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## Youth Enrichment Services September/October 2017 Newsletter

### Upcoming Events

**Saturday, September 23:** [Tour de South Shore Athletic Festival](#) (Wompatuck State Park - Hingham, MA) Sign up to join Team YES and bike or run with us! Registration includes a fun after-party with food from 10 local restaurants, beer, and entertainment.

**Saturday, September 30:** [Berklee Beantown Jazz Festival](#) (Boston, MA) Join YES at the Berklee Beantown Jazz Festival, Boston's biggest block party. We will have a table at the event, so make sure to come say hello!

**Sunday, October 1:** [12th Annual East Boston Savings Bank 5K Bay Run/Walk](#) (South Boston, MA) Join YES at the 5K Bay Run/Walk with East Boston Savings Bank Foundation on Sunday, October 1 at Carson Beach and help YES win the 2017 Nonprofit Challenge! Through the Nonprofit Challenge, the non-profit with the most registrants in the race will win \$1,000!

**Thursday, October 5:** [Harpoon Beer Tasting](#) (Boston, MA) Save the Date! The Young Professionals Committee will be hosting YES's annual Harpoon Beer Tasting on October 5. Tickets are now on sale on [Eventbrite](#).

**Thursday, October 19:** [Volunteer Kick-off](#) (East Boston, MA) It's that time of year again! Join YES at the Volunteer Kick-off from 6 - 9 pm at [Parlor Skis](#). This is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new prospective volunteers! Please note, this event is 21+. [RSVP](#) is required. Parlor Skis is located by the Wood Hills MBTA stop on the blue line.

**Saturday, October 28:** [Ghosts, Ghouls & Gambling: Day Trip to Mohegan Sun Casino to Benefit YES](#) (Uncasville, CT) Join the YES Young Professionals Committee on a day trip to Mohegan Sun. Transportation, comedy entertainment, dinner, a concert, and refreshments on the bus are all included. A prize will be awarded for best Halloween costume. 100% of proceeds will benefit YES! Tickets are now [available](#).

**Sunday, November 19:** [YES Ski Sale](#) Come join YES for its annual ski sale from 10 - 2 pm at the YES office (412 Mass Ave Boston, MA). There will be used and new ski equipment for sale!

### The Round-Up: Recent Happenings at YES



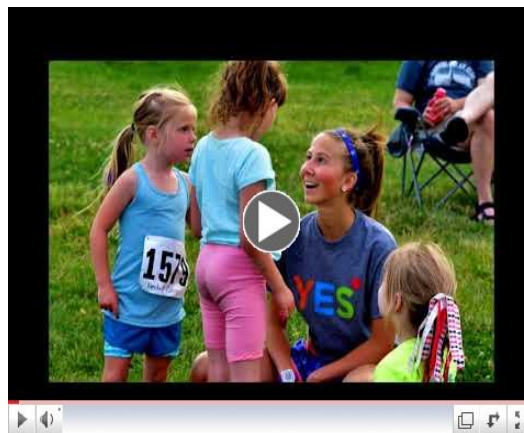
Photo 1: YES youth had the opportunity to experience many sports this summer, including golf. Pictured above are our young people learning how to putt at Owl's Nest Golf Club in Thornton, New Hampshire.

Photo 2: Over 350 young people participated in the YES Track & Field program this summer. Youth competed in several developmental track meets. Pictured above is a young runner racing to the finish line at Mookley Park in South Boston at the July 10th developmental meet.

Photo 3: One of YES's core summer activities is kayaking. Pictured above is a YES youth kayaking on the Charles River. For many youth, it was their first time experiencing this fun and challenging activity!

## Thank You for Giving YES Youth a Summer to Remember!

More than 500 Boston youth had the opportunity to experience the outdoors with Youth Enrichment Services (YES) this summer. From kayaking and rock climbing to mountain biking and hiking to track and field, young people explored the outdoors, developed self-confidence, and had an amazing summer!



Watch the video for highlights from this summer!

==Thank You==  
 Without your donation, I wouldn't be exercising and meeting new people! Thank you so much.



-Kayla N.

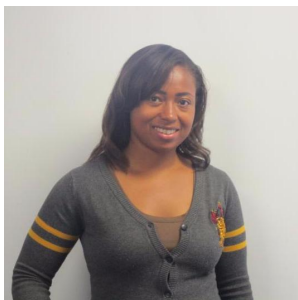
[CHECK OUT](#) the Outdoor Adventure photo album on Facebook.

## Meet YES's Newest Staff Members!

We are pleased to introduce two members of the YES team, Nakennia President and Walter Pultinas!

**Nakennia President**  
**Youth Leadership Manager**

Nakennia has worked in educational programming for nearly ten years, first with the Steppingstone Foundation and more recently the Salvation Army. Nakennia joined YES as the Youth Leadership Manager in June 2017. In this role, she oversees



YES's teen programs including the Leadership Corps and YES Academy activities. Nakennia says, "I am excited to join YES and share my love of the outdoors with the YES team and youth."

Nakennia is a former Navy Reservist and earned her undergraduate degree from Newbury College in Boston. She is currently working towards her master's degree in Nonprofit Management at Lesley University.



### **Walter Pultinas** **Career Coordinator**

A former YES youth, Walter returned to the organization as Career Coordinator in December 2016. Walter says, "I am inspired by my personal career journey to help teens navigate the possibilities and challenges that come with entering the workforce." Prior to joining YES, Walter worked at the Roxbury Youth Initiative as a counselor, coordinated an after-school program for children in Honduras, and taught English in Thailand. In his role as Career Coordinator, Walter teaches career development skills to youth and supervises teen staff and interns.

Walter earned his bachelor's degree from Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon.

## **The 5th Annual Beer Tasting** *hosted by YES's Young Professional Committee*



**Harpoon Brewery**  
**306 Northern Ave. Boston, MA 02210**  
**Thursday, October 5**  
**7:00 - 8:30 PM**

**Craft Beer and Cider Tasting**  
**Advanced tickets on sale now for \$30.**  
**(Ticket price includes Harpoon's legendary pretzels!!)**  
Buy your tickets now, there is limited capacity at this event!

**BUY TICKETS**

**Join YES for an exclusive Tap Talk about fall beers and a tasting!**  
100% of proceeds benefit Youth Enrichment Services!  
Please note the event is 21+.

**The Young Professionals Committee is growing! [APPLY](#) now and join the fun!**

## Make an Impact with YES!

Are you looking for an opportunity to give back and meet new people this year? Volunteer with YES and give youth access to meaningful outdoor and enrichment programs. Last year, over 200 volunteers supported YES and helped deliver programming to over 1,600 youth!

Applications are now open for 2017 - 2018 Operation SnowSports volunteers. Click on the link below to learn more about Operation SnowSports volunteer opportunities and to apply. Applications close on **November 15**.

[APPLY](#) to become a YES volunteer this winter.



**Become a YES volunteer and help give Boston youth opportunities to experience the outdoors!**

## Boston Runners Come Together and Celebrate Community at The Martin Richard Memorial One Mile Invitational

Over 250 racers of all abilities and ages participated in the [4th Annual Martin Richard Memorial One Mile Invitational](#) on August 17, making it the largest Invitational to date. The Invitational is an annual event which celebrates the life of Martin Richard, a YES Track & Field participant. 2017 event partners included the Martin Richard Charitable Foundation, Adaptive Sports New England, USA Track & Field, and the New Balance Foundation.

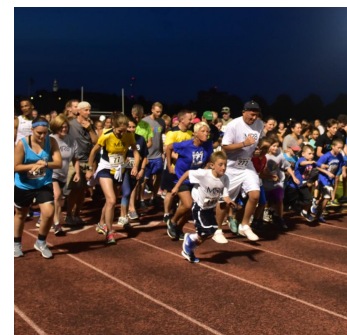
According to Joe Walsh of Adaptive Sports New England, the event continues to have the largest Paralympic contingency of any track meet in New England.

"It was an honor to have over 250 runners came out to run, walk, or roll in celebration of Martin Richard's life." remarked YES Executive Director, Bryan Van Dorpe. "Throughout his time with YES Track & Field, Martin demonstrated an outstanding love for running and his community. The Invitational continues to commemorate Martin by bringing together the Boston running community every August."

The Invitational raised over \$3,000 for YES and the Martin Richard Charitable Foundation. Thank you to all of our supporters who attended the event.

[VIEW](#) photos from the Invitational.

*Photo credit: Hurley Event Photography.*



**Thank you to the 250+ attendees who joined us at the 4th Annual Martin Richard One Mile Invitational!**

### STAY CONNECTED



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