venture and New England College would like to announce their **Presidential Scholarship worth \$68,000!** One lucky Venturer can win this scholarship to New England College in Henniker, NH. The Presidential Scholarship is being offered to one high school junior or senior who turn in their YV application by February 28, 2008. So if you know someone who would be interested, let them know! For more information email kraj@youthventure.org.



New England College College Convention



Youth Venture helped sponsor New England College's Third College Convention in Manchester, NH November 28th thru December 1st. Youth Venture's own Kyle Taylor was one of the premiere speakers that brought in high school and college students from around the country. Kyle offered attendees a presentation showing them there is more they can do beyond civic engagement.

The Convention had a full agenda of policy driven and issue oriented sessions featuring important elected officials and renowned experts. Presidential hopefuls Sen. Joe Biden, Rep. Dennis Kucinich, former Sen. Mike Gravel, Rep. Ron Paul, former Gov. Mike Huckabee and Rep. Tom Tancredo were in attendance.



Pictured are YV's Kyle Taylor and Rep. Dennis Kucinich addressing the convention. If you look closely, you can see Youth Venture's logo on the banner!



Around New England and Beyond!

NEW HAMPSHIRE:

- [Green Teens U.S.A.](#) Venture team of Storrs, CT held an educational fundraiser outside the Willimantic Food Co-Op. The goal of the booth was to sell their Eco-Bags, a wonderful alternative to plastic and paper bags. The team had a display board and informative handouts. The Venture team also spread awareness about World Tree Day, an environmental holiday they are promoting with the Tree Theater Group of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. They also raised close to \$100 for a local homeless shelter. You can check out The Green Teens at <http://www.youngenviros.org/greenteens>
- [Dance Creations](#) has just filled all their classes for the winter. Some of the classes offered will be Jazz, Hip-Hop and Creative Movement. Members of [Dance Creations](#) will also be performing in the musical "Smokey Joe's Cafe" at the Court Street Theatre in Nashua until December 9th. [Dance Creations](#) was launched from the Youth Venture - United Way of Greater Nashua partnership.
- [Project T-Shirt Relief](#) of Nashua has started their free trade coffee sale as a fundraiser for their Venture team. Project T-Shirt Relief was launched from the Youth Venture - United Way of Greater Nashua partnership.



MASSACHUSETTS:



Two new teams in Leominster, MA have launched as a result of the Youth Venture-United Way of North Central Massachusetts partnership.

- The Backyard Venture Team of Sky View Middle School is a group of very talented students that want to design and build an outdoor science learning area for students to learn and study the environment and habitat that is located behind their school.



- The Positive Preschool Pals Venture Team is a diverse group of middle school students for the the ELL class that want to be role models for their preschool pals. They plan to share stories, music and crafts.

CALIFORNIA:



• Volunteer Income Tax Assistant, of Santa Barbara, CA has recently launched. Volunteer Income Tax Assistant provides free income tax filing for the local community targeting the Spanish speaking community, who might not otherwise file taxes. Volunteer Income Tax Assistant is the first team to launch from the Youth Venture - SAGE partnership.

A Special Note

All of us at Youth Venture's New England office extend a special thank you to the Trustees of The Agnes M. Lindsay Trust. For a second time, the Trust has generously provided funding for our office to upgrade its technology capabilities. This most recent funding for equipment will enable our growing staff to reach more young people and improve our capacity to support our many Venturers.

2008 Three Dot Dash Global Teen Leaders



The **Three Thee Dot Dash Global Teen Leaders** have been announced and our very own **Venturer [Emilio Perez Campanelli, 18](#)**, from Argentina is one of the winners!

When Emilio was 9 years old, he noticed how two abandoned train cars in his Buratovich community divided the very rich and very poor. His poor community faced many societal problems- including school dropouts, teen pregnancy, sexual abuse, environmental problems, and apathy among the youth. As the leader of the youth club "Ecoclub Buratovich", Emilio had his team repair the two train cars, calling the project "[Un Vagón Hermoso](#)" ("beautiful wagon" in Spanish), in order to create a youth center for the community. These wagons are now home to "Ecoclub Buratovich" and offer access to a variety of resources, including the Internet, photography, educational activities, volunteer opportunities and environmental forums. "Ecoclub Buratovich" has helped empower the youth to drive social change - they have gained knowledge and life skills that have greatly benefited the community. Emilio hopes to expand his project and inspire young people to alter the way they are viewed by society.

To be eligible as a Three Dot Dash Global Teen Leader, one must be between the ages of 13-19 and be doing extraordinary work that helps meet basic human needs - food, water, health, shelter, education and safety - thus creating a more peaceful society. For more information on Three Dot Dash and the Global Teen Leadership Awards, click [here](#).



Global Young Social Entrepreneurs' Competition

The Global Knowledge Partnership (GKP) has announced 100 winners for the "Global Young Social Entrepreneurs' Competition." One of the teams launched from the Youth Venture - Foresters partnership, [dimwitnot.com](#), was selected as one of the winners! [dimwitnot.com](#), based in Northern California, launched a website which allows young people to tutor each other at mutually convenient times via the web. The winners from 38 countries are awarded with a trip to Kuala Lumpur to attend the Young Social Entrepreneurs Forum. There they will meet representatives from funding organizations and benefit from networking, knowledge-sharing, and mentoring opportunities. To learn more about [dimwitnot.com](#) click on the link.



Tu Voz, My Venture Contest Winners Announced!



"Tu Voz, My Venture" awarded 50 winning teams with start-up grants of up to \$1,000 to launch their Ventures to help young Latinos stay in school and prepare for college and beyond. Five finalist teams were selected to receive a \$5,000 scholarship. This initiative was launched by Youth Venture in partnership with MTV Tr3s, with funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The five grand-prize Tu Voz, My Venture teams are:

Bio Motors: Veggies give you GAS, Los Angeles, CA

This Venture team assists Latino students with transportation to educational programs, while engaging them in a movement to expand awareness of the use of environmentally conscious fuel. The plan calls for converting an old school bus diesel engine to run on used vegetable oil collected from fast food restaurants.

College Bound Latinos, Arlington, VA

This Venture plans to host trips to colleges for young Latinos to expose them to college life and reinforce the importance of a college education. The program informs students about scholarship opportunities and also plans on educating parents by hosting "college night sessions" in English and Spanish.

SOUL, Gresham, OR

Concerned about high school dropout and pregnancy rates among young Latinas, the ultimate goal of this Venture is to get Latina students in Gresham High School focused on school and college through mentoring, homework tutoring, and building self-esteem and stronger social networks.

Latino Youth for Community Preparedness (LYCP), Oakland, CA

This team will provide bi-lingual first aid and disaster preparedness presentations and trainings to raise awareness and educate the Hispanic community in ways that they can protect themselves and loved ones in the event of a natural disaster or in an emergency situation. This Venture wants to help people realize they can do something to protect themselves and save other peoples lives when it comes to natural disasters and medical emergencies and education.

Peques Chavos Fundacion de Futbol (FF), Southampton, NY

This Venture seeks to motivate Latino youth to stay in school and continue their studies through their desire to be part of a group that supports the playing of soccer. The goal is to create an opportunity to use a popular sport like soccer to inspire youth to strive for scholarships and higher education opportunities.

The full list of Tu Voz teams, with team descriptions, can be found at www.genv.net/tuvoz

FREE Workshops!



**YOUTH VENTURE Technical Allies
Special Guest Series
December Workshop Schedule**

These **FREE** workshops are held over the telephone, enabling Venturers from all over the country to participate and share ideas for helping to make and keep their Ventures successful. There is only one workshop in December, so be sure to take advantage of this opportunity!

[December 10th @ 7:30pm EST: 'College: Applications and Scholarhips'](#)

Are you planning on going to college? Do you want some tips on how to find and win scholarships and how to fill out college applications?

Call in on **December 10th at 7:30pm EST** and get advice from:

- **Zanna**, a Senior College Counselor in the **Center for College Planning** at the **New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation (NHHEAF)** Network Organizations. Zanna meets individually with hundreds of NH families each year assisting with both admission and financial aid. The NHHEAF Network Organizations are the largest source for college funding within New Hampshire and have a more than 40-year history of helping families plan for and fund higher education.
- **Jason**, Lead Venturer of **Bridge Education Venture Team** (http://www.genv.net/en-us/team/bridge_education) and founder of **INeedAPencil.com**, will speak about his knowledge and experience on college applications and scholarships and about his Venture Team's work to bridge the education achievement gap.

To register: email technicalally@youthventure.org or call 612.455.2007. Please include your name, Venture Team Name and short description, email address, phone number, and one thing you hope to learn/discuss during the workshop when registering!

Please register by Friday, Dec. 7.

The Technical Allies Special Guests program presents an opportunity for Venturers ask specific questions to experienced professionals and Venturers experienced in the given topic or technical field in a workshop atmosphere. Technical Allies support young people as they start, lead, and sustain community-minded organizations, clubs, or businesses. For more information about workshops, other elements of the program including E-Advisors, and to share your thoughts, please visit the [Technical Ally program profile](#) on Youth Venture's website or e-mail technicalally@youthventure.org.

Your Global Community



Newey is in the U.S. to learn first hand how Youth Venture operates here. However, Newey will continue to add to her Be The Change blog and video diary on <http://edition.cnn.com/>



"Be the Change" is CNN International's breakthrough campaign on creating social change. Newey, the Youth Venture Director in Thailand, is one of six people highlighted who are making a difference in the world. The broadcast spotlights those who often go unnoticed but are doing great work in their communities.

[Click here](#) to read Newey's blogs and her latest [video blog](#).

GenV.net Member of the Year!



Congratulations to GenV.net member [JJ Express](#) for winning the "GenV.net Member of the Year" Contest!! [JJ Express](#) won \$500 towards her venture or a YV venture of her choice. She will have her picture permanently placed in rotation of pictures that appear at the top of every homepage.

Congratulations to the other nominees [sweetbliss27](#), [jlsphar](#), [AYUDA](#), [magdoyne](#), [morgan](#), and [alok](#)! It was an EXTREMELY close contest. Thanks to all who nominated a GenV.net user and participated in the voting process.

SMS (Text-Message) Campaign

Build the YV movement through your network of friends!



Change the world, one group at a time -- that's what Youth Venture has been working to achieve. Now it's time to pass on your hard-earned knowledge to new Venturers! We want MORE young people starting their own businesses, civil society organizations and informal programs to address the ever growing number of social issues. BUT, we can't do it alone! We need YOUR help.

We launched a three-month trial SMS (text messaging) campaign, which began in November to drive more traffic to GenV.net, and ultimately, launch more Venture teams. This is how it'll work:

1. Youth Venture sends you a text message with helpful tips and useful information every other week for three months beginning in November.
2. You pass it on to everybody you know who might be interested.
3. If your friends like the messages, they can opt-in to receive these messages and start forwarding it to all of THEIR friends.
4. A HUGE network will form as young people (individuals between 13 and 24) start creating profiles on GenV.net and launch Ventures. Members can also join or help out existing Ventures.

If you're as excited as we are to help other young people launch Ventures, e-mail your name, mobile phone number, and a brief statement that you would like to opt-in to receive text messages from Youth Venture to Jenny at jeav@youthventure.org, OR be on the look out for ways to opt-in on GenV.net! If you've got any questions or concerns, please feel free to ask away!

YouTube!



Be sure to check out Youth Venture's cool new YouTube page containing all Youth Venture's videos including those made by Venturers! www.youtube.com/youthventure

The Power of An Idea



"The Power of An Idea" 2008 Social Innovation Competition has a grand prize of \$50,000! The RGK Center at the University of Texas - Austin is looking for college students nationwide with ingenious entrepreneurial ideas that will change the world. Dream up a plan that combines creativity and innovation and tackle a pressing social issue, and you can win \$50,000 to put your plan into action! Existing ventures are eligible as long as they haven't been in operation for more than three years. **Entry deadline February 1, 2008.** Click [here](#) for more information.

Grant and Scholarship Opportunities

Suria Lloyd, the YVNE Development Associate, has created an easy way to find out about grant and scholarship opportunities through her [blog](#) on GenV.net, where she will regularly update these opportunities. Please email or post on her blog if you have any questions.

Action for Nature

Action For Nature, a nonprofit organization that encourages young people around the world to carry out individual environmental action projects, presents the International Young Eco-Hero Awards to recognize the individual accomplishments of young people (ages 8-16) whose personal actions have significantly improved the environment. Action For Nature will award cash prizes of up to \$500 each to young Eco-Heroes for their outstanding accomplishments in environmental advocacy, environmental health, research, or protection of the natural world. **The deadline is February 28, 2008.** See the Action For Nature Web site for complete program information and application guidelines. <http://www.actionfornature.org>

AXA Achievement and Community Scholarships

The AXA Foundation Achievement Awards are awarded to high school seniors planning on attending a 2-4 year college who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in the community. Preference is given to achievement in a non-academic area. **The deadline is December 15, 2007** and applicants must apply online. Click [here](#) for more details.

Brick Awards

Brick Awards highlight those who have worked to create powerful, positive change in their communities. Nine winners will receive a minimum of \$10,000 in community grants and scholarships. Out of the nine chosen, one has the chance to win a total of \$100,000 in community grants. Applications are only accepted online. **The deadline is December 31, 2007.** Click [here](#) for more information. *Note: Your Venture must have 501(c)3 status to receive the Brick Award. An individual whose Venture does not have 501(c)3 status can apply for the award, but will need to choose another non-profit to receive the funds.*

Plum Grants are worth \$500 and are awarded to youth weekly who have founded a service organization and need extra money to support it. For more information, go to [Plum Grants](#)

Mix It Up Grants program gives \$500 to youth-led projects that concentrate on breaking down barriers in their community. Youth direct all aspects of the project, and the project must be a long-term attempt to build bridges between different groups. [Mix It Up](#)

Invest in Youth Venture! [CLICK HERE](#)

DONATE NOW

and we'll TRIPLE your gift*

Example: Your \$50 ➔ \$150 Gift

HOW TO GIVE:

Online: go to www.GenV.net and click DONATE

By phone: call 703-600-8201

By mail: please make your check payable to Youth Venture Inc. and send to:

Youth Venture
Attn: Development
1700 North Moore St., Suite 2000
Arlington, VA 22209

*A generous Donor will match your gift 2:1 through December 31, 2007, up to a total of \$25,000! Please contact us for more details.



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INVEST in US

Venturers: Share Your News!

New England Venturers, we know you're busy and working hard to make your Venture a success. Let us help. Email 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 Marketing and Media Associate, Kumar Raj kraj@youthventure.org.



YVNE Staff

For general comments or questions regarding this newsletter or Youth Venture's New England Regional office, please contact us: 866.923.9863 or yvne@youthventure.org

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