



Youth Enrichment Services *December 2021 Newsletter*

Upcoming Events & Important Dates

Saturday, December 4: [4th Annual MR8K](#) (Boston, MA) There's still time to join Team YES for the 4th Annual MR8K Walk/Run! The race is open to runners, walkers, para-athletes and families of all ages and abilities. Go to yeskids.org/mr8k, look for "Youth Enrichment Services" in the team list, and click "Join Team"

Monday, December 6: [2021 YES Virtual Annual Celebration](#) (Boston, MA) Join us to celebrate all that YES has accomplished over the past year as we look forward to next year. Event is FREE and open to everyone in the YES community! Click [here](#) to register.

Sunday, January 9: [Operation SnowSports Begins](#) YES is thrilled to offer young people a season of downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, and snowboarding at ski destinations around New England. The 2022 season will provide youth with meaningful outdoor experiences, confidence-building challenges, and opportunities to connect with positive role models. Follow our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to see photos from the slopes!

Monday, March 7: [No Boundaries Free Ski Day](#) Save the date! Our friends at [Ski No Boundaries](#) are hosting a day of free skiing! Proceeds from the event will benefit YES. Follow the No Boundaries Instagram page ([@skinoboundaries](#)) for more info – location announcement coming soon!

Saturday, March 19: [Mass Snow Challenge](#) (Princeton, MA) Save the date! More information to follow.

Monday, April 18: [2022 Boston Marathon](#) (Boston, MA) YES received four (4) official numbers as part of the 2022 John Hancock Marathon Non-Profit Program. Runners passionate about the outdoors and youth development are invited to apply to join YES's 2022 Boston Marathon team. To apply, email bvandorpe@yeskids.org. Deadline to apply is Friday, December 17.

Thursday, April 21: [11th Annual Black Diamond Gala](#) (Boston, MA) Save the date! More information to follow.

Join Team YES in the 4th Annual MR8K

We are excited to invite everyone in the YES community to join "Team Youth Enrichment Services" in the MR8K Walk/Run on Saturday, December 4 in Boston. The MR8K race is hosted by the Martin Richard Charitable Foundation, a long-time YES funder and partner. The five-mile race, along with youth races for all ages, starts and ends at Boston Landing, home of the Warrior Ice Arena, in the Brighton neighborhood of Boston.

To join Team YES, visit yeskids.org/mr8k, find Youth Enrichment Services in the list of teams, and click "Join Team"
Huge thanks to the 60+ supporters who have already joined Team YES! You helped secure a \$5,000 grant to YES from the Martin Richard Foundation!



Now we're asking for your help to DOUBLE the grant (\$10k!) by having the largest team on race day!

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP

- 1) If you haven't already registered, sign up to join Team Youth Enrichment Services!
- 2) Forward this email to a friend and ask them to join the team with you!

Boston Youth Run, Bike, and More Outdoors With YES This Fall



This fall, Boston youth and teens had the opportunity to get active, explore the outdoors, and experience new adventures with Youth Enrichment Services (YES). COVID-19 guidelines from the MA Department of Health continue to be in place to ensure the healthy and safety of participants, staff, and volunteers.

YES continued its partnership with Mildred C. Hailey Apartments to offer their residents weekly opportunities to bike in the Southwest Corridor. In addition, YES partnered with Urban Edge to provide a drop-in biking program available to YES kids and youth in the surrounding neighborhoods. Young people living in YES's priority

neighborhoods, many with limited access to the outdoors learned how to ride, improved their biking skills, and connected with positive adult models.

YES also partnered with two Dorchester schools this fall to introduce youth and teens to new experiences in the outdoors. Students from Tech Boston Academy and Martin Luther King Jr. K-8 School had opportunities to canoe, bike, and rock climb with YES.

Youth in YES's Cross Country running program stayed active this fall with weekly practices at Saunders Stadium in Moakley Park. The program is an introduction to the sport of cross country running with a strong emphasis on the development of strength and stamina to run longer distances. Youth had the opportunity to compete in the Mayor's Cup at Franklin Park in October.



Teens in the Leadership Corps program started their school-year season with YES in October. This year, teens will develop their leadership and career readiness skills through participating in workshops and trainings and put those skills into practice through volunteering with YES's ski & snowboard rental shop and supporting SnowSports trips. Recently, teens have been working hard in the YES Rental Shop to learn how to bind and scrape skis and snowboards to prepare for the upcoming winter season.

YES Receives Grant from the Share Winter Foundation in Partnership With Alterra Mountain Company

YES recently received an \$80,000 grant from the Share Winter Foundation. The grant is being used to fund the Cross-Country Ski and YETTI (Youth Excel Through Tailored Instructions) programs. Both programs operate within YES's Operation SnowSports program and serve Boston youth ages 7-12 from low-to-moderate income families.

Share Winter Foundation announced a national partnership with Alterra Mountain Company to expand their grantmaking and programmatic reach to all Alterra Mountain Company Locations. Alterra Mountain Company has committed nearly \$4 million in cash and in-kind services to Share Winter Foundation in order to make a more diverse and inclusive winter sports community. Through this partnership, youth in the YETTI program will have the opportunity to experience skiing at Stratton Mountain Resort, an Alterra Mountain Company property, in Stratton, Vermont.

[Read more about the grant and partnership here!](#)



ALTERRA
MOUNTAIN COMPANY



Welcome New YES Staff



Christopher Cadogan
Activity Captain

Chris is originally from Dorchester, MA. He graduated from McGill University where he studied political science and

international development. Chris has a long history with YES. He learned to ski through the Operation SnowSports program as a kid and participated in Leaderships Corps as a teen. Chris also worked as an Outdoor Adventure Leader during the summers through the MLK Summer Scholars Program. Chris is most excited about the hands-on experience of going out on YES trips and having the opportunity to participate in the outdoor activities while sharing his passions with Boston youth.



Eust Eustis
Activity Captain

Eust is originally from Medway, MA. They graduated from Simmons University in 2017 with a major in biochemistry with a minor in sociology.

They have a background working as a Program Coordinator on projects advocating for peace and climate justice. In the 2019-2020 Operation SnowSports season, they were trained as an adult volunteer but unfortunately didn't get to go out on any trips due to the pandemic. Eust is most excited about meeting new people and having fun on the slopes with youth!



Maria Farias
Activity Captain

Maria is originally from Boston, MA. She attended Assumption College and studied Foreign Language Education. Her background is in

youth development and education, specifically in the outdoors. She has been a YES volunteer since 2005, and previously held the position of Outreach & Enrollment Coordinator with YES. Maria is most excited to be able to lead trips that enable adults to connect with youth that support young people to step out of their comfort zone, try something new, challenge themselves, and help them explore their potential.



EJ Pinckney
Outreach & Enrollment Coordinator

EJ is originally from Atlanta, GA. He recently received his Bachelors of Science from the University of

Colorado Denver. Before joining YES, EJ worked as a teacher's assistant in a summer school program and is passionate about helping youth reach their full potential. He also has experience working in customer service and is pleased to bring his "people skills" to YES. EJ is most excited about getting outdoors with Boston youth and creating meaningful relationships between YES, families, and partners in the community. EJ is the son of YES Alumni, Eric Pinckney.



YES Cross-Country Ski Program Featured on FasterSkier.Com

YES was recently featured in a Faster Skier article about the work we are doing to break down barriers in cross-country skiing. The YES cross-country ski program is currently open to Boston children ages 7-12 with a priority focus of reaching youth of color and low-income households. The cross-country program was established to expand winter opportunities for young people to experience outdoor physical activities. [Click here to read the full article.](#)

Embarc Studio Hosts Charity Golf Tournament to Benefit YES

Boston architecture firm, Embarc Studio, held their inaugural 2021 Embarc Classic to benefit Youth Enrichment Services (YES) on Monday, October 18 at Blissful Meadows in Uxbridge, MA. Golfers participated in 18 holes of golf,

putting contests, and raffles. Over \$8,000 was raised for YES through ticket sales, event sponsorships, and hole sponsorships.

Embarc selected YES as the benefiting charity because the firm is currently designing a building for the future new home of YES. After many years of searching for a new home, a joint partnership development site has been identified in Jamaica Plain at 267 Amory Street. Read more about it [here](#).

Thank you so much, Embarc! Visit their website [here](#).



Give the Gift of Outdoor Experiences this Holiday Season!

Whether large or small, gifts of any size make a difference at YES. Thank you for giving generously!

DONATE

- \$2,500 pays for 10 teens to participate in the YES Leadership Corps program for a semester.
- \$1,000 pays for four youth to get active in the year-round Track & Field program.
- \$500 pays for one youth to attend the Outdoor Adventure program at YES for one week in the summer. Includes an overnight trip to Swann Lodge in the Berkshires!
- \$250 pays for one high school student to participate in leadership development workshops, explore career pathways, and prepare for college in the YES Leadership Corps program.
- \$100 pays for one young person to ski or snowboard with YES for the day.
- \$50 pays for two youth to receive a pair of waterproof gloves and hat to stay warm on the slopes.

Thank you for remembering YES in your year-end charitable giving. December 31st is the last day to make a charitable donation in 2021!

