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Youth Enrichment Services February 2017 Newsletter



Upcoming Events

Tuesday, February 7: [Chipotle Community Night to Benefit YES's Marathon Team](#) (Cambridge, MA)

Sunday, March 5: [Shamrock Splash](#) (M Street Beach - Boston, MA)

Sunday, March 12: [Mass Snow Challenge](#) (Wachusett Mountain - Princeton, MA)

Thursday, April 6: [YES Black Diamond Gala](#) (Royale - Boston, MA)



*YES Lifetime
Achievement Awardee, Bernie*

Ski Industry Leader, Bernie Weichsel, Honored at 2016 YES Annual Celebration

Over 200 supporters, volunteers, and friends came together on December 7, 2016 to celebrate Youth Enrichment Services (YES) and its achievements throughout the year. The event, held at Fenway Park's State Street Pavilion, was an especially meaningful night as long-time YES supporter, Bernie Weichsel, was awarded the YES Lifetime Achievement award.

Bernie is president of BEWI Productions and a pioneer of the snowsports industry. He has been an outstanding supporter of YES for more than 40 years. YES co-founder, Mary Williams, presented the Lifetime Achievement award and reminded the crowd that Bernie once remarked, "We should all do what we can - whether

*Weichsel (R) with YES co-founder,
Mary Williams (L).*

it's through contributions, good deeds, or just helping other less fortunate - to enjoy some of the joy of being outdoors. Out with selfishness: in with sharing."

Bernie's generosity has provided thousands of youth at YES with the opportunity to experience the outdoors and benefit from its enrichment programs. Thank you, Bernie, for four decades of service to the young people of YES!

Click [here](#) to view photos of the event.

YES Releases 2016 Impact Report

Fiscal Year 2016 was a year of great impact and achievement at YES. More than 1,600 youth explored the great outdoors with us - many for the first time. Over half of youth served were from YES's target neighborhoods of Dorchester, Roxbury, and Mattapan. 75% of youth were from low-to-moderate income families.

We are inspired by the progress YES has made during Fiscal Year 2016. And, we are energized to continue moving towards our goal of doubling the number of youth served in our repeat engagement programs and high impact YES Academy programs.

Highlights from the year include:

100% of YES Academy seniors graduated high school and enrolled in college.

100% of Operation SnowSports youth reported increased confidence in trying new things.

90% of young people in the Girls Outdoor Adventure Leaders program reported an increase in self-esteem after the program.

80% of YES alumni reported taking on a leadership role on their college campus.

72% of Track and Field youth reported increased physical activity after program participation.



Click on the [Impact Report](#) image above to see what YES has been able to accomplish because of supporters like you!

Save the Date!
7th Annual YES Black Diamond Gala
Thursday, April 6, 2017

Click [here](#) to sponsor the event or purchase tickets!

THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2017

SAVE THE DATE

YES★
SEVENTH ANNUAL
**BLACK
DIAMOND
GALA**
THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2017

Benefiting Youth Enrichment Services, an organization that provides Boston's youth with year-round outdoor and enrichment programs.

ROYALE
279 Tremont Street
Boston, MA

Pre-Event Reception
5:30-6:30 p.m.
Cocktail Reception
& Program
6:30-9:30 p.m.
Silent & Live Auctions
US Ski Team, Olympic,
and World Cup Athletes

INVITATION TO FOLLOW
For sponsorship information:
visit www.yeskids.org/gala
or contact
Jamie Burch at 617-267-5877 x19

Meet YES's 2017 Boston Marathon Team!

YES received four (4) bibs this year through the John Hancock Non-profit Boston Marathon Program. We are thrilled to introduce four runners to Team YES; Meredith Bird, Melanie Cybriwsky, Stephen Nock, and Sam Pskowski. While they come from diverse backgrounds, they all have one thing in common: a passion for giving all youth access to the outdoors.

Join us in welcoming Team YES 2017. Visit their Crowdrise pages below to support their run or read more about their personal stories on the YES website.

[Click here to support Team YES.](#)
[Learn more about Team YES by clicking here.](#)

In related running news, YES is excited to partner with the Blackstone Community Center to offer a new indoor **Winter Track & Field** program for youth ages 8-14. Click [here](#) to read more about this exciting new program!



Team YES 2017 (L to R): Stephen Nock, Sam Pskowski, Meredith Bird, and Melanie Cybriwsky.

YES Youth Profile: Varsha

Meet Varsha, a 17-year-old YES teen. Over the past four years, Varsha has grown into a confident young leader at YES.

Girls Outdoor Adventure Leaders (GOAL) is a year-round program that provides pre-teen and teen girls (ages 11-14) with opportunities to develop leadership skills, explore individual sports, improve self-esteem, set and achieve goals, and challenge gender stereotypes.

Varsha joined the GOAL program as an eighth grade student and took part in activities such as rock climbing, surfing, and horseback riding for the very first time. Looking back at her experiences Varsha reflects, "Being in GOAL really opened up my mind about what a girl can do."

This year, Varsha is employed with YES as a GOAL Teen Leader. In her role, she is helping to coordinate activities ranging from a healthy relationships workshop to outdoor rock climbing. Varsha looks forward to using her own experience as a GOAL girl to teach the girls that they can do anything they set their minds to.

Click [here](#) to read more about Varsha as a young leader at YES.



13-year-old Varsha in the GOAL program (top) and 17-year-old Varsha as a Teen Leader this summer.

STAY CONNECTED



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