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Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2009 4:28 PM
To: Jessica O'Neal
Subject: Youth Venture New England Newsletter: News for Changemakers



YVNE Newsletter

May 2009

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In This Issue

Local Finalist in Global Competition

YV- United Way Bash Coming SOON

Around New England

Kumar in India!

Dear Jessica,

2009 NATIONAL YOUTH VENTURE SUMMIT

[Registration](#) is now open for the [second annual Youth Venture Summit!](#) There are only 2 months left before Venturers from across the globe will gather in Boston, MA for three days of skillbuilding, peer exchange and fun!

When: June 26 - 29, 2009

Where: Boston, MA

New to the Office

Grant & Scholarship Opportunities

On the Web

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[GenV.net](#)

[Ashoka](#)

[UW Greater Nashua](#)

[UW North Central MA](#)

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[4-H NH](#)

[The Big Picture Company](#)

Workshops and housing will be at MIT, Harvard College and Boston University

Think of it as a bonus college tour

Fees - include registration/ workshops/ food/ housing:

Venturers - Youth: \$200

Adults: Allies/Parents/Chaperones*: \$300

Click here for [more information](#) or [fundraising ideas](#)

The 2009 Youth Venture Summit will be here before you know it, so [register TODAY!](#)



*Youth under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an Adult (21 yrs old) chaperone. The chaperone must also attend the summit.



Ten Venture Teams from around the world are now [finalists](#) in the [Staples Ashoka Youth Social Entrepreneur Competition \(YSE\)](#). New England's own [Generation Citizenship Project](#), located in Providence, RI, is one of the two U.S. Finalists. The others are from Argentina, Brazil, France, Germany, Mexico, India and Thailand!

In late May, a panel of judges will select five winning Teams who will be flown to Boston to participate in the YV Summit and attend the YSE awards ceremony, Monday June 29. 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. Additional prizes for all Teams include a meeting with an Ashoka Fellow and the opportunity to consult with, and draw from the expertise of high-level Staples executives at their global headquarters located in Massachusetts. More information on the YSE can be found at the competition web site, [www.](#)

GenV.net/StaplesYV.

The [Staples Foundation for Learning®](#) has been a longtime partner and sponsor of Youth Venture's global programs. Staples was the first to invest in expanding Youth Venture internationally, making it possible to launch over 1,000 Venture Teams, engaging thousands of young changemakers on three continents.



UNITED WAY - YOUTH VENTURE YEAR END EVENT IS ALMOST HERE

We are looking forward to seeing all United Way Teams
THURSDAY, May 7!!



Sponsored by:

- * Youth Venture * United Way of North Central Massachusetts
- * Mount Wachusett Community College Center for Democracy and Humanity
- * United Way of Greater Nashua * Nashua Community College
- * United Way of Tri-County * United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley



AROUND NEW ENGLAND...AND BEYOND

MAINE:

[JJ Express](#) was awarded a grant from the Disney Minnie Grant Foundation to introduce and encourage communities in Maine to recycle their electronics. They will do this through their campaign, E-magine a Better World Through Art. [JJ Express](#) will host an art poster contest and a contest for teams of youth to see who can collect the most electronic recyclables. April 25 marked their kick-off event at the Waterville Public Library. For more information on [JJ Express](#) or E-magine a Better World Through Art you can contact Jenny at editor@jjexpressmagazine.org.

NEW HAMPSHIRE:



JBACK had their first teddy bear drop in April. The Team collects teddy bears and donates them to less fortunate children in their community and in Iraq. **JBACK** donated bears to pre-schoolers at the Bronstein Head Start Center in Nashua.

JBACK and kids with their new bears



The Seacoast Earthkeepers launched this Earth Day. The Team will be turning an overgrown area of Hampton into a community park by building trails, benches, removing invasive species, and celebrating the area's historical significance. They plan to involve the local community in the process of restoring the park.



*Lamprey's "Ice" Pond -
the land the Earthkeepers will restore*

RHODE ISLAND:

Two new Venture Teams launched from YV's partnership with The Big Picture Company: **Outdoor Adventure Plus** and **The BETA Boyz**.

Outdoor Adventure Plus (OAP) is an outdoor education program who will plan school trips into the wilderness. The Team has been taking inventory and purchasing low-impact camping materials. They lead their first trip in May.

The BETA Boyz are opening a school store that will provide grab-and-go, affordable snacks for staff and students. Profits from the store will go toward school trip opportunities.

MASSACHUSETTS:

Team Excellence launched this month out of **United Way of Tri-County**. The Team will host community weekends to bring community members together and have some fun. They also hope to fundraise to purchase a bench to place in their school's courtyard in memory of a fellow classmate killed in a car accident earlier this year. [Click here](#) for an article about **Team Excellence** in **The Times and Courier**.



Team Excellence

Kumar from India:

●●●●● (Namaste in Sanskrit)

Things are still going well in Mumbai, although the city is a little extra crazy with elections around the corner. YV India recently held a workshop for Mumbai Venturers on team and time management and also participated in a city-wide youth fair called, Youth Lead. It was great event with thousands of young people in attendance! There was live music, games and food as well as stalls of various NGOs (non government organizations) getting young people involved in their communities and encouraging them to vote. Next week we head to Songadh to visit our other stronghold of Venturers. Songadh is a rural village in Gujarat, a neighboring state so we'll be travelling overnight to get there. We'll be holding workshops and documenting their amazing progress. I'm pretty excited and will let you know how it goes! Until then...

SEE YA!



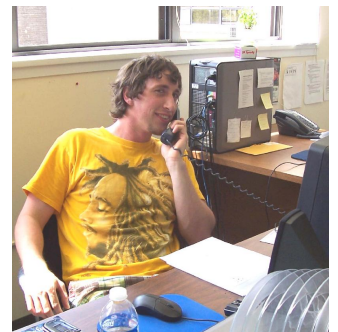
Left to Right: Vendors on Bazaar Road, Chalk art at Youth Lead, Sunset at Juhu Beach, Gateway of India, Venturers during an energizer at last workshop



Change in YVNE Staff

Thank you to Rachel Andler, United Way North Central Massachusetts VISTA, who recently ended her time at Youth Venture. Rachel served with YVNE since July of 2007 and helped launch over 20 Venture Teams.

While Rachel's time at YVNE has ended, Bret Carr's is just beginning. Bret is joining us from Peoria, IL. He graduated from Southern Illinois University in 2007 with a degree in Zoology and French. After graduation Bret ventured out and lived in La Réunion, Madagascar and Prague, Czech Republic. Bret will be putting his fluency in the French language to the test while working with the YV Virtual Team, launching and supporting French-speaking Teams across the globe.



GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

For news on grant and scholarship opportunities check out Suria's [blog](#) on [GenV.net](#). Email or post on her blog if you have any questions.



"You really can change the world if you care enough. "

- Marion Wright Edelman



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 Program Associate of Media & Marketing, Jessica O'Neal at joneal@youthventure.org



FIND US ON THE WEB

facebook

Stay in touch with [YV](#) and [Ashoka](#) while you stay in touch with your other friends on facebook.

And be sure to check out Youth Venture's cool [YouTube](#) page containing all Youth Venture's videos - including those made by Venturers!



And as always, visit us on GenV.net

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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YVNE Staff at Mount Sunapee.

Not pictured: Lidia Pedro, Charlie Clement and Bret Carr



Did you know that many Youth Venture staff members across the U.S. are actually AmeriCorps*VISTAs? AmeriCorps VISTA members make a year-long, full-time commitment to volunteer on a specific project at a nonprofit organization or public agency. In return for their service, VISTA members receive a modest living allowance. For more information on [AmeriCorps](http://www.americorps.gov) visit their [Web site](http://www.americorps.gov).



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

www.GenV.net

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