

YouthVenture_US

Dear Youth Venture Friend,

Youth Venture New England

YOU ASKED FOR IT, WE'RE CLOSE TO DELIVERING

After much anticipation, and a lot of behind the scenes work, the finishing touches are underway to Youth Venture's soon-to-be-launched *new and improved web site*.

(Here's a sneak peek)



For many, many months our web team has been working closely with designers at www.zincroe.com. This new site promises to be highly interactive, functional, and valuable in helping Youth Venture build its online community of young changemakers across the world

Regional Newsletter
March 2007 Edition

Dream it. Do it.

New England Venturers: Come and Celebrate

ALL

New England-based Youth Venture teams, Allies, Champions and Venturer parents are invited to attend a [special celebration](#).

Join us

May 10, 2007

at the Colonial Hotel in Gardner, MA. Come network with fellow Venturers! Showcase your team's success and impact on your community. Learn about new opportunities for sustaining and expanding your Venture! Registration information and the schedule of events will be released in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about the event, contact YVNE United Way Partner Specialist Sheila Conlan: sconlan@youthventure.org or 603-223-9864.

Mark your calendars and Save the Date!



This event will be sponsored by the
United Way - Youth Venture partnership.

Venturers, this site will provide each of you the opportunity to create profiles (web pages) as individuals, and as a team. We've designed the foundation, but building this global community tailored to civic-minded young changemakers is up to you! Keep an eye on your email, soon we'll be sending you details for when you can log in and create your own Youth Venture profile. Spread the word, join the movement.



New Hampshire -

Rhythm and Rhymes Records joins the growing list of impressive and strong Venture teams launched as a result of the United Way -Youth Venture partnership.



(Shown above are team *Ally* Jan McCaughey, *Venturer* Rose Mwaura, *Champion* Nancy Dion and *Venturer* Joe Harrington. Not shown, *Venturer* George Mwaura.)

The Nashua High School South team was approved by a Selection Panel on February 6. Members not only answered panel members' questions - but were true to their mission. The NH team performed a number of musical selections. **Rhythm and Rhymes Records** would like to help emerging musical artists create demos. And, they plan to donate DJ'ing or performance services to their local Boys and Girls Club

MySpace

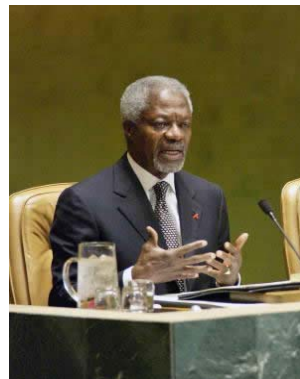
Have you checked out Youth Venture's MySpace page?

Share your Venture stories, ideas, and make new friends.

www.myspace.com/youthventure1

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"No one is born a good citizen; no nation is born a democracy. Rather, both are processes that continue to evolve over a lifetime. Young people must be included from birth. A society that cuts off from its youth severs its lifeline."



Kofi Annan

Congratulations!!! to Venturer Omar Faruk



Ernst & Young's "Youth Entrepreneur of the Year"

Omar Faruk, leader and founder of

and YMCA.



The [4-H Youth Venture partnership](#) has a series of events scheduled in the coming weeks. They include a March 3rd day-long "Dream it. Do it." workshop at the UNH Cooperative Extension Complex in Laconia for 4-H'ers from Belknap, Carroll and Strafford counties. The next 4-H selection panel is set for March 14.

And who says work has to be hard. 4-H Youth Venture Partner Specialist Alice Ballenger was lucky enough to spend a day scooping ice cream on behalf of the 4-H Foundation at the state's annual Farm and Forest Expo in Manchester.



Mmm...who says you can't enjoy ice cream in winter

With Easter just around the corner, the **Fresh Eats Wagon** team is planning to deliver twelve holiday baskets filled with homemade goodies to home-bound residents - eggs included.

The Action Network venture team and nonprofit, has been awarded the "Youth Entrepreneur of the Year" award for his work with [BlueStream](#). Omar started BlueStream in 2004. It's a nonprofit web management and design firm that specializes in working with small, star-up nonprofits. Omar's business is off to a terrific start. According to Inc.com, BlueStream grossed \$40,000 last year! Go Omar!

It's a Triple Play!

VERY BEST IN YOUTH

Last month, we told you about two Venturers among the 25 winners selected as Nestle's Very Best of Youth 2006. Well, we've since learned that Kosta Buhler of **Always Ready Kids** was also chosen. He joins Folake Dasun of a **Birthday Party Project**, and Tara Suri of **Write Share Learn**. Winners will receive a \$1,000 donation to the charity of his/her choice (including Ventures), an all expense paid five-day trip to Los Angeles for the awards ceremony and other events, plus spending money.

Venturers, if you're interested in applying for the 2007 Nestle Very Best in Youth Award, you should visit
<http://www.nestle-verybestinyouth.com/>

more **Opportunities for Venturers**



The Gloria
Barron Prize
for
Young Heroes

The brother and sister team, Katie and Andrew, who are active members of 4-H in New Hampton, NH, grow a variety of fresh vegetables and deliver fresh produce and home-baked breads to at least ten needy elderly residents or families each month. Since launching one year ago, the team has grown to five members and has delivered over 100 baskets of food!

Stephanie Brooks, Youth Venture New England's Operations and Development Manager, has been busy spreading the *Dream it. Do it.* message. In February, Stephanie served as an adult co-facilitator and dorm leader for the [NH Teen Institute's](#) Leaders in Prevention Program (LIP).

The four-day overnight program is held three times a year for teams of middle school students from across the state. LIP focuses on helping attendees develop leadership skills, increase self-confidence, as well as discuss information about preventing alcohol, tobacco and other drug use.

Massachusetts -

A special welcome to the newest [United Way Youth Venture teams from North Central Massachusetts!](#) Following two dynamic and well executed panel presentations on February 7, two very excited new Venture Teams were launched at Leominster High School.

Traveling Through the World Venture is a cultural journey of dance, food and sport. The diverse team members from Honduras, Brazil and Dominican Republic will provide the many culturally diverse students in their school the opportunity to learn about different cultural traditions through after school activities. Students who participate can learn dances such as the Samba and the Forro, sample foods from different Spanish-speaking countries, and can play soccer in the fall. The team will also hold a student and parent social in May to celebrate cultural diversity with their families and friends.

The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes is seeking nominations for its 2007 awards. The Barron Prize 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. For more information and to nominate, visit <http://www.barronprize.org/>

Check out local Venture teams in the



***That Was Easy* Competition**

A [National Competition](#)

for Youth Venture Teams from the USA who are Making Life Easier for Others in Society

www.changemakers.net/journal/thatwaseasy
Read the entries of the 55 teams that entered the competition (including a number of great New England teams) and give them feedback through the Discussion Forum!
Look online in March for the announcement of the five Grand Prize Finalists and your chance to vote on your favorites.

Real to Reel - Film Your Issue

Yahoo! Inc. has teamed up with FYI (Film Your Issue) as the exclusive online sponsor of the "Issue Film" competition, an unprecedented initiative to engage young adults in public dialogue about pressing issues of importance, locally or internationally.

Entries will be posted on Yahoo! Jumpcut beginning February 1. The deadline for submissions is April 15, 2007. Winners, to be announced in June, will receive a summer 2007 internship at Universal Pictures, a trip to New York for the FYI 2007 Awards Ceremony at United Nations Headquarters,

The second new Venture Team is **L.A.N.D.**, or Leominster Advocates for Nature's Den. This team is made up of talented music students at the high school who want to further enhance the unique outdoor learning space of **Nature's Den** classroom into an outdoor auditorium for band concerts and community events. They will hold a wide variety of events in **Nature's Den** auditorium including school committee meetings, benefit concerts, art exhibits, school barbeques, and student advisory meetings. Both teams hope to help unify their school and greater community through their Ventures. Congratulations on turning your ideas into action!

*****Technical Allies
Special Guest Series*****

Don't miss out. Contact Haley at hbuenzli@youthventure.org or call 612-455-2007 to sign up today for the next Technical Allies Special Guest Series teleconference:

March 5 - "Making Your Venture Last."
In the coming weeks, scheduled topics will include:

March 19 - Budgeting Your Venture

April 2 - Team Building

April 16 - Fundraising

Participating is a cinch! Just call Haley to register for the call. Then on the day, you dial in and join fellow Ventures and expert Technical Allies for what promises to be a fun and informative discussion.

Your Global Community

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

and have their entries broadcast on STARZ and STARZ Edge!
For rules and more information, visit FilmYourIssue.com



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 winners will receive grants of up to \$1,000 to create their ventures designed to help young Latinos stay in school and prepare for college and careers. And, five winners will be awarded \$5,000 scholarships *per team* by Youth Venture in partnership with MTV Tr3s.

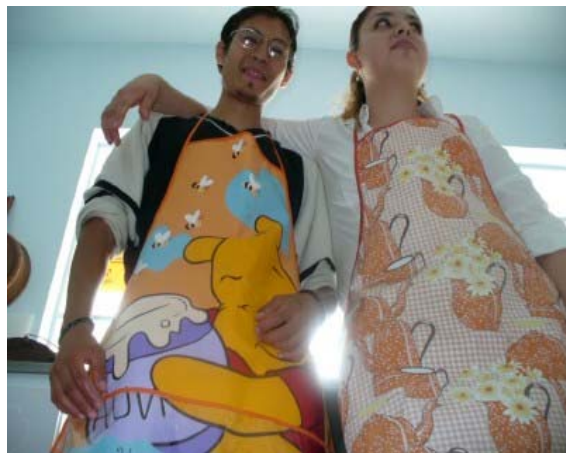
Take charge, don't wait for adults!
Get your team together and help bring about positive changes in your

For more information, visit www.youthventure.org or www.mtv3voces.com

"My Hometown Helper"

Hamburger Helper, a General Mills food brand, is looking to lend a "helping hand" to neighborhoods across the United States with its "My Hometown Helper" grant program. Submit a written essay describing how the "My Hometown Helper" grant would help to improve their community project. Applicants can request a one-time award of between \$500 and \$15,000 during any single month. All requests for funding must be sponsored by a municipal or civic organization or public school. The program will award "helping hand" grants each month from online applications received through May 2007.

Applications will be evaluated monthly.
www.myhometownhelper.com/



*GLOBAL PROFILE: Confronted with a lack of nutritional options and jobs for young people, Uriel, age 20, and Kimberly, age 19, started **JOMEC** (Jóvenes Micro Emprendedoras de Cocina), a cooking school and catering service to benefit young people and families alike in their neighborhood in Mexico City, Mexico.*

In Mexico and Argentina, Youth Venture is known as [Avancemos](#). In Brazil, it's called [Geracao MudaMundo](#).



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.



Crime Prevention Grants

The National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) will award grants of up to \$500 each to support youth-led service-learning projects that address or prevent crime, violence, and drug abuse in schools and communities for National & Global Youth Service Day 2007 (April 20-22).

These grants are intended to encourage and promote crime prevention, community service, and civic responsibility. Applications must be submitted to NCPC by April 1, 2007.

Visit www.YSA.org/awards to download an application.

[Ashoka](#) *Innovators for the Public*, Youth Venture's founding and partner organization, is a global community of social entrepreneurs who deliver innovative solutions to social problems. Ashoka identifies and supports leading social entrepreneurs, creates opportunities for collaboration, and builds systems and institutions that facilitate high impact social solutions. Over the past 25 years, the organization has invested in more than 1,700 Ashoka Fellows in 60 countries.



Send your news and pics to YVNE Venture Team Coordinator Patricia Helbig at pwhelbig@youthventure.org	
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