

Youth Resource Connections

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HEADLINES

The Employment and Training Administration Announces and Advisory Notice on the Guide to State and Local Workforce Data. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) released Training and Employment Notice (TEN) 19-10, which announces the availability of the Office of Workforce Investment's Guide to State and Local Workforce Data: For Analysis and Informed Decision Making. This guide provides links to a wealth of state and local employment and economic data — virtually all free — from government and private sector sources. It combines several features that make it uniquely valuable. To view the TEN and guide, visit: <http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEN19-10.pdf>.

U.S. Labor Department Upgrades 'Re-Employment' Web Portal. The U.S. Department of Labor has upgraded its re-employment Web portal to provide access to assistance beyond career and job searches. The Web site found at: <http://www.CareerOneStop.org/reemployment> now offers a single source for information on jobs, career training, unemployment benefits and assistance with necessities such as food, housing, health care and utility payments. The resources will prove useful to everyone from recently laid-off workers and unemployment insurance claimants to individuals who have exhausted their unemployment benefits and those seeking to change careers. To view the press release, visit: <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/ETA/ETA20101761.htm>.

U.S. Department of Education and Partners to Convene World's Education Leaders for Summit on Teaching Profession. The U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan will join leaders from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and Education International, together with the National Education Association, the American Federation of Teachers, the Council of Chief State School Officers, the Asia Society and public broadcaster WNET, to host an International Summit on the Teaching Profession in New York City, March 16-17. The summit will convene education ministers, national union leaders, education organization leaders and accomplished teachers from countries with high performing educational systems to identify best practices worldwide that effectively strengthen the teaching profession to enhance student achievement. Participants will discuss the vital role teachers' play in advancing progressive, sustainable education reform. To view press release, visit: <http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-and-partners-convene-world%E2%80%99s-education-leaders-summit-te>.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

U.S. Department of Justice Invites Applications for its Fiscal Year 2011 National Mentoring Programs. The U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ), Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is accepting applications for its National Mentoring Program. This program is designed to further DOJ's mission by supporting mentoring programs to reduce juvenile delinquency, drug abuse, truancy, and other problem and high-risk behaviors. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: <http://www.ojjdp.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2011/OJJDP%20FY%2011%20National%20Mentoring.pdf>. **Deadline: February 28.**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS, AND TEACHERS

The American Museum of Natural History and the ALCOA Foundation Invites applications from Students for their Young Naturalist Awards. The American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) and the ALCOA Foundation are accepting applications from middle and high school students (grades 7 to 12) across the United States and Canada. The award competition was created to promote active participation in the sciences and stimulate youth to explore science careers. The program encourages students to independently explore the natural world and pursue in-depth scientific research in the areas of biology, earth science, ecology, and astronomy. Contestants form hypotheses, conduct research, plan experiments, gather data, and report their findings in an essay. Twelve winning students will be honored at a ceremony at the AMNH in New York City, receive a scholarship and a paid trip to the awards ceremony, where they will meet with scientists and take a behind-the-scenes tour of the museum. Additionally, winning contestants will have their essays featured on the AMNH Web site. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: <http://www.amnh.org/nationalcenter/youngnaturalistawards/index.html>. **Deadline: March 1.**

The Horace Mann Corporation Offers College Course Scholarships for K-12 Educators. The Horace Mann Educators Corporation is offering a total of \$30,000 in scholarships for U.S. public and private school K-12 educators to take college courses. Applicants must have at least two years of K-12 teaching experience and work at least thirty hours a week at a U.S public or private school. They also must reside in the United States; residents of Kentucky, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, and Hawaii are not eligible to apply. Scholarship winners must enroll in a two- or four-year accredited college or university. One recipient will receive \$5,000 in scholarship funds payable over four years; sixteen other recipients will receive \$1,000 each in scholarship funds payable over two years; and eighteen additional recipients will each receive one-time awards of \$500. Scholarship money will be paid directly to each recipient's college or university for tuition, fees, and other educational expenses. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: <https://www.horacemann.com/teacher-lounge>. **Deadline: March 1.**

VSA—The International Organization on Arts and Disability Announces Call for Scripts for its Playwright Discovery Program. VSA-The International Organization on Arts and Disability is accepting scripts from middle and high school students for their Playwright Discovery Program. The program invites students to take a closer look at the world around them, examine how disability affects their lives and the lives of others, and express their views through the art of playwriting. Young playwrights with and without disabilities are encouraged to submit a script. Entries may be the work of an individual student or a collaboration by a group or class of students. The winning play will be professionally produced or staged at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. The winning playwright will receive \$2,000 and a trip to Washington, D.C., to view his or her work on stage. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: <http://www.vsaarts.org/x244.xml>. **Deadline: April 15.**

ING Unsung Heroes Program Opens Grant Program for K-12 Educational Projects. ING Accepts Applications for its Unsung Heroes Awards Program. ING invites applications from K-12 educators for its Unsung Heroes Awards Program. The program is designed to recognize educators who utilize new teaching methods and techniques that improve student learning. 100 finalists will receive \$2,000. Three of the top finalists will receive \$5,000, \$10,000, and \$25,000. K-12 education professionals who are employed full-time by an accredited K-12 public or private school in the United States are eligible to apply. For more information, visit: <http://ing.us/about-ing/citizenship/childrens-education/ing-unsung-heroes>. **Deadline: April 30.**

PUBLICATIONS

“Does Your School Need a Fresh Start”. This publication developed by the U.S. Department of Education helps explain its program for turning low-performing schools into examples of educational excellence. Written especially for parents, the full-color brochure is written in both English and Spanish and is titled “Does Your School Need a Fresh Start?” (“¿Necesita su escuela un nuevo comienzo?”). The text describes in plain language the main features of the School Improvement Grant (SIG) program, its four intervention models, and much more, including what parents and community members can do to help ensure that their local school districts make the most of the available SIG funds. “Demand excellence,” the brochure encourages. “Your child deserves a great education. Set high standards for your child ... and your school. ” To view the publication online, visit: <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/sif/resources.html>. To order hard copies, visit: <http://www.edpubs.gov/>.

High Expectations and Strong Supports Yield Postsecondary Success is the second installment of the Forum for Youth Investment's Ready by 21, Credentialed by 26 series. Learn how YouthBuild Brockton is partnering with Massasoit Community College to move young people from dropout recovery to postsecondary completion. Get the latest research on student supports in higher education and hear from expert Ann Coles, senior associate at the Institute for Higher Education Policy. To view the report, visit: <http://forumfyi.org/content/%3Fhigh-expectations-strong-supports-yield-postsecondary-success>.

Trends in High School Dropout and Completion Rates in the United States: 1972-2008. The report, released by the National Center for Education Statistics at the Institute of Education Sciences, builds upon a series of reports on high school dropout and completion rates that began in 1988. It includes national and regional population estimates for the percentage of students who dropped out of high school between 2007 and 2008, the percentage of young people who were dropouts in 2008, and the percentage of young people who were not in high school and had some form of high school credential in 2008. Data are presented by a number of characteristics including race/ethnicity, sex, and age. Annual data for these population estimates are provided for the 1972-2008 period. To view the report, visit: <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2011012>.

Charting the Course: Supporting the Career Development of Youth with Learning Disabilities. This publication, developed by National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth (NCWD/Youth) in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), assists youth service professionals as they help young people with learning disabilities in their transition from adolescence to adulthood. This guide was developed in response to the overrepresentation of youth and young adults with learning disabilities in a wide array of government-supported programs—adult education, vocational rehabilitation, welfare, corrections, and others. To view the publication, visit: <http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ld-guide>.

Substance Use and Delinquent Behavior Among Serious Adolescent Offenders. This bulletin developed by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). It presents results from the Pathways to Desistance study, which interviewed more than 1,300 juvenile offenders for the 7 years after their conviction to determine what leads them to persist in or desist from serious offending. It focuses on understanding the connection between substance use and serious offending, including how these behaviors affect one another in adolescence and how they change in early adulthood, particularly when one behavior ceases. To view the report, visit: <http://www.ojjdp.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=254883>.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

On January 20, The Forum for Youth Investment hosted a Webinar entitled: "**Advancing Positive Youth Development through Advocacy and Policy**". The Webinar was held to allow participants the opportunity to learn how they can directly impact youth through advocacy and policy efforts that advance positive youth development. To view and listen to the archived Webinar, visit: <http://cyfernet.ces.ncsu.edu/mn/training/user.php?r=107>.

Evidence Base Practice Network is dedicated to bridging the gap between research in social services and practitioners providing services. On this site you will find information about evidence based practices in the broad spectrum of social services including chemical dependency prevention, intervention & treatment, and mental health interventions. To obtain additional information, visit: <http://nrepp.samhsa.gov/Search.aspx>.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 26. Washington, DC. U.S. Department of Education “Voices in Action: National Youth Summit”. To obtain additional information, visit: <http://www.ed.gov/college-completion/youth-summit>.

NOTICE:

The Employment and Training Administration is interested in hearing about new and innovative approaches which bring employers, educators and workforce systems professionals together to serve our communities’ youth. If you would like to share projects or programs in your area please e-mail your information to the Division of Youth Services at youth.services@dol.gov.

Thank you.

Youth Resource Connections (YRC). The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) does not take responsibility for non endorsed DOL/ETA resources included in the YRC.

We welcome your input. Please let us know how these updates might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have comments contact the: Division of Youth Services at (202) 693-3030 or e-mail youth.services@dol.gov .

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