



YES Fall Newsletter October 2012



10 year-old Naji and 13 year-old Milari kayaking on the Charles River with YES's Outdoor Adventure Program this summer.

Hello from YES's Executive Director

Dear Allison,



Bryan Van Dorpe
Executive Director

Youth Enrichment Services (YES) is excited to celebrate the end of another successful Outdoor Adventure summer season and welcome the arrival of fall.

Over 500 youth had the opportunity to explore the outdoors, take on leadership roles, and try activities they never thought they could do this summer with YES. Thank you to our

Upcoming Events

Thursday, October 18: Save this date for the Volunteer Kickoff for the 2012-2013 Operation SnowSports Season! Check your inboxes - more details coming soon.

Sunday, October 21: Join YES for the Mount Washington Bank 5k Run/Walk! The nonprofit that refers the most runners and walkers will receive \$1,000 from the Mount Washington Charitable Foundation. [You can register online here](#). Remember to write that you were referred by YES on your registration form!

Thursday, October 25 and Thursday, November 29: YES will be hosting information sessions from 4-8pm for families about the Operation SnowSports new registration process. Please note that **NO REGISTRATIONS** will be accepted on these days, it is an informational meeting **ONLY**. [Visit the YES website for more](#)

generous funders and in-kind partners; enthusiastic summer staff; and dedicated volunteers for making this a [memorable summer for hundreds of Boston children](#).

As we look towards the winter and Operation SnowSports program, I would like to take this time to reiterate YES's continued commitment to serving low-income children and families. In Boston, as few as one in ten youth have access to out-of-school time programs. To fill this especially urgent need for struggling families, YES is introducing a new registration process for Operation SnowSports that prioritizes the applications of our low-and-moderate-income families. (Please note that 25% of program slots will be open to families above the income eligibility guidelines.) [Full details on the new registration process can be found here](#). We appreciate your support as we work towards serving those with the most limited access to our outdoor enrichment and leadership programs.

This fall has already proven to be full of exciting new opportunities for us here at YES.

On September 18th, we held our [1st Annual YES Harbor Cruise](#) aboard the Provincetown II. The event was a great success and raised over \$3,000 for YES's youth programs. Thank you so much to the YES Development Committee for its leadership in planning the event and to the [Bay State Cruise Company](#) for its generosity in hosting us.

In other news, Columbia Business School Alumni recently awarded YES three months of pro bono consulting services to further develop our YES Alumni Circle. This project will enable YES to plan and execute a new phase in development of our alumni group. I encourage all YES alums to [email their contact information](#) to us so we can keep you up to date on this exciting initiative!

Lastly, I would like to invite you to join YES at the [Mount Washington Bank Run/Walk 5k](#) on Saturday, October 21st. All ages are welcome. The nonprofit that registers the most runners and walkers will be awarded a \$1,000 from the Mount Washington Bank Charitable Fund. If you want to help us win the prize, please note that you are running with YES when you register.

Best wishes for an enjoyable fall,

[Information](#).

Wednesday, November 7: YES will be recruiting volunteers and spreading the word about YES at the [BSSC Blizzard!](#) Come kick off the ski season with BSSC (Boston Ski & Sports Club), YES and tons of other ski and snowboard exhibitors.

Thursday-Sunday, November 8-11: YES will have a table at the [Boston Ski and Snowboard Expo](#). Stop by to learn more about our programs and volunteer opportunities!

Operation SnowSports Registration



Do you know a youth between the ages of 7 and 18? Give them the opportunity to get outdoors this winter with YES's Operation SnowSports program.

YES is launching a new Operation SnowSports registration process in response to feedback from youth and families. There will be [two information sessions](#) at the YES office on **October 25th** and **November 29th** all from 4-8pm. These are opportunities for families, parents, and youth-serving agencies to ask questions about the new registration process, learn about income eligibility guidelines, the timeline of the registration process, and our new cancellation policies. **No RSVP is necessary to attend. Also, please note that NO**



Bryan Van Dorpe
Executive Director

REGISTRATIONS will be accepted at these info sessions. [Email](#) or call YES's Operation SnowSports Program Coordinator, Kelley Coughlin, with any questions.

YES Volunteer Opportunities

OPERATION SNOWSPORTS

Junior Volunteer Applications for the 2012-2013 Season are due to the YES office on October 12, 2012. [Applications can be found here.](#)

Adult Volunteer Applications for the 2012-2013 \Season are due to the YES Office November 30, 2012. [Applications can be found here.](#)

YES ACADEMY

YES Academy Adult Volunteer Applications are now available. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Join YES this Fall for Cross Country

Interested in joining the YES Fall Cross Country Program? Youth ages 8-14 are invited to join YES at Moakley Park in South Boston on Mondays for a developmental cross country program. [More information can be found here.](#) Thanks to our generous corporate sponsors, this is a free program for youth!



A Summer to Remember for YES's GOAL Girls

Boston teens and pre-teens had tons of fun this summer with YES's Girls Outdoor Adventure Leaders (GOAL) program. The girls had the opportunity explore the outdoors and experience kayaking, mountain biking, swimming, and rock climbing. They also had a chance to try activities like lacrosse (pictured below), yoga, horseback riding, and an educational lesson at the Institute of Contemporary Art. One of the girls' favorite activities of the summer was surfing at Hampton beach. Most of the girls were new to the sport, but they faced the cold ocean water and surfed like pros!

A parent recently wrote to us and had to this to say about her child's experience as a GOAL girl: **"My daughter has gained confidence in the ability to overcome challenges."** That's what GOAL is all about -- self-confidence, girl power, and FUN!

Youth Profile: Lisa G.

11-year-old Lisa G., like many other YES Kids, heard about the program through family friends. This was her first season with YES and she was excited to participate in the Outdoor Adventure program to gain exposure to new activities.

During Outdoor Adventure 2012, Lisa participated in a Kayaking trip as well as



Do you know a middle school girl (ages 10-14) who might be interested in GOAL for the school year? [Application, schedule and program information can be found on the YES website.](#)

Outdoor Adventure Program Summer 2012

This summer, 538 kids and teens got the opportunity to participate in YES's Outdoor Adventure Program. Youth went mountain biking, fishing, hiking, kayaking, rock climbing, sailing, surfing, and participated in track and field. It was our most successful summer ever! Youth gained self-confidence and leadership skills, interacted with positive adult role models, and tried new outdoor activities they never thought that they could do!



12-year-old Christina from Mattapan kayaking on the Charles River with YES's Outdoor Adventure Program this summer.

Thank you to our Outdoor Adventure program partners -- Charles River Canoe & Kayak,

week-long Sailing and Rock Climbing camps.

The first day on the ropes course at MetroRock was scary for Lisa. Climbing 25 feet in the air on elements tested both Lisa's physical and mental strength. She remembers that moment of trying to not look down, thinking "I wasn't trusting enough of the harness. When I fell, I recognized that the harness did its job. Then I had a wonderful experience!" **After this experience of trying something new and overcoming her fears, Lisa's self-confidence soared!**



11 year-old Lisa G., at Quincy Quarries with YES on a week-long rock climbing adventure. Lisa is coming back to YES this winter for Operation SnowSports activities!

Lisa initially trained at indoor rock climbing facilities and then graduated to rock climbing outdoors. By the end of the week, Lisa was rappelling down 100-foot cliffs at the Quincy quarries! **Lisa was an inspiration to the other kids and YES's Staff as her confidence grew and she took on new challenges without hesitation.**

Thinking back on her summer, Lisa is happy she joined YES because it "makes kids try new things." But Lisa did much more than just "try something new" this summer -- she boosted her self-confidence and became an positive role model to other youth at YES.

Are You a YES Kid Alum?

Cinnamon Rainbow Surf Company, Community Boating, The Fishing Academy, MetroRock, and Wompatuck State Park -- for providing YES Kids with safe equipment, expert staff, and incredible environments to explore the outdoors.

[See the full album of Outdoor Adventure photographs online here!](#)

Support the YES Kids Campaign!

YES depends on private contributions for nearly 75% of our \$1 million annual operating budget. Donations of any size are deeply appreciated and help us meet the growing needs of the 1,500 children and teens whom YES serves each year.

[▶ DONATE NOW](#)

You may designate your donation to benefit a specific program or support a particular activity, or you can leave it unrestricted to allow us to use it where it is most urgently needed.

[Thank you for your support!](#)



YES is expanding our Alumni Circle! We want to document the history of YES and support the new generation of YES Kids! We are looking for alums to join this new initiative. Lots of exciting activities and events are in the works.

Send your contact information and years you were involved at YES to Allie Tripp (atripp@yeskids.org).



PS - Do you recognize the above logo, YES alums? Share your YES memories and stories on the [YES Facebook](#) or [email it in to YES!](#) We will feature it in our next newsletter!

1st Annual YES Harbor Cruise Raises over \$3,200!

Thank you to everyone who attended *Cruisin' for the Kids - 1st Annual YES Harbor Cruise* on Tuesday, September 18. **Over \$3,200 was raised for YES's programs!** You can view a full album of event pictures [online here](#).



This event would not have been possible without the generosity of [Bay State Cruise Company](#) who donated the use of the *Provincetown II* for the harbor cruise! Thank you!

Are You On LinkedIn?



You can now add YES to your LinkedIn profile as an "Organization You Support!"

[Click here for directions](#)



(L to R) YES Board member, Peter Haffenreffer; Robin Haffenreffer; and YES Executive Director, Bryan Van Dorpe.



(L to R) YES Development Committee members (and Harbor Cruise event planners!) Jennifer Maitland, Stephanie Krzyzewski, and Katie Haffenreffer.



(L to R) Volunteer Susan Ohlson; YES Volunteer Director, Burton Miller; and volunteers Heather Manning, Conor Bryant, and Ryan Monaghan.



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