

Youth Resource Connections

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HEADLINES

The Employment and Training Administration Announces a Publication on the 2009 Recovery Act Summer Youth Employment Initiative. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) released Training and Employment Notice (TEN) 12-10, which announces the availability of ETA Occasional Paper 2010-09, *Innovating Under Pressure: The Story of the 2009 Recovery Act Summer Youth Employment Initiative: Chicago, Detroit, Indianapolis & Marion County, Phoenix & Maricopa County*. This study documents the implementation of the Recovery Act summer youth employment initiative in four featured communities. The researchers conducted interviews and in-depth site visits over a two-week period in each community and developed individual case studies describing the recessionary challenges and strategies in the four communities during summer 2009. These four communities collectively received an infusion of more than \$37 million and provided an estimated 16,650 summer jobs for low-income and disadvantaged youth. To view the TEN and the study, visit: http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=2949.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics Publishes Final Definition on Green Jobs. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) released a Federal Register Notice on September 21, 2010. It included the final green jobs definition, along with a summary of and response to the comments received in response to the March 16, 2010, Federal Register Notice. The Notice also references the green goods and services industry list, which identifies detailed North American Industry Classification System industries that produce green goods and services as defined by BLS. To view the notice, visit: http://www.bls.gov/green/frn_2010_09_21.pdf.

More than 1,300 U.S. Organizations in All 50 States to Participate in Global Entrepreneurship Week 2010. More than 1,300 U.S. organizations in all 50 states – including top universities, non-profit organizations, successful entrepreneurs, government agencies and corporate sponsors – are collaborating to celebrate **Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) 2010**, November 15 - 21. Globally, there are expected to be more than 20,000 partners. The Week will bring together aspiring and inspiring entrepreneurs in more than 100 countries around the world, helping them embrace originality, imagination and ingenuity through local, national and global activities. Global Entrepreneurship Week helps current and would-be entrepreneurs gain knowledge, skills and networks to inspire and enable them to grow sustainable enterprises. To obtain additional information, visit: <http://unleashingideas.org/>.

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Education Secretary Arne Duncan Announces \$27 Million for Three Ready-to-Learn Television Program Grants. U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced three awards totaling \$27 million for projects to improve educational opportunities for young learners through innovative technology. Grants will be used to develop and deliver high-quality, age-appropriate, educational content to increase the early literacy and mathematics skills of young children age two through eight years old. To view the press release, visit: <http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/education-secretary-arne-duncan-announces-27-million-three-ready-learn-televisio>.

U.S. Department of Education Awards \$1.7 Million to Tennessee to Invest in Financial Education for College Access and Success. The U.S. Department of Education awarded the Tennessee Department of Education a \$1.7 million grant to develop, implement, and evaluate middle school and high school personal finance instructional materials and teacher training. The program will test how to better prepare students to apply for federal student financial aid (FAFSA) and enroll in college by implementing new approaches that will teach students to invest in higher education and make related financial planning decisions. To view the press release, visit: <http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-awards-17-million-tennessee-invest-financial-education>.

U.S. Secretary of Education Duncan Announces \$10.9 Million in Awards Under New Programs That Help Students with Intellectual Disabilities Transition to Postsecondary Education. U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced the award of \$10.9 million for 28 grants under two new federal programs that create opportunities for students with intellectual disabilities to attend and be successful in higher education. To view the press release, visit: <http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-secretary-education-duncan-announces-109-million-awards-under-new-programs-he>.

\$19.9 Million Awarded in Grants for Training of Special Educators to Improve Services for Children with Disabilities. The U.S. Department of Education announced more than \$19.9 million in grants to help prepare special education personnel to improve services and results for children with disabilities. To view the press release, visit: <http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/199-million-awarded-grants-training-special-educators-improve-services-children>.

U.S. Education Department Awards Grants to Improve Assessments for Students with Disabilities. The U.S. Department of Education has awarded grants to two consortia of states to develop a new generation of alternate assessments for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. The new assessments will be designed for a wide range of students with significant cognitive disabilities and will be aligned to the common set of college- and career-ready standards that were recently developed by governors and chief state school officers and have been adopted by 35 states and the District of Columbia. The tests will assess knowledge of mathematics and English language arts in grades 3-8, and one grade in high school. To view the press release, visit: <http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-education-department-awards-grants-improve-assessments-students-disabilities>.

The Center for Energy Workforce Development Receives \$1.3 Million Gates Foundation Grant for Energy Job Training. The Center for Energy Workforce Development (CEWD) has received a \$1.37 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to prepare low-income, young adults in eight states for careers in the energy industry. To view the press release, visit:
<http://www.cewd.org/pathways/Gates%20Grant%20Press%20Release.pdf>.

New Initiative Will Advance the Best Uses of Technology to Improve College Readiness and Completion. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced the Next Generation Learning Challenges, a collaborative, multi-year initiative. This initiative aims to help dramatically improve college readiness and college completion in the United States through the use of technology. The program will provide grants to organizations and innovators to expand promising technology tools to more students, teachers, and schools. It is led by nonprofit EDUCAUSE, which works to advance higher education through the use of information technology. To view the press release, visit:
<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/press-releases/Pages/next-generation-learning-challenges-101011.aspx>.

Foundation Launches \$35 million Program to Help Boost Community College Graduation Rates. Melinda Gates announced that the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is investing \$34.8 million over five years to help dramatically increase the graduation rates of today's community college students. The *Completion by Design* program will award competitive grants to groups of community colleges to devise and implement new approaches to make the college experience more responsive to today's student.
<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/press-releases/Pages/increasing-community-college-graduation-rates-101004.aspx>.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

U.S. Department of Labor Announces Competition for YouthBuild Grants. The U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration today announced a solicitation for grant applications for the YouthBuild program. Approximately \$130 million is available through two separate appropriations. YouthBuild is an alternative education program that provides classroom instruction and construction skills training to at-risk individuals ages 16 to 24. Participants learn valuable skills as they build or rehabilitate housing for low-income or homeless individuals and families in their communities. Of the total funding announced, \$30 million in fiscal year 2010 funds is available for immediate award. These funds are reserved for organizations that did not receive funding in the fiscal year 2009 YouthBuild competition. Additional grants will be made available through the fiscal year 2011 appropriation. These awards will be made after April 1, 2011, pending the availability of funds. To obtain additional information and a copy of grant announcement SGA/DFA PY 10-02, visit: <http://www.doleta.gov/grants> or <http://www.grants.gov>. To view the press release, visit: <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/ETA/ETA20101284.htm>.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS, AND TEACHERS

Youth, I.N.C Invites Applications for 2011 Service Grant Program. Youth, I.N.C. is accepting applications for its training and support program for New York City-based nonprofit organizations that serve youth. Awardees will receive the following: 1) up to four years of consulting related to the program's annual fundraising event; 2) an annual fundraising event produced and underwritten by Youth, I.N.C.; 3) monthly workshops led by industry experts in fundraising and marketing; 4) introductions to prospective board members from the corporate sector; and 5) the opportunity to apply for significant cash support for capacity-building initiatives. Eligible applicants must be a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations that have been serving youth in New York City for at least three years. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: <http://www.youthinc-usa.org/>.
Deadline: Rolling.

American Library Association Offers Book Club Grant Program to Help Underserved Teens. The American Library Association Public Programs Office and the Young Adult Library Services Association are accepting applications for the next round of Great Stories CLUB grants. The Great Stories CLUB (Connecting Libraries, Underserved teens, and Books) is a book club program designed to reach underserved, troubled teen populations through books that are relevant to their lives. All types of libraries (public, school, academic, and special) located within or working in partnership with facilities serving troubled teens in the United States and its territories are eligible to apply for a CLUB grant. Following the application process, 150 libraries will be selected to develop a book discussion program for troubled teens based on the three theme-related titles and will be given copies of the books to share with participants. Participating libraries will also receive access to an online toolkit to support the program. Small cash grants (\$100 to \$200) will be awarded to approximately twenty-five sites for the support of program-related expenses. To obtain additional information, visit:
<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ppo/programming/greatstories/club.cfm>.
Deadline: November 19.

Kennedy Center Launches Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Awards Program. The [Kennedy Center](http://www.kennedy-center.org) is accepting nominations for its Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Awards designed to spotlight some of the United States' most inspirational teachers and recognize them for their contributions. On March 22, Stephen Sondheim's birthday, a select number of these teachers will each receive the Kennedy Center/Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Award, a cash award of \$10,000 each in appreciation for their contributions to the field of teaching. Awardees will also be showcased, along with the people they inspired, on the Kennedy Center/Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Awards web site. Nominators must be at least 18 years of age, and must have been the nominee's student. Nominations by peers, parents of students, etc. will be not accepted. Nominees must be legal residents of the United States and must teach or have taught in a K-12 school, college, or university in the United States. Teachers of all grade levels and subject areas are eligible for nomination. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: <http://www.kennedy-center.org/programs/awards/sondheim/>.
Deadline: December 15.

Lexus and Scholastic Launch Fourth Annual Environmental Contest for Middle and High School Students. Lexus in partnership with Scholastic are accepting applications for its Lexus Eco Challenge. The Lexus Eco Challenge is designed to inspire and empower middle and high school students to learn about the environment and take action to improve it. Middle and high school teams comprised of five to ten students and one teacher advisor are eligible to participate in one or both of the two initial challenges, each addressing different environmental elements — land/water and air/climate. Winning teams will each receive a total of \$10,000 in scholarships and grants to be shared among the students, teacher, and school. In mid-February 2011, the winning teams from the first two challenges will be invited to participate in the Final Challenge. Teams will be asked to reach beyond the local community and inspire environmental action around the world through innovative ideas that are communicated to a wide audience. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: <http://www.scholastic.com/lexus/>. **Deadline for Challenge One (Land/Water): November 3. Deadline for Challenge Two (Air/Climate): January 19, 2011.**

PUBLICATIONS

Right on the Money: How to Keep the Doors of Your Nonprofit Organization Open in Good Times and Bad. This article developed for the Family and Youth Services Bureau by JBS International, Inc. for the Administration on Children, Youth and Families is part of an ongoing series about how to keep the doors of nonprofit organizations open in good and bad economic times. To view the article, visit: http://www.ncfy.com/publications/right_on_the_money/sustainability_toolkit.htm.

The Mobile Story: Data-Driven Community Efforts to Raise Graduation Rates. This publication developed by Jeremiah Newell and Carolyn Akers, looks at how the Mobile (Alabama) County Public School System is improving achievement and creating beat-the-odds schools that set and achieve high academic expectations despite the challenges of poverty and racial disparity. The authors chart how Mobile's Research Alliance for Multiple Pathways, funded through the U.S. Department of Labor's Multiple Pathways Blueprint Initiative, is identifying gaps in services throughout the community, analyzing the data about dropouts, benchmarking other communities, studying best practices, and mobilizing the community to expect and demand higher graduation rates. These activities are resulting in early identification of off-track students and coordination of school- and community-based reforms. To view the publication, visit: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/yd.367/abstract>.

Insulating the Education Pipeline to Increase Postsecondary Success. This issue brief developed by Forum for Youth Investment is the first in a new Ready by 21, Credentialed by 26 series. The issue brief explores why postsecondary completion is an important goal and looks at how the U.S. is currently faring. It identifies partners that need to be mobilized and policy approaches that need to be enacted in order to significantly increase completion rates and help more young people successfully transition to adulthood. To view the brief, visit: <http://www.forumforyouthinvestment.org/content/insulating-education-pipeline-increase-postsecondary-success>.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

The Forum for Youth Highlights Site Engaged in Ready by 21 Quality Counts Initiative. The Forum for Youth Investment developed an inspiring video entitled: Empowering Staff, Improving Quality. The 12-minute video documents how the Georgetown Divide, a small community in the Sierra foothills of Northern California has embraced a positive youth development approach. In this video, school teachers and youth workers reflect on their own practice in powerful ways and describe how the cycle of assessment, planning and training works. District administrators and youth organization leaders describe how they are systematically implementing a low-stakes approach to accountability that has empowered staff, improved practice and resulted in real change for youth. Georgetown Divide was one of 12 sites that engaged in quality improvement system-building work as part of the Forum's Ready by 21 Quality Counts initiative. The Youth Program Quality Assessment and technical assistance was provided by the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality. To view the video, visit: <http://www.forumforyouthinvestment.org/content/empowering-staff-improving-quality>.

WEB SITES

AmericanGreenJobs.net is a community-of-practice web site for professionals promoting and creating Green Jobs. **Americangreenjobs.net** focuses on bringing together government, business, academic, and nonprofit leaders involved in the identification and development of green jobs and the preparation and training of workers needed to support them. This web site serves as the central hub for information dissemination and collaboration among individuals and organizations interested in all aspects of green job development and support. **AmericanGreenJobs.net** enables users to share information and best practices, search data by state, exchange resources and ideas, and collaborate on new and existing projects as well as other activities. <http://www.americangreenjobs.net/>.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 7-9. Washington, D.C. Washington Institute -- an intensive seminar designed for community college officials and other advocates who want an insider's view of how Washington formulates higher education policy. To obtain additional information, visit: [HTTP://WWW.AACC.NCHE.EDU/NEWSEVENTS/EVENTS/WASHINGTONINSTITUTE/PAGES/DEFAULT.ASPX](http://www.aacc.nche.edu/newsevents/events/washingtoninstitute/pages/default.aspx).

The **Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs**, a collaborative of 12 federal agencies, has hosted a series of listening sessions around the country to gather input to inform the development of an overarching strategic plan for federal youth policy. The final Listening Sessions scheduled are identified below:

November 12. Boston, MA. IWGYP Region I Listening Session on Education. To obtain additional information, visit: <http://events.findyouthinfo.gov/index.php?eid=10>.

November 16. Orlando, FL. IWGYP Region I Listening Session on Juvenile Justice. To obtain additional information, visit: <http://events.findyouthinfo.gov/index.php?eid=11>.

November 18, 2010. Houston, TX. IWGYP Region I Listening Session on Housing. To obtain additional information, visit: <http://events.findyouthinfo.gov/index.php?eid=12>.

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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