

Rob Alexander

From: Lidia Pedro [lpedro@youthventure.ccsend.com] on behalf of Lidia Pedro [lpedro@youthventure.org]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2008 3:34 PM
To: Rob Alexander
Subject: News from Youth Venture New England

**YVNE Newsletter****May 2008****In This Issue**

1st YV Summit
 YV & Olympic GOLD!

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Dear Lidia,

Friday, May 9 is this year's United Way - Youth Venture Partnership Celebration in Nashua, NH.



Over 300 people are attending, including Venturers from NH, MA and RI. Venturers will showcase their community-benefiting projects, as well as attend Breakout Sessions to learn and share ideas for improving or expanding their Ventures. Veteran Venturers Divine Bradley and Kyle Taylor will be on hand to inspire and rev you up!

Two lucky New England Venturers who are at the event, one from NH and one from MA, will be selected to attend

the first-ever National Youth Venture Summit in **Washington D.C all expenses paid!** (See below for more details.)

First-Ever National Youth Venture Summit!

The first-ever **National Youth Venture Summit** will be held **July 17th-20th** at American University in **Washington D.C.** It will be an exciting leadership experience, gathering young changemakers from across the nation. Attendees will participate in skill-building and Venture-strengthening workshops, engage in meaningful dialogue to share experiences, network and find ways to collaborate. Free time will also be available to explore Washington D.C.

The registration fee for youth is \$200 and \$300 for adults, which includes food and accommodations. Youth under the age of 18 will need to be accompanied by an adult chaperone. Financial assistance opportunities will be available to those who qualify. For additional information and questions regarding financial support, contact Kristin at 703.600.8347 or kfurio@youthventure.org.

Registration **deadline is May 30th** and space is limited so be sure to register early! Overnight accommodations will be provided by American University.

Pictured: The McKinley Building at American University.



Youth Venture operates in 14 countries, reaching over 300,000 young people



Around New England and Beyond!



MASSACHUSETTS:



Positive Pre-School Pals, of Leominster just held a successful fundraiser at their school. As a group of students with English as their second language, they have quickly learned the importance of literacy in communities. They serve as mentors at a local pre-school reading and creating crafts with the students. They are also planning an end of the year book drive to benefit their

pre-school pals. Positive Pre-School Pals was launched as a result of the Youth Venture - United Way of North Central MA partnership.

RHODE ISLAND:

Venture teams from Providence - as part of our partnership with The Big Picture Company - have been busy!



KRS Salon has purchased their supplies and finally obtained their barber chair! They are now looking to enroll into a local cosmetology program. **KRS Salon** is a program that works with local homeless shelters to provide free haircuts to those in need. They help to improve self-esteem and hold monthly food and clothing drives.

The Recychos are in the final stages of finishing their documentary on the Johnston Landfill recycling process. They recently converted an empty lot behind their school into a garden and have been planting trees throughout their community. **The Recychos** consist of students from the MET who work to spread awareness of environmental rights and recycling programs by supporting community gardens, hosting workshops and forming a network of students creating environmental change.



Team Initiating Peace returned from their service-trip in Costa Rica where they spent time working with teachers and students to develop their English language skills. They are now traveling to local schools speaking about their experience. **Team Initiating Peace** sells healthy snacks and school supplies to students during lunch. Proceeds go to a fund that sends Venturers to do service projects in developing nations.



Youth Venture in SEATTLE!

Youth Venture recently opened a new office in Seattle, WA and has started with a bang, launching close to 20 teams!





Justina and Hannah promote Youth Venture



Over the course of two days in Seattle, **author Justina Chen Headley** and **Olympic gold medalist Hannah Teter** spoke to more than 650 young people about the path they took to follow their own dreams. They encouraged young people to embrace their own ideas to make a difference in the world and promoted the Girl Overboard Challenge sponsored by Burton.

Pictured: YV's Rob Alexander and Kumar Raj with Justina and Hannah

Youth Venture promoted in front of 15,000 students!

Jessica, the founder of Venture team **Richard's Rwanda**, recently had the honor of welcoming the Dalai Lama at the Seeds of Compassion event in Seattle, which took place from April 11th - April 15th. On this same day, a two minute video clip about the work she is doing with **Richard's Rwanda** was shown to the **15,000 students and adults** in attendance. Jessica has already raised close to \$10,000 which she will put towards getting a school built in Rwanda for young girls affected by the genocide. Richard's Rwanda was launched through the Youth Venture - Starbucks partnership.



In April, **The First Tee J.A.B.** formed a mentor program in Seattle to help at risk youth using the game of golf. Through the already established First Tee program **The First Tee J.A.B.** will provide assistance to at risk 8 to 12 year olds. Pairing the 8 to 12 year olds with other young people in the program, **The First Tee J.A.B.** hopes to increase retention, creating lasting relationships and possibly duplicate their program throughout First Tee locations across the country.

Amp 4 Africa began forming in 2007 in Seattle, WA by Henry, a 13 year old who read an article in Sports Illustrated about kids dying of malaria in Africa and decided to do something about it. **Amp 4 Africa** works to raise awareness about the issue of malaria in developing countries and funds the purchasing of malaria nets to people in need. They were recently approved by a Selection Panel held at the beginning of April and hope to travel to Africa sometime next year.

A leadership class at Cleveland High School in Seattle decided to create a student store at their school to unite the student body and leave a lasting impact. Other than raising money for academic and Student Council approved activities, **Eagle Express** hopes the store will unite the student body. **Eagle Express** will provide students with the experience of running their own business as well as offer students a sense of ownership at their school.



Starbucks - Youth Venture Tour



Youth Venture received a substantial grant from the [Starbucks Foundation](#) to tour the United States, taking the YV message to schools and after-school programs in 13 cities! Since the end of February, YV's Rob Alexander has been traveling the country, introducing a whole new group of youth to the "Dream It. Do It." philosophy. The tour has been a success, reaching over 2,000 youth all across the U.S.!

Check out the picture of veteran Venturer Divine Bradley with a group of students at South Miami High School in Florida, and learn more about the tour on GenV.net by clicking [here](#)!



"A lot of people are waiting for Martin Luther King or Mahatma Gandhi to come back -- but they are gone. We are it. It is up to us. It is up to you."

-Marian Wright Edelman



GenV.net's Birthday Cake Bake-Off!

Youth Venture's website GenV.net celebrated its 1st Birthday in April. To celebrate, GenV had the Birthday Cake Bake-Off Contest, where GenV.net members could up with recipes for the best Venture.



Congratulations to GenV.net member [MissTEA](#) for winning April's contest! [MissTEA](#) win's a \$50 VISA gift card.

Click [here](#) to check out MissTEA's "Launching a Successful Sustaining Group" recipe.

For more recipes, check out the [contest forums](#)!

Thank you to all who submitted a Youth Venture recipe and to everyone who participated in the voting process!

Do Something!

Do Something Clubs are an easy way to make giving back a part of your life. Starting a club is free and simple! There are no set-up costs, dues or deadlines. Your club can be based out of your school, a community center or your basement. All you need is five friends or strangers that share your passion and drive for making a difference.

Do Something now has clubs in over 150 communities nationwide!

Choose your cause(s), join Do Something's monthly campaigns, design your community action projects, apply for grants -- we'll help every step of the way. Learn more and get started at www.dosomething.org/clubs.



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



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. Please email or post on her blog if you have any questions. Also, be sure to visit the new forum "Money for Venture Teams!"

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 at 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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To learn more about Youth Venture, please visit our web site

www.GenV.net

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