



Ashoka's
**Youth
Venture**
DREAM IT. DO IT.

Youth Venture National Newsletter

September 2008

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Dear Kristin,

September is an exciting month here at Youth Venture. We have two challenges currently underway each with a cash prize and other opportunities for your Venture: the Staples Young Social Entrepreneur Competition and the Best Buy @15™ Challenge with Youth Venture. To find out how you can get more funding and improve YOUR Venture, and to see if you are eligible to double your chances of winning and enter both, see the YV Nation section below to learn more!

It's the start of a new academic year for most, which means it's not only time to hit the books, but it's also a great time to collaborate with classmates and peers to grow your changemaking initiative and to network with educators, administrators, and community members. Utilize all of the "Grow It" tools on GenV.net.

Sincerely,

Youth Venture



ASHOKA
INITIATIVE

Golden Opportunities

Take advantage of these great grants, programs, and scholarships!

State Farm Youth Advisory Board

Service Learning Grant Program

Grants range from \$25,000 to \$100,000 and are evaluated by the youth advisory board for how well they utilize service-learning to address: driver safety, environmental responsibility, financial literacy, access to higher education, and disaster preparedness.

Deadline: October 3, 2008

Website: www.statefarmyab.com/apply.php



The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

Award

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards honor young people in middle level and high school grades for outstanding volunteer service to their communities. Young people in grades 5-12 who have conducted a volunteer service activity within the past year are eligible to apply for The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. Over the past 13 years, the program has honored more than 80,000 young volunteers at the local, state, and national level. Honorees have the chance to receive an award of up to \$5,000, an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, DC, or other forms of recognition for their service.

Deadline: October 31, 2008

Website: www.prudential.com/spirit

Nestle Very Best in Youth 2009 Program

Program

The Nestle Very Best in Youth 2009 Program which is sponsored by Nestle USA, honors young people who have excelled in school and who are making their community and the world a better place. Selected young people will be featured in a special publication, honored at a black-tie ceremony in Los Angeles, California in July 2009 and will receive a host of Nestle products.

Deadline: November 20, 2008

Website: www.nestle-verybestinyouth.com



The Truman Scholarship

Scholarship

The Truman Scholarship provides up to \$30,000 in funding to students pursuing graduate degrees in public service fields. Students must be college juniors at the time of selection. Sixty to sixty-five students will be awarded Truman Scholarships in 2009. They will receive leadership training, graduate school counseling, preferential admission and merit-based aid to some premier graduate institutions, and internship opportunities with federal agencies.

Deadline: February 3, 2009

Website: www.truman.gov/candidates/candidates.htm

Want more information about scholarships, programs, and grants? Many more are listed on GenV.net. Check out the following links: **Opportunities for Venturers** and **Grants and Scholarship Opportunities for Venturers.**



YV Nation

Get Pumped for Youth Venture Competitions!



The Staples Youth Social Entrepreneur Competition: Now through October 15, 2008

Youth Venture is partnering with Staples® and Changmakers to present an online **that was easy** competition that seeks young changemakers who are leaders in their communities. This collaborative competition will identify innovative and creative ideas that young people are making and accelerate their development, innovation, and potential for impact in their communities. **Four Finalists** (two from the United States and two from France) will be selected to **fly out to the Staples Headquarters** and, one **grand prize winner**, chosen from the four finalists, will receive a suite of products from Staples with a total value of **\$5,000**.

To learn more about the competition, [click here](#).

The Best Buy @15™ Challenge with Youth Venture: Now through October 27, 2008

If you want to expand the impact of your Venture or have a unique or creative approach to making change in your community, we want to know. The Best Buy @15™ Challenge will award **15, \$10,000 grants** to the Venture Teams that display the greatest creativity and community impact in their Venture and the clearest vision of how to create sustainable change. The winners will be determined by an online vote by the public and will join Best Buy for the competition announcement and a celebration.



Children's Foundation



[Click here](#) for an application and to learn more!

Ultimate Changemaker Winner!



Submitted by: [gogreengirl2](#)

Youth Venture Superhero, **EnvironmentaGirl**, often fights evil with her sidekick RecyclaGal. She uses amazing superhuman abilities against her arch nemeses are Mr.Landfill and BigLumberCompany. One of her abilities is to make any form of plant life to grow at her command even on concrete and asphalt. It can also be used to bind her opponents. The plant life she grows can withstand any blade and can survive anything that man can do to try and destroy it. She also has the ability to disintegrate any form of matter therefore ridding the need for landfills. She also has the power of speech and can convince any person that recycling is a very important topic and should not be taken lightly and should be done to save the environment.

[Learn more](#) about EnvironmentaGirl and other ultimate changemaker superheroes.

Visit [GenV.net](#) to find out about other exciting programs that Youth Venture is sponsoring!

"Leaders don't create followers, they create more leaders." -Tom Peters

"Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." -Andrew Carnegie

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." -Eleanor Roosevelt