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News from Youth Enrichment Services

Summer 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

Sat, Sept 13 **1st Annual** **Homeruns for YES** **Softball** **Tournament**

Join YES for an end-of-summer softball tournament! Complete with barbeque food and a local after-party.

Click [here](#) to Captain or Join a Team!

Sat, Sept 27 **Berklee Beantown** **Jazz Festival**

Stop by the YES table! Click [here](#) for more information.

Sun, Oct 11 **Mt. Washington** **Bank 5k Run/Walk** [Register](#) to run or

Letter from YES Executive Director

Bryan Van Dorpe

Dear Youth Enrichment Services,

This summer, YES is proud to give over 500 youth an opportunity to get outdoors and gain confidence as young adventurers! On the hiking trails, running track, and riverways, hundreds of youth are active with YES this summer! In the Outdoor Adventure programs, kids are physically and mentally challenged, gaining confidence and becoming leaders. After an active summer with YES - these youth will return to school with the tools and drive to succeed.

Looking ahead to fall, YES will continue to strengthen its high-impact YES Academy programs for high school and middle school students; prepare for the 2014-15 Operation SnowSports season; and host our 1st Annual Softball Tournament fundraiser! (Get out your catchers mitt and click [here](#) for more information!)

I am honored to personally invite you to a very special event coming up on Thursday, August 21. YES will be hosting the *1st Annual Martin Richard Memorial Mile Invitational*. You can read more about the event [here](#). As a participant or spectator, this night will celebrate Martin's zest for life as a competitor, teammate, and vibrant young boy.

I hope your summer continues to be a happy and safe one, with many outdoor adventures and new experiences. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Warmly,

walk with YES! Easy, flat route along Carson Beach. When you register, write-in that you were referred by YES. The nonprofit with the most referrals wins a cash prize!

Bryan

Bryan Van Dorpe
Executive Director

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Operation SnowSports Volunteers

Applications will be available for the 2015 Snowsports season in the fall.

[Click here to learn more and read about the different volunteer opportunities.](#)

YES Academy Volunteers

YES is looking for volunteers to participate in career workshops, host job shadows and more.

[Click here to learn more about this opportunity.](#)

Young Donors Committee Volunteer

Are you a social butterfly? Are you party planner of your friends? Join the YDC!

[Click here to learn more and apply now.](#)

INTERNSHIP

1st Annual Homeruns for YES Tournament

Hosted by the YES Young Donors Committee

Saturday, Sept. 13 1-5 PM

Christopher Lee Park - M & N Street, South Boston



Join YES and the Young Donors Committee for its 1st Annual "Homeruns for YES" softball tournament on Saturday, September 13 from 1-5 pm. We will be playing short rounds of two-inning softball. Spectators welcome to cheer on the players and enjoy the food and fun!

Sign up to captain a team or join a team. Team registration deadline is Thursday, September 4. 10-15 players per team. Team fee covers softball games, barbecue lunch, and an exclusive Homeruns for YES t-shirts! Prizes will be awarded to the top three placing teams. \$50 per person to play softball; \$10 entrance donation for spectators.

Click here to register

Summer 2014 Outdoor Adventure Program

This summer, over 500 youth are experiencing the great outdoors with YES. They are kayaking, rock-climbing, swimming, fishing, running, mountain-biking, horseback riding and surfing!

Through our Outdoor Adventure program, YES youth learned new sports,

OPPORTUNITY

Development Office Intern

Part-time, fall position.
Unpaid. Open to
current college
students and recent
graduates
[Click here to read
more about this
opportunity.](#)

gained confidence and grew their leadership skills this summer. Over 40 YES Junior Volunteers and YES Summer Staff and MLK Scholars led outdoor activities and fostered youth development through outdoor activities.

Thank you to our outdoor partners: Associated Grantmakers Summer Fund, Brooklyn Boulders, Charles River Kayak & Canoe, Cinnamon Rainbow Surfing Company, City of Boston Summer Fun, John Hancock, The Massachusetts DCR, MetroRock, Northeastern University and the Fishing Academy.

To see more snapshots of what YES youth have been up to this summer, check out YES's Summer 2014 Facebook Albums:

[Outdoor Adventure](#) [GOAL](#) [Track & Field](#)



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@YESKidsBoston



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Learn More



Help Keep YES Kids Running

You know that track and field can change lives. Whether it's a child's growth in confidence, their strength as an athlete or the life-long friendships they form on the track, running and jumping moves our kids forward in more ways than one. This summer, an unprecedented 300+ children joined the track

program!

Watch the video below to learn more about the impact that YES Track and Field has had on the lives of Boston-area youth and learn how you can help this free program continue to grow.



Support YES Track and Field

1st Annual Martin Richard Memorial Mile

On Thursday, August 21, YES will be hosting the *1st Annual Martin Richard Memorial One-Mile Invitational*. The event will be held at Moakley Park in South Boston. Registration begins at 6 pm, followed by one mile heats beginning at 7 pm.

There will be a Youth heat (ages 8-12) and a High School heat. These will be competitive races and youth should be capable of running a 9:00 minute mile or better to participate. Any youth or adult can participate in the final 1 Mile Non-Competitive heat. (If a youth is accompanied by an adult for the Non-Competitive heat, the youth does not need to pay a registration fee.)

All funds raised will support the MR8 Foundation and YES.

About Martin Richard: Martin started his running career with YES in 2009 at age 5. In his early days, Martin would chase his brother, Henry, and the older athletes on their runs, many of whom he would eventually catch up to and pass. But his fierce and unrivaled sense of competition does not tell the full picture of Martin's character and drive. His understanding of fairness, inclusion, and teamwork were values that helped to identify Martin. The one mile that we run, walk, or shuttle through will celebrate Martin's zest for life as a competitor, teammate, and vibrant young boy.

To register online, go to martinrichardmile.eventbrite.com. Or you can print and mail in your Registration - click [here](#) to download the form. You may also bring your Registration Form with you on the race day.

New Balance Foundation Supports YES



YES was recently selected by the New Balance Foundation to receive a grant from the *NB Spark Start Initiative*. The grant funds will be utilized to help fund its Track & Field Program, with the goal of serving more than 400 kids through the program over the next year.

"We are thrilled and honored to receive this grant from the New Balance Foundation," said Bryan Van Dorpe, Executive Director at YES. "The funds will go a long way to help Boston youth get outdoors and stay physically active through running, jumping and throwing."

"The New Balance Foundation believes that finding and pursuing your movement spark at an early age empowers kids to build confidence, set and accomplish personal goals and nurtures a healthy body and mind," said Noreen Bigelow, Charitable Programs Assistant for the foundation.

[Click here](#) to read more about the New Balance SparkStart initiative and how they are giving back to local youth.



YES Teens Learn About Philanthropy

This spring, YES was selected to participate in the Highland Street Foundation "Youth in Philanthropy" Program. The ["Youth in Philanthropy" Program](#) is a program for middle, high school, and college-aged youth that engages and empowers them to collectively choose and fund nonprofit organizations that are addressing the most pressing community and societal needs.

Through this program, YES youth were given \$5,000 in grants to award to three local non-profits. After conducting site visits with several

Massachusetts non-profits, YES teens voted on which three non-profits should receive the grant money. The three non-profits selected were the [Sunny Meadow Sanctuary](#), [The Children's Trust](#), and [The Environmental League of Massachusetts](#).

Sixteen year old YES Teen, Zoe, participated in the "Youth in Philanthropy" program and says, "My favorite part of the program was learning how non-profits work from the inside. I enjoyed interviewing staff members at many different non-profits when we were deciding who to award the grant money to. It was cool to hear from them firsthand what they would use the grant money for." The experience was a rewarding and unique experience for YES youth. On behalf of YES teens and staff, thank you to Highland Street Foundation for choosing YES as a participant in the 2014 Youth in Philanthropy Program.



YES Teens awarded one of the Youth in Philanthropy awards to The Children's Trust of Boston, Mass.

**Meet & Greet with YES Alum and Intern,
Jenny!**



Former YES teen, Jenny Delgado, has joined the YES staff as a development intern this summer! She is helping with marketing, fundraising, and Alumni activities. We sat down with Jenny and asked her about what it's like to return to YES as a college student!

YES: What do you think the best part of YES has been for you and your friends?

Jenny: I think the best part was learning how to step out of my comfort zone to learn how to snowboard the first time I participated in Operations Snowsports. I had to move beyond my fear of falling (which I still do) and prove to myself that the only way to fail was by giving up. As for the friendships I created through YES, I was happy to see that three students from my high school received the Richard Williams Memorial Scholarship to continue their journey as they became first generation college bound.

[Read More](#)

Support YES When You Shop at Amazon.com!



YES recently registered with Amazon.com to participate in their Amazon Smile Nonprofit Program. As a participating organization, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible Amazon Smile purchases to YES. Sign up in 3 easy steps!

How to get started:

1. Go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to AmazonSmile to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.
2. Shop as normal
3. Select "Youth Enrichment Services" as your charity when checking out to purchase.

Shop on AmazonSmile!

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