

# youth enrichment services

# YES News

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## E-TEAM LAUNCHED!

Last fall YES launched the E-Team, taking our mission - and participants - to a whole new level. The E-Team ('E' stands for Exploration, Environment, and Ethics) emphasizes a more thoughtful, insightful outdoor experience for members ages 13-17. The E-Team promotes respect, study, responsibility and enjoyment of our natural environment. With flights over the kids' communities, trips to the Boston Harbor Islands, and bike trips through habitat-restoration projects, participants come to better understand the interplay between human actions and the natural world. Each trip focuses on building respectful attitudes towards nature and others, the ethics involved with these relations, and (of course) a whole lot of fun!

## NEW FACES AT YES: LONG-TIME VOLUNTEER JOINS ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Youth Enrichment Services is proud to announce the latest addition to our administrative staff. Pierre BoisAubin officially joined YES in November 2003, but has volunteered and involved his children, Marcus and Chiara, in YES since 1998. Previously a software engineer at Pegasystems and MIT, he brings to YES a wealth of technical expertise. This knowledge - gained while pursuing his B.S. in Management and Information Systems from Northeastern University - coupled with his general business savvy will play a key role in managing YES' fiscal operations and computer systems. Mr. BoisAubin's upcoming objectives include redesigning the YES client database and assisting the executive director with increasing our fundraising and public relations efforts.

## THE E-TEAM VISITS WOODS HOLE SCIENCE CENTER

The YES E-Team, first-ever youth group to visit the Woods Hole Science Center (WHSC), spent a day last fall with scientists studying environmental impact and natural phenomenon. Organized by Glynn Williams, Erika Hammar-Klose, Chris Polloni and Ellen Mecray, the day gave YES visitors a close look at the science of protecting our environment, including a look at:

- A 3D fly-through of sea-floor-habitat-mapping sites in the Gulf of Mexico.
- Coastal-vulnerability studies in national parks.
- Demonstrations of fault movement and seismic-data-processing.
- Geographic-map displays of Boston, Falmouth and ski slopes YES visits in the winter.

After a presentation on the glacial history of the Woods Hole area, the E-Team walked down to Woods Hole and toured the docks and research



vessel Oceanus. The WHSC was so delighted with the day's results, that the Center is eagerly planning more youth group visits!

## YES'S 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DANVERSPORT DAY



It was a bright summer day when children from all over Boston came together on August 10, 2004 to celebrate YES's 17th annual Danversport Day. Groups like the Hawthorne Youth

Community Center, Bird Street Community Center, and Generation Excel enjoyed a day of swimming, tennis, organized activities, and a cookout.

Larry DeLorenzo, owner of the Danversport Yacht Club, has been hosting the YES day picnic since 1987. "It hasn't rained in 17 years!" announced Larry as he welcomed everyone. After a talk about safety, the children were encouraged to cool off and splash around in the outdoor pool. Next was a huge feast of grilled hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and watermelon. Following swimming and games, the day ended with popsicles and plenty of smiles. "I can't wait to come back next year!" exclaimed one of the children as he boarded the bus back home.

## GIRLS GEAR UP FOR GOAL

Girls Outdoor Adventure Leaders (GOAL) took off this year with 187 girls ages 7-18 on trips that feature biking, hiking, cross-country skiing, downhill skiing, snowboarding and yoga. Sara Katersky, our Program Manager who has helped design the trips, explains, "The intent is to encourage girls to be active, to challenge themselves. Going on trips with other girls allows them to develop their identity as individuals within a group, not just as girls." The GOAL program's true importance is its integration of mind and body. Exercise helps achieve this, and the activities stress empowerment and assertiveness. The consistent presence of an all female volunteer crew provides an informal forum for talk about college, careers, and other issues participants are thinking about in their futures.



## VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED AT ANNUAL APPRECIATION EVENT

Youth Enrichment Services is made strong by our devoted staff, generous volunteer base, and the young people who embrace the YES spirit and opportunity to succeed. On April 3, 2004, YES held the 32nd annual Volunteer Appreciation Event where Jen McBournie, Yuji Koga, and Berta Sinclair were awarded "Volunteers of the Year" at the Cortina Inn in Killington, Vermont. Sam Rounds was awarded "Junior Instructor of the Year" while Rachel Levenson, John Lindsay, Connie Queen and Fran Wood received plaques for their five years of service.



Volunteer Cal Thomas (center) is presented award by Gary Anderson and Jeffrey Wortham.

Last year's event on May 13th, 2003 was held at Estelle's Club & Restaurant in the South End, with Bob the Chef's donating food for the event. Cal Thomas and Deb Cahill were named "Volunteers of the Year" and Shawn Belton-Perry was named "Junior Instructor of the Year." In addition, the



Katie Barnes and Robert Dickerson

event marked a milestone for a few longtime volunteers. Tim Johnson, also a board member, marked his tenth year with YES while Dynell Latson, Lowell Kim, and junior instructor Katie Barnes were all recognized for their five years of service.

Although all the awards represent great honor and achievement, the volunteer ceremony's high point is the Abel Harris Scholarship (\$500). For her dedication as a Junior Instructor and academic success, Lauren Marshall received this year's award and is attending Green Mountain College in Vermont. Last year's recipient, Alisha Walker is currently enrolled at Northeastern University in Boston.

## ABEL HARRIS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Recipients of this award embody the character of Abel Harris, Jr., a YES ski instructor who achieved success in school and in the community. He was killed in 1988 while working at a nightclub to earn money for college. The scholarship comes from funds raised by Abel's friends and family following his death.



Mary Williams and Lauren Marshall



Alisha Walker and Robert Dickerson

## THANK YOU!

As always, we rely on the generosity of our volunteers, contributors, and other friends to maintain the quality of our programs.



Ben Lem and Peter Haffnerreffer

We'd especially like to extend our thanks to Sugarloaf Snowsports School, Loon Snowsports School, and Ski Butternut Snowsports School, who train our volunteer instructors each year!

Youth Enrichment Services was awarded \$7,500 from Sovereign Bank for Outdoor Adventures. Ben Lem, Symphony Branch Manager, presented the check to Peter Haffnerreffer, YES's Board Chairman.

Buchika's Ski Shop of Salem, NH and Eastern Mountain Sports and Hilton's Tent City of Boston donated over \$25,000 of camping gear and winter sports equipment this summer.



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