



## Youth Enrichment Services *March/April 2021 Newsletter*

### Upcoming Events & Important Dates

**Thursday, March 25** [Spring Track & Field Application Deadline](#) (Moakley Park - South Boston, MA) Registration for Spring Track & Field is now open! In this program, youth ages 8-13 will be introduced to the of track & field in weekly practices. The program will begin on Monday, March 29. Click [here](#) to register online.

**Sunday, April 4** [Leadership Corps Outdoor Adventure Application Deadline](#) The spring Leadership Corps (LC) Outdoor Adventure program allows youth to learn job readiness and leadership skills in the workshop setting while putting them into practice through in-person and/or virtual volunteering. Program orientations will begin on Wednesday, April 7. Click [here](#) to learn more and apply.

**Monday, April 5** [Summer Teen Staff Application Deadline](#) Work with YES this summer! Jobs are open to Boston teens ages 15-19 and positions include Outdoor Adventure Leader, Impact Intern, Administrative Intern, and Track & Field Assistant Coach. Click [here](#) to learn more about each position and apply.

**Thursday, April 29** [Virtual Trivia Night](#) Put your knowledge to the test with fun and challenging trivia! Teams of up to 6 people will answer general knowledge trivia questions! Click [here](#) to register. \$10 suggested donation per player.

**Tuesday, May 18** [Virtual Paint Night](#) Explore your creative side with a step by step paint class to create your own masterpiece! No prior painting experience necessary! Click [here](#) to register. \$10 suggested donation to participate.

### Health and Safety at YES

For the past 12 months, safety has been our top priority at YES to keep youth, staff, and volunteers protected and secure. Programs have been modified to safely and responsibly operate with guidance from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Public Health (DPH), and state of Massachusetts, in addition to feedback and support from the Boston Public Health Commission. YES has instituted infection control practices that must be followed by all those involved in programs including: health screenings, mandated mask wearing, social distancing when possible, handwashing, and equipment sanitization.

Full documentation of COVID Health & Safety Policies can be viewed [on our website](#). YES is committed to safely serving and connect with young people during one of our traditionally busiest seasons of the year.

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### YES Youth Get Outdoors at Local Mountains this Winter

Although this winter looked different than most, more than 100 Boston youth had the opportunity to get outdoors with Youth Enrichment Services (YES). Young people experienced winter snowsports – including downhill skiing, snowboarding, and cross country skiing - developed self-confidence, and gained new skills on the slopes and trails.



YES's Operation SnowSports season began on January 14 and will wrap up in early March. Three local ski destinations partnered with YES this winter: Weston Ski Track (Weston, MA), Nashoba Valley Ski Area (Westford, MA), and Wachusett Mountain

(Princeton, MA). This season's programs followed a repeat engagement model to foster greater skills improvement, self-esteem, and connectedness with their peers, YES staff, and volunteer instructors.

YES continued its housing development partnership with the Mildred C. Hailey Apartments this winter. This 840-unit housing development is located on the Jamaica Plain/Roxbury line and is home to low- and moderate-income families. YES partnered with Mildred C. Hailey in the fall to bring outdoor activities to youth who live there. This winter, young people from the apartments had the opportunity to experience downhill skiing and snowboarding – most for the first time - with YES once per week at Wachusett Mountain.

Young people in the YES Cross-Country Ski Program have been active on the trails and having fun this winter! In addition to learning the basics of cross-country skiing and practicing their skills, youth also played games on their skis including freeze tag and ski "soccer". To close out the season, young people used the skills they gained to participate in the 1st Annual YES Cup, an unofficial – but fun – evening of ski races on the trails.



[See more photos from this winter in the Operation SnowSports Facebook album!](#)

## Leadership Corps Network with Volunteers

Teens in the YES Leadership Corps program had the opportunity to participate in a series of weekly Virtual Networking Nights this winter. The nights were focused on different career pathways and industries. Teens met in large groups virtually with volunteers working in a certain field before breaking into smaller groups where volunteers shared more information about what they do and how they have reached their career goals. Industries represented at the Networking Nights included: Arts, Design, and Curating; Social Work, Social Services, and Psychology; Medicine, Health, and Public Health; Sports, Athletics, and College Athletics.



During the Networking Nights, teens had the opportunity to ask questions, engage in conversations, and learn more about industries they might be interested in working in one day. Teens asked volunteers advice about getting into the field, what they studied in school, what a typical day looks like, and what skills are most important for their jobs.

Thank you to the volunteers who have participated so far! (Individuals listed below are as of March 1.)

Ilka Alcantara  
Gabrielle Arcand  
Kayli Balin  
DJ Brother O  
Emily Burgess  
Helen Carpenter  
Kalli Catcott  
Samantha Catcott  
Ben Clark  
Raeann Dalton  
Autumn Edelson  
Kyla Frenia  
Emma Gildesgame

Emily Gordon  
Rosemary Gould  
Chaya Harris  
Jacqueline Hazan  
Olivia Honigman  
Laura Honsig  
Liana Jaeger  
Michele James  
Courtney Johnson  
Yarrow Jones  
Carrie Klein  
Mary Kate Knight  
Rashaun Martin

Joshua Milne  
Bernadette Peebles  
David Roache  
Dee Roscioli  
Khari Roulhac  
Reneldy Senat  
Kathy Siemionko  
Darryl Soto  
Biria St. John  
Aimee Sun  
Maggie Thomas  
Abu Toppin  
Emma Warman  
Khori Witter

Teens also had the opportunity to participate in a Summer Opportunities Fair. Boston organizations offering teen jobs this summer attended the fair to share information about their open positions. Thank you to all who attended!

ABCD SummerWorks  
Artists for Humanity  
Boston University's Reach Dance Program

Dana Farmer Summer Internship  
Roxbury Tenants of Harvard  
Summer Search

The Food Project Seed Crew  
YES Summer Employment  
YMCA



## ARCS for YES Raises Over \$8,000

YES would like to thank ARCS for YES Boston for raising over \$8,600 for YES youth programs! ARCS for YES is a fundraising initiative to help YES provide Boston youth with access to winter sports. Over the past several weeks, members of the ski community have been challenging each other to complete ARCS on the snow and donate to YES. The ski community came together to help YES give youth the opportunity to experience all the joys of winter sports. Thank you to all who participated and generously donated! Click [here](#) to see all of the ARCS!

## YES Photos Featured in SKI Magazine

Thank you to SKI Magazine and the Share Winter Foundation for their support of YES's Operation SnowSports programs. We are honored that photos of YES youth were included in the February 2021 issue of SKI Magazine's article profiling the work and mission of the foundation. The Share Winter Foundation is a generous funder of YES's repeat engagement ski/snowboard program and cross-country ski program. The mission of the foundation is to improve the lives, health, and fitness of youth through winter sports. Click [here](#) to read the SKI Magazine article. Click [here](#) to visit the Share Winter Foundation website.



# SKI

JOIN SIGN IN



**This Community Organization Needs Your Help to Diversify Skiing**

## YES Young Professionals Committee Goes Virtual

The Young Professionals Committee is a young professionals group dedicated to Boston youth and outdoor and enrichment programming. Members consist of motivated individuals willing to fundraise, raise awareness for YES's mission. The committee provides young professionals in Boston the opportunity to network, volunteer, socialize, and give back.



Over the past year, the committee has shifted from offering after-work 21+ events for Boston young professionals to holding a series of monthly virtual events open to the entire YES community! Events have included Yoga, Music Bingo, and Cooking Classes.

*Guests show off their creations during a Virtual Cooking Class. Thank you [Two Knives and a Pan](#) for a great class!*

Keep an eye on your inbox for upcoming virtual events, including Trivia Night and Paint Night!

If you are interested in learning more about the committee or applying to join, click [here!](#)

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**DONATE**