



- ****Spotlight News:** DYCD staff volunteer for NYC Youth Count; DYCD provides forum for information on the National Emergency Grant; New School and DYCD staff meet to review *Mentoring in the City* course; OST Three Kings Toy Giveaway and Performance co-hosted by DYCD and Good Shepherd Services
- ****Program Updates:** Ladders for Leaders ceremony held at Surrogate's Court; DYCD, Nike and the Coaches Across America organization expand recreational services for Beacon and Cornerstone programs
- ****Funding Opportunities:** Foundation and grant opportunities
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SPOTLIGHT NEWS

**DYCD Participates in First NYC Youth Count

On January 28, in collaboration with the NYC Department of Homeless Services, the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, and the U.S. Departments of Housing and Urban Development, Health and Human Services and Education, DYCD participated in the New York City's first Youth Count. New York City was identified as one of nine cities nationwide to integrate the counting of homeless youth into its annual point-in-time count known as the Hope Count. The purpose of the youth count was to help identify the number of homeless youth who are living on the street as well as those residing in city shelters. From January 28 at 10:00 pm until 4:00 pm January 29, volunteers from various city agencies and non-profits administered the Youth Count surveys at seven locations throughout New York City. The final number of youth counted is still being compiled in collaboration with the Department of Homeless Services.

**DYCD Hurricane Sandy National Emergency Grant Information

On January 16, DYCD hosted a meeting to provide information to non-profits interested in the National Emergency Grant, a federally-funded program created to hire temporary workers for humanitarian relief efforts as a result of Hurricane Sandy. Along with representatives from the NYC Department of Small Business Services and the New York State Department of Labor, the local and state administrators of the grant, DYCD shared information on how to apply for the grants, what the qualifications are for temporary workers, and how the grant will be administered. Over 40 people attended, including representatives from 18 non-profits located in the storm-ravaged neighborhoods. Next steps include having DYCD follow up with interested organizations to help them navigate the application process.

DYCD has been allocated funding under the Hurricane Sandy National Emergency Grant and will be providing relief in the affected areas of Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens and Staten Island through eight non-profit partners. Services to be offered will be: legal outreach and assistance to immigrants in filing applications and assembling documentation to access government and charitable benefits; crises counseling, case management, and referrals to needed services for victims of the hurricane; mentoring and extra educational support for youth who missed school due to disruptions related to the hurricane; and distributing goods such as food, clothing, cleaning supplies, and baby products.

**Partnership Meets with New School on "Mentoring in the City" Course

On January 10, Commissioner Jeanne B. Mullgrav, along with other senior DYCD staff, held a partnership meeting with representatives of the New School's Office of Civic Engagement & Social Justice to discuss the New School's *Mentoring in the City* course, developed in partnership with DYCD. The course debuted this fall, and the meeting served as a forum for DYCD and the New School to discuss successes, challenges, and changes to the course for the spring 2013 semester. *Mentoring in the City* was created as a way for students to examine youth issues

affecting New York City and urban areas nation-wide and identify the politics, problems and opportunities for developing non-academic youth mentoring programs. Using sociological inquiry, students spent the semester analyzing NYC's Cornerstone Mentoring Program through the lenses of race, class, gender, culture, and power relations. Through fieldwork, course readings, class discussions, and guest lectures, students came to understand what it means to be a youth in public housing in New York City. The course required students to participate weekly as a mentor in the Cornerstone Mentoring Program, spending two hours per week at a NYCHA community center mentoring a group of 3-4 adolescents in grades 5-9. The class will continue into the spring semester.

****DYCD Co-Hosts Three Kings Toy Giveaway**

On January 10, DYCD co-hosted the annual Three Kings Toy Giveaway at Good Shepherd Services' OST program in the Elementary School for Math, Science, and Technology in the Bronx. Along with the Caribbean American Center of New York's Executive Director Jean Alexander, Good Shepherd Services' Executive Director Bronx Community Based Programs Jim Marley, and OST Program Director Chante Brown, Commissioner Mullgrav delivered remarks and helped distribute 200 gift bags containing clothing, toys, basketballs, dolls, art supplies, and jewelry to children in grades K – 5. Young people performed *We Three Kings* - a theatrical play of singing and dancing. As in previous years, the Caribbean American Center donated and wrapped the toys for this event.

PROGRAM UPDATES

****Ladders for Leaders Event Recognizes Program Graduates and Employers**

On January 24, the Ladders for Leaders program hosted a reception at the Surrogate's Court honoring the partners and graduates of the 2012 program. Over 200 guests attended, and the program was kicked off by Lima Hossain, a 2012 Ladders graduate and an American Airlines College Tour award recipient. The keynote speaker was the NYC Department of Education Chancellor Dennis M. Walcott, who congratulated the youth participants and spoke of the value of continuing their education. Commissioner Mullgrav also provided remarks, along with Commission for Women's Issues Chair Anne Sutherland Fuchs.

****DYCD and NIKE Co-Host Coaches Across America (CAA) Program**

On January 12, DYCD hosted the orientation session of the *Coaches Across America (CAA)* initiative. This program is yet another example of the Nike investment in DYCD-funded programs. Through the collaboration of DYCD, Nike and the Coaches Across America organization, twenty of our Beacon and Cornerstone programs were able to expand their service level by providing additional structured recreational activities. The CAA program places one coach at each site to develop and operate activities that will promote healthier choices with movement and nutrition. This is an extremely exciting opportunity as DYCD will be able to monitor the participants' progress in the CAA program and the overall impact the program has in the communities that we serve.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

****FOR YOUTH****

The **William T. Grant Foundation's Youth Service Improvement Grants** program supports small to medium-size organizations that have already had some success with helping to improve the lives of New York City youth, but lack the funds to make needed improvements. The program, which awards grants of \$25,000, is open to community-based organizations in the five boroughs of New York City wishing to improve the quality of the services they offer to young people. To be eligible for consideration, applicants must have 501(c)(3) tax-exemption status; be a community-based organization that provides direct services to youth ages 8 to 25 located in the five boroughs of New York City; and have an operating budget between \$250,000 and \$5 million. In the case of organizations that exclusively serve youth, this amount represents the total organizational budget. In the case of multipurpose organizations (i.e., those not exclusively focused on youth), the organizational operating budget must be less than \$20 million, and the budget for services to youth (direct and indirect costs) must be between \$250,000 and \$5 million. Both public and private schools are ineligible for consideration. The grant submission deadline is March 13. Complete application and eligibility guidelines are available on the William T. Grant Foundation website: <http://www.wtgrantfoundation.org/>.

GTECH's After School Advantage Program provides non-profit community agencies and public schools with state-of-the-art computer labs designed to give inner-city children between the ages of 5 and 15 a safe, meaningful, and fun learning experience during afterschool hours. The program provides up to \$15,000 in computers, online

technology, computer software, and volunteer hours to afterschool programs in inner-city communities where the online gaming company has an office. GTECH employees will work with each agency and school to design and develop a fully operational computer center. To be considered for a GTECH After School Advantage grant, applicants must be a non-profit organization, community agency, or school with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status; have an existing afterschool program in need of a computer lab; serve disadvantaged youth between the ages of 5 and 15; and have staffing and monetary support systems in place to sustain the lab. The application date is rolling. For complete application and eligibility guidelines, visit the GTECH Web Site: <http://www.gtech.com/> .

The **Lego Children's Fund** is accepting grant proposals for programs dedicated to inspiring and encouraging youth creativity. The fund supports programs serving in children from birth to age 14, with priority consideration for disadvantaged or at-risk youth. Each quarter, the fund awards grants ranging between \$500 and \$5,000 to organizations working with disadvantaged children and special projects or programs designed to elevate a child's opportunities for exploring creativity. The fund also awards grants to organizations supported by LEGO employee volunteers and organizations serving Connecticut and western Massachusetts. In addition, \$100,000 per year is awarded to a single organization identified and selected by the fund's board of directors. Qualified grantees must be 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations (including educational organizations) that require support for projects in the areas of early childhood education and development; technology and communications that help advance learning opportunities; and sports or athletic programs on underserved youth. To ensure that a request is considered for a particular trustee meeting, proposals must be received by the following dates: April 15, July 15, October 15, and January 15. Grant program guidelines and applications are available at the Lego Children's Fund website: <http://www.legochildrensfund.org/> .

KaBoom is inviting grant applications from communities anywhere in the United States working to establish joint use agreements to re-open playground and recreational facilities previously unavailable due to safety and upkeep concerns. *Let's Play Land Use* grants of \$15,000 and \$30,000 will support creation of joint-use agreements between local governments and school districts that address cost concerns related to safety, vandalism, maintenance, and liability issues to re-open previously unavailable playgrounds and recreational facilities. The \$15,000 grants will support the opening of at least four playgrounds in cities with populations of less than 100,000 people. The \$30,000 grants will support the opening of at least eight playgrounds in larger communities. Grants can be used for training and technical assistance, utilities and other building related to the extra use of the facility, legal fees, contract security services, and marketing campaigns related to the joint-use agreement. Grant recipients must commit to opening the playgrounds within twelve months of the grant decision. Complete grant application guidelines are available on the KaBOOM! website: <http://kaboom.org/> .

Saucony Run for Good Foundation announces funds to support programs that encourage active and healthy lifestyles in children. They are committed to improving the lives of children by helping to prevent and reduce childhood obesity. They act to inform the public about its cause and prevention and provide funding to optimize the impact and success of community organizations that promote running and healthy lifestyle programs for youth. Non-profit organizations are encouraged to apply. The deadline for grant applications is June 13, 2012. For additional information, go to: <http://www.sauconyrunforgood.com/how-to-apply/> .

****PREVIOUS YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS****

The **Roy A. Hunt Foundation** announces funds to support programs that work to address and prevent youth violence primarily in the disadvantaged, inner city neighborhoods. Preference will be given to programs that focus on multiple risk factors across the individual, family, school, peer group and community-level domains. The Foundation will consider proposals for program or general operating support. Letters of Inquiry are required before applications are accepted. Ten awards are available up to \$100,000. The submission deadline is March 9, 2013. For information, go to: info@rahuntdn.org or go to: <http://rahuntdn.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/New-Applicant-Help-Guide-LOI.pdf> .

The **William T. Grant Youth Service Improvement Grants (YSIG)** program supports community-based organizations in the five boroughs of New York City. These awards are designed to help organizations improve the programs and services they offer to youth ages 8 to 25. Awards are \$25,000. Applications for YSIG awards are solicited twice a year, and we are now accepting them for the spring 2013 cycle. All applications must be received by 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13, 2013. Updated funding guidelines as well as eligibility information and instructions for applying through our online system are available on our website: http://www.wtgrantfdn.org/funding_opportunities/service-improvement-

grants/youth_service_improvement?utm_source=William+T.+Grant+Foundation+List&utm_campaign=5372164baa-Spring_2012_YSIG11_23_2011&utm_medium=email .

Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation announces funds to support programs that provide effective STEM education projects that help youth with disabilities develop the employment skills they need to succeed, especially for careers in science, technology and the environment. It will also provide support to non-profits that create tools to help break down barriers to employment and increase job opportunities for young people with disabilities entering the workforce, including returning veterans with disabilities. Concept Papers are due June 1, 2013. Non-profit organizations are eligible to apply for funding. Twelve awards are available up to \$75,000. Contact mea.foundation@meus.mea.com or go to the website: http://www.meaf.org/how_to_apply/priorities_guidelines/ .

The **Captain Planet Foundation** is accepting applications from organizations to support high-quality educational programs. The programs will enable children and youth to understand and appreciate the world through learning experiences that engage them in active, hands-on community service projects to improve the environment in their schools and communities. February 28, 2013 is the submission deadline. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: <http://captainplanetfoundation.org/apply-for-grants/>.

The **Coca-Cola Foundation** announces funds to support programs that promote access to clean water and sanitation, watershed protection in water-stressed regions, utilization of water and water conservation; physical activity and nutritional education programs, programs that motivate behavior modification, and programs that encourage lifestyle/behavioral changes; litter abatement efforts, recovery and reuse, community recycling awareness and research and innovation, drop-out prevention, access to educational programs another education initiatives. Non-profit organizations are eligible for funds. There is a rolling deadline. Go to: <http://www.coca-colacompany.com/stories/the-coca-cola-foundation> .

The **Fordham Street Foundation** announces funds for programs that promote the rights of the least advantaged children to help them to thrive, grow, and be enriched. Non-profit organizations are eligible for funds. Awards are available up to \$50,000. Contact: Judy Bigelow at: info@fordhamstreet.org, or go to: <http://www.fordhamstreet.org/focus.asp> .

Lockheed Martin provides grants for K-16 Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Education. This includes Lockheed Martin's K-12 STEM Education Initiative, Engineers in the Classroom, as well as STEM-focused curricular and extracurricular programs that provide employee engagement opportunities in a community in which Lockheed Martin has employees or business interests. Maximum award: varies. Eligibility: 501(c) (3) organizations that deliver standards-based science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education to students in K-16. Deadline: rolling. Please visit <http://www.lockheedmartin.com/us/who-we-are/community/philanthropy/funding-guidelines.html> for more details.

The annual **Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge** invites teams of students and their adult advisors to tackle local (K-5), regional (6-8), and global (9-12) environmental problems or issues and find replicable green solutions. Now entering its fifth year, the challenge is a collaborative effort of the Siemens Foundation, Discovery Education, the National Science Teachers Association and the College Board. The program invites entries from students and team advisors (who must be full- or part-time school employees) in the United States. A panel of environmental experts and science educators will judge teams based on their research, analysis, and the potential of their solution to be replicated on a larger scale. High school students are specifically challenged to address energy, biodiversity, land management, water conservation and cleanup, or air and climate. Student and teacher/mentor prizes, which vary according to grade level, include scholarships, savings bonds, school grants, adventure trips, school assemblies, and more. This year's challenge will award prizes totaling more than \$300,000. The submission deadline is March 5, 2013. Complete program information and resources to help teams begin their projects are available at the We Can Change website: <http://www.wecanchange.com/>.

The **General Mills Foundation**, in partnership with the **Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation** and the **President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports**, is inviting non-profit organizations in the United States working to improve youth nutrition and physical fitness behaviors to apply for the *Champions for Healthy Kids* program. The program will award fifty grants of \$10,000 to community-based groups such as health departments, government agencies, schools, and Native American Tribes that develop creative ways to help youth adopt a balanced diet and physically active lifestyle. To ensure that the nutrition information in the proposed program is accurate and is scientifically based, a registered dietitian must either be directly involved or serve as an advisor to

the program. Project periods will vary depending on program and setting (such as school year or summer program). However, the project should be completed within twelve months. One-day/one-time events will not be funded. Visit the General Mills website for complete program guidelines, an FAQ, and the online application: http://www.generalmills.com/Responsibility/community_engagement/general_mills_foundation_2010.aspx .

The **Dorothea Haus Ross Foundation** announces funds for programs that offer direct aid to children in need, including those who are ill, orphaned, disabled, injured, abused, or malnourished as well as children who have limited access to education. Non-profit organizations are eligible for an award. Awards are available up to \$15,000. There is no deadline date for applications, however, Letters of Inquiry are required throughout the year and may be submitted to Rossfoundation@frontiernet.net .

The **Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp.** is accepting applications for its *Community Grant Program*. The program was created to support frontline educators and will subsidize small, concrete projects to improve inner-city education in Boston, Hartford, Providence, or New York City. Eligible applicants must be a "frontline educational worker" who is involved in education or a related field in one of the noted communities eligible for grants. There is a rolling deadline. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: <http://www.brownrudnickcenter.com/foundation/communitygrant.asp>.

****FOR COMMUNITIES****

As part of New York City's efforts to support growth and job creation in immigrant communities, *Competition THRIVE* seeks to develop innovative strategies and programs that help immigrant entrepreneurs succeed in business. Organizations submit proposals for programs to address these challenges which are reviewed by a panel of judges comprised of business and non-profit leaders, representatives from New York City agencies and academics. Proposals will be judged on several criteria including, but not limited to: innovation, feasibility, applicability, scalability, and sustainability. The judges will select five finalists to develop their proposals. Each of the five finalists will be awarded seed funding of \$25,000 to pilot their program for six months and create a business plan. After the six month pilot period, one grand prize winner will be selected to receive funding of \$100,000 and promotional services to further scale their program. For more information and proposal guidelines click [here](#).

****PREVIOUS COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS****

The **Dollar General Literacy Foundation's** *Adult Literacy Grants* program annually awards funding to non-profit organizations that provide direct service to adults in need of literacy assistance. Organizations must provide help in one of the following instructional areas: adult basic education, general education diploma (GED) preparation, or English language acquisition. Applications will only be accepted from eligible 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations and/or educational institutions (K-12 private and public schools, and colleges and universities) and/or public libraries. All applicants must be located in and provide direct services in a state in which Dollar General operates, and must be located within twenty miles of a Dollar General store. The maximum grant amount is \$15,000. Visit the Dollar General website for complete program guidelines, the store locator, the eligibility quiz, and the application form: <http://www2.dollargeneral.com/dgliteracy/Pages/landing.aspx> .

The **National Endowment for the Arts** has announced funding for its *Challenge America Fast-Track Application, FY 2014*. It will support projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations – those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics or disability. Non-profit organizations are eligible for funds. Awards are available up to \$10,000 and a match is required. The application deadline is May 23, 2013. Contact the NEA Web Manager at webmgr@arts.gov.

The **National Endowment for the Arts** has announced funding for its *FY 2014 Art Works* program. It will support creative projects that contribute toward the livability of communities and help transform them into lively, beautiful and sustainable places with the arts at their core. Non-profit organizations are eligible for funding. Awards are available up to \$100,000 and a match is required. The application deadline is March 7, 2013. Contact the NEA Web Manager at webmgr@arts.gov.

The **TJX Foundation** announces funds to support programs that provide a wide range of innovative, effective services for disadvantaged women, children and families in areas of civic/community, domestic violence, education, health and social services. Non-profit organizations are eligible for funding. The application deadline is March 25, 2013. Contact Christine A. Strickland at 508-390-3199 or tjx_foundation@tjx.com . Find additional information on their website at: http://www.tjx.com/corporate_community_foundation.asp .

The **Ben & Jerry's Foundation, Inc.** *Grassroots Organizing for Social Change Program* supports non-profit grassroots, constituent-led organizations across the country that are using direct action, grassroots community-organizing strategies to accomplish their goals. Proposals will only be considered if they are aligned with the Foundation's broad interests in social justice, environmental justice and sustainable food systems. Only organizations with operating budgets less than \$500,000 may apply. In making funding decisions, they focus on the types of activities and strategies an organization uses for creating social change. Although the Foundation appreciates the value of direct service programs in meeting individual and family needs, we do not fund such programs. Nonprofit organizations with a 501(c)(3) status, or who have a fiscal agent with this status are eligible to apply. Selected recipients will be awarded up to \$20,000 for a one-year period. Letter of Interest may be submitted January-March for consideration in the 2013 grant cycle. Ben & Jerry's Foundation, Inc., 30 Community Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403, phone: (802) 846-1500, email: info@benandjerrysfoundation.org or website: www.benandjerrysfoundation.org/the-grassroots-organizing-for-social-change-program.html .

The **New York Women's Foundation** funds organizations and programs within the five boroughs of New York City that have developed strategies to move women and girls—at or below the poverty level—towards long-term economic security. The Foundation considers requests from organizations and programs that impact women's lives in one or more of the following focus areas: Anti-violence and Safety; Economic Security and Health, Sexual Rights and Reproductive Justice.

Amie's Place Foundation is a New York City-based nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization committed to helping support organizations that provide direct services for critically and chronically ill children and adults, veterans, the frail elderly, and women and children fleeing domestic violence who risk losing their pets because no one is there to help them. Organizations within and outside New York City are welcome to apply and should mail an LOI prior to submitting an application to: Amie's Place Foundation - Church Street Station - PO Box 1799 - New York, New York 10008. LOIs must include most recent IRS tax-exempt status letter and brief history and goals of the applicant organization; description of the program to be funded and the organization's involvement with the issues it seeks to address; a summary of activities for which the organization requests support; an outline of the organization's objectives, anticipated outcomes and implications. Please include the approximate starting date of the program, the duration that the funding will cover, amount of funding needed, other sources of support, and current contact information of the person responsible for communicating with the Foundation. Following Amie's Place Foundation Board review, qualified organizations will be invited to submit a complete application package. The deadline is open. Visit the foundation website for more information: <http://www.amiesplacefoundation.org/html/apply.html> .

The **Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services** will provide up to \$1,160,000 in grants (\$290,000 maximum per project) for the *Job Opportunities for Low-Income Individuals (JOLI) program* to address the economic needs of low-income individuals and families, including low-income refugees, asylees, Cuban/Haitian Entrants, certain victims of human trafficking, and Special Immigrant Visa (SIVs) holders, through the creation of employment and business opportunities in low-income communities. JOLI funding may be used to provide technical and financial assistance in order to create sustainable new jobs and business opportunities for recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), and other low-income individuals whose income level does not exceed 100 percent of the Federal poverty level. OCS seeks to fund projects that implement strategies for fostering self-sufficiency for low-income families and achieving sustained employment opportunities in low-income communities. The JOLI program seeks to fund projects that address the personal and community barriers that must be overcome to help low-income individuals become self-sufficient. JOLI projects funded under this announcement should be focused on one of three program strategies: new business ventures; business expansion and/or self-employment/microenterprise. Non-profit organizations with 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) status are eligible for funding. Community or faith-based organizations that meet these same requirements are also eligible and encouraged to apply. The proposal submission due dates are: FY 2013-March 29, 2013. For additional information, go to: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/foa/view/HHS-2011-ACF-OCS-EO-0163> .

****MINI-GRANTS****

The mission of the **Captain Planet Foundation** is to promote and support high-quality educational programs that enable children and youth to understand and appreciate the world through active, hands-on projects designed to improve the environment in their schools and communities. The foundation intends its grants to serve as catalysts for getting environment-based education into schools and inspire youth and communities to participate in

community service through environmental stewardship. The foundation primarily makes grants to schools and organizations in the U.S. with annual operating budgets of less than \$3 million. To be eligible for funding, applicant organizations or sponsoring agencies must be exempt from federal taxation under Internal Revenue Code Section 501 (this includes most schools and non-profit organizations). Preferential consideration is given to requests for seed funding of \$500 or less and to applicants who have secured at least 50 percent matching or in-kind funding for their projects. The foundation will on occasion consider grants of up to \$2,500. Grant applications are typically accepted twice a year, with deadlines on February 28 and September 30. Visit the Captain Planet Foundation website for complete program guidelines, application procedures, and an FAQ: <http://captainplanetfoundation.org/> .

The **Disability Funders Network** has activated its *Rapid Response Fund* to help non-profit organizations meet the immediate and long-term needs of people with disabilities in the Northeast affected by Hurricane Sandy. The DFN Rapid Response Fund will offer mini-grants to non-profit organizations working to meet specific needs such as transportation, shelter, medication, medical equipment, and assistive technology for people with disabilities. Grants from the fund will be disbursed directly to non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations with the capacity for the greatest impact among hurricane victims and/or evacuees with disabilities. Initially, grants from the fund will focus on immediate needs of people with disabilities. Eventually, awards will be made to address long-term needs as well. Visit the DFN website for complete program information, application procedures, deadline and contact information: <http://www.disabilityfunders.org/> .

In celebration of the **National Gardening Association's** fortieth anniversary, **Jamba Juice** has announced that it will award grants to forty youth and school garden programs in the United States. The *All About the Fruits and Veggies* grant program will provide youth garden initiatives with \$500 in gardening supplies, curriculum, soil amendments, and plants to help create engaging nutrition and gardening experiences. The program is open to schools, community organizations, and non-profit gardening programs with at least fifteen children between the ages of 3 and 18. Schools must be located within a fifty-mile radius of a Jamba Juice store. The submission deadline for grant applications is February 18, 2013. Visit the NGA's [Kids Gardening](#) website for complete program guidelines, application procedures, and access to the Jamba Juice store locator.

The **American Radio Relay League, Inc.** is sponsoring the *Victor C. Clark Youth Incentive program* to offer mini-grants to groups that promote youth participation in amateur radio and enrich the experience of radio amateurs under the age of 18. Groups that qualify include high school radio clubs, youth groups and general-interest radio clubs that make a special effort to get youth involved in club activities. Mini-grants up to \$1,000 will be provided for securing equipment for antennas for club stations, purchasing training materials, supporting local service projects that bring favorable public exposure, and similar activities. Preference will be given to projects for which matching funds are raised locally. For additional information, visit: <http://www.arrl.org/the-victor-c-clark-youth-incentive-program> .

ANNOUNCEMENTS

****February 14 – The Office of the Kings County District Attorney** in collaboration with **Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York**, presents a Symposium on Race, Law and Justice: *Closing the School-to-Prison Pipeline*. This collaborative project promises to be a catalyst for a national discussion surrounding the impact of race and law on American society. Please join us in this discussion, 8:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. and Friday, February 15, 2012, 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn, New York. If you have questions or would like more information please contact us via email at symposia@brooklynda.org.

****February 19 and March 5 – The Midwood Development Corporation and the Midwood Merchants Association** present a free workshop: *Social Media and Email Marketing: How They Can Benefit You and Your Business!* It will be held at the Brooklyn Public Library – Midwood Branch (Avenue J and East 16th Street). All workshops begin at 11:30 am. Come to one; Come to all (different material will be presented at each).
About the Presenter: Petia A. Bradshaw, MBA is a Marketing/Business Development Consultant with over ten years of experience in lead generation, market research/analysis, channel development, vertical marketing and overall business development strategy. In addition to leading Petia Bradshaw & Associates, she is an authorized Constant Contact Local Expert in the New York Metro Region where she delivers workshops on The Best Practices of Email and Social Media Marketing.). To register, call (718) 376-0999 ext. 101 or 106 or email Midwoodmerchants@gmail.com .

****February 20 – The Center for Nonprofit Strategy and Management** presents a Nonprofit Seminar: *Young Men's Initiative*. This seminar will discuss programs and policies developed by the City of New York to address

barriers faced by young African American and Latino men and their peers. It will be held from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm at Baruch College Information & Technology Building, Newman Conference Center, 7th Floor, Room 750, 151 East 25th Street (Lexington & 3rd Avenue), New York, NY. Moderator will be Robert A. Smith, Professor, Baruch College, School of Public Affairs. Panelists will be Angelo Cabrera, President, Mexican American Student Association; Linda Gibbs, Deputy Mayor, Health and Human Services; Khary Lazarre-White, Executive Director & Co-Founder, The Brotherhood/Sister Sol and Reverend Alfonso Wyatt, Founder, Strategic Destiny. Admission is free. Space is limited. RSVP required. To RSVP online, go to:

<https://www.baruch.cuny.edu/calendar/EventRegistration.aspx?Rid=360&lid=6815&Frm=> .

The **Bronx Forum**, in partnership with **Disaster Chaplaincy Services**, presents *Get Ready, Get Set: Congregational Preparedness*. Crisis is a reality in congregations; this seminar will bring theory together with tools and resources to help you get ready for reality. Topics covered include: why prepare, survey and assessment, creating a plan, considerations in developmental differences and response, and more! This workshop will be held from 9:00 am-12:00 pm at Hostos Community College, 120 East 149th Street, Bronx. RSVP to Simona Caplan at caplans@jcrny.org or 212.983.4800 x122.

****March 8 – Youth Bridge NY** presents the *Leaders to Leaders Youth Summit* for high school leaders. It will be held at the UJA Federation, 130 East 59 Street, New York, NY, from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. The goal of the Leaders to Leaders Youth Summit is a one day conference to inspire young leaders to take charge by empowering them with knowledge of the possibilities, skills, and the training they need to turn ideas into action. The registration deadline is Friday, February 15. Act NOW - space is limited! To download the registration materials or to find out more information, please visit our website at www.youthbridgeny.org or contact them at 212-983-4800 ext. 145.

****March 16 – Latino College Expo and Leadership Summit** to be held from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. Go to: <http://www.latinocollege-expo.org> for more information.

****April 28 – National Association for College Admission Counseling(NACAC)College Fair** to be held at the Jacob Javits Center. Go to: <http://www.nacacnet.org/college-fairs/SpringNCF/Pages/default.aspx> for more information.

GOVERNMENT RESOURCES

****NEW YORK CITY****

Did you know that there are 212 libraries in communities throughout New York City that offer millions of books and resources, and internet access free of charge? Get ready for the start of a great school year by applying for a Library Card today! [Download the "Get a Library Card!" Guide \(in PDF\)](#) .

Visit www.NYC.gov/accessnyc to apply for School Meals online. Families only need to submit **one** application online for all their children, even if their children attend different types of schools (public, private, or charter). Complete the application online in any of the seven languages on ACCESS NYC - English, Spanish, Chinese, Russian, Korean, Haitian Creole, or Arabic .The paper application is still available and families who prefer that method, or would like to apply in a language not available on ACCESS NYC (for example Bengali, French, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Hindi, Polish, or Urdu) can obtain the application from their child's school. If families have any questions about the application, they can send an email to foodcompliance@schools.nyc.gov or call the Office of SchoolFood Help Desk at (718) 707-4400 or toll free at (877) 363-6325.

In partnership with **The Daily News**, **CUNY** and the **Department of Education**, **The New York Urban League** is proud to announce the release of *A Parent's Guide to College*. The free guide is designed for caregivers of students who are the first generation in their family to attend college. *A Parent's Guide to College* will examine all facets of college preparation from entering 9th grade through the critical senior year of high school, as well as examining local options of the CUNY and SUNY system and HBCUs. This guide will help parents, grandparents and caring adults take an active role in the academic path of a child. To order copies (free), go to: <http://www.nyul.org/parentguide> .

The NYC government offers individuals and small businesses an online resource to help find affordable health insurance. **NYC Health Insurance Link** provides unbiased, current information on plans from every carrier in NYC. Users will also find educational information on health insurance basics and a comprehensive section on health reform legislation covering reforms already in effect and others that will take place between now and 2014, click [here](#) for more information.

The **City Council** has announced that any organization applying for its discretionary funds in amounts that total more than \$10,000 must be prequalified by the city agency that oversees the services for which the organization is requesting funding support. Organizations that are already pre-qualified need not reapply or recertify. To learn more, go to: http://www.nyc.gov/html/dycd/downloads/pdf/pql_faq_and_instructions.pdf .

If you would like to report a tip regarding suspected human trafficking, call 911. If you would like more information about human trafficking or would like to learn about how you can help, call 311 or visit www.nyc.gov/humantrafficking.

****NEW YORK STATE****

LawHelp/NY is an online tool for helping low-income New Yorkers to solve their legal problems. The site provides free, user-friendly resources that supply critical legal information in fifteen areas of law (such as family, housing and immigration), and referral information to free legal aid programs. With a Spanish mirror site (www.ayudalegalny.org), LiveHelp (an online chat service in English and Spanish that helps visitors find legal information), and resources in 35 languages – LawHelp.org/NY is the first line of defense for vulnerable New Yorkers, especially immigrants, Hispanics and limited English proficient residents facing legal problems. LawHelp/NY has seen a dramatic upsurge in usage during the recession. LawHelp/NY runs the Training and Information Statewide! (TIPS) program which conducts community outreach throughout the state. For more information, go to: <http://www.LawHelp.org/NY> .

New York State's Office of Children and Family has released a 28-page booklet to guide youth in foster care through the health care system. The booklet covers informed consent, rights to privacy and to refuse medication, and information about how to get and pay for medical care. To download the pdf file, go to: http://www.youthsuccessnyc.org/PDF/2011_medical_guide_for_foster_youth.pdf .

****U.S. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT****

PACER's [Simon Technology Center](#) and the **Family Center on Technology and Disability** (FCTD) have released the new video series "[AT in Action](#)" to raise awareness of available devices. The videos offer real-world examples of how innovative assistive technology is making a difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities. The fully captioned video series was funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).

The **U.S. Department of Justice's Attorney General's National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence** has released a final report which includes 56 recommendations and highlights the importance of identifying children who are victims or witnesses of violence and providing support and services to help them heal. It focuses on developing programs to help children access supportive and non-violent relationships with trusted adults in their homes and communities. The task force also calls for all children who enter the juvenile justice system to be screened for exposure to violence. To view the full report, visit: <http://www.justice.gov/defendingchildhood/cev-rpt-full.pdf>.

The **Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights** released a report, which describes its progress and activity over the last four years on civil rights enforcement and educational equity. To view the report, visit: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/reports/annual/ocr/report-to-president-2009-12.pdf>.

As a part of its "Skills to Pay the Bills: Mastering Soft Skills for Workplace Success" curriculum, the **Office of Disability Employment Policy** has developed a series of free video vignettes that are now available on the department's website. The videos, which can be used by youth programs, educators and others, emphasize the importance of communication, networking, enthusiasm and attitude, teamwork, problem-solving and critical thinking, and professionalism in today's workplace. Although employers have identified soft skills as being among the most important competencies young workers need, three-quarters of those participating in a recent survey ranked new high school graduates as deficient in soft skill areas.

• [View the Videos](#)

Special Notice to Federal Grant Seekers: All Federal Grant Seekers make sure that you have registered your organization in the new System for Acquisition Management (SAM), which replaced the Central Contractor Registry

(CCR). A few weeks ago, the Federal government migrated from CCR to SAM. If you are looking to apply for a Federal grant, double-check your organization's record in SAM to confirm that all of its information was correctly migrated into the new system. The website for SAM is <https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM>. If your organization is not registered in SAM yet, you will need to have its Dun & Bradstreet (DUNS) number to do so. If you already have a DUNS number, the full registration process in SAM can take 3-5 days. If you don't have a DUNS number, you can obtain one at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>. Assistance with the SAM system is available via the Federal Service Desk at www.fsd.gov or via phone at 866-606-8220 (toll free) or 334-206-7828 (internationally).

From the **U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service**: If you get Social Security or other federal benefit payments by paper check, you are required by the U.S. Department of the Treasury to switch to an electronic payment method by March 1, 2013. That's only six short months from now! Don't wait. Switch now to one of the two electronic payment options recommended by the Treasury Department: direct deposit to a checking or savings account or the Direct Express[®] Debit MasterCard[®] card. There are many reasons why you should make the switch now. Getting your payments electronically saves taxpayers money. It also helps protect your payments from financial crimes and delivery disruptions caused by severe weather and other unforeseen events. It's fast, easy and free to make the switch today. You can switch at your local federal benefit agency office, online at www.GoDirect.org or by calling the U.S. Treasury Electronic Payment Solution Center at (800) 333-1795. For direct deposit, you can also switch at your bank or credit union. For more information, visit www.GoDirect.org or view the [Go Direct[®] instructional video](#).

A [Free Cyberbullying Toolkit for Educators](#) is available. It guides educators of all grade levels on how to teach students about bullying on the Internet and how to take a stand against it by working with parents, administrators and the community. Visit Disability.gov for more bullying prevention resources.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Batters Up USA provides free baseball/softball equipment--primarily bats, balls, tee-ball sets, helmets, catcher's gear, and bases--to local organizations to support the start up of new programs or to assist existing programs to grow. The program serves boys and girls recreational programs up to age 13. Priority is given to programs serving a high percentage of youth in need such as inner-city and after-school programs. Examples include programs run by Parks Departments, schools, Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCAs Police Athletic Leagues, independent local leagues, Little League, and the other organized youth baseball/softball organizations. Batters Up USA also supports the American Baseball Federation Basic after-school reading/baseball program with equipment and reading materials. For more information about available funding, see: <http://www.battersupusa.org/Equipment.html>.

Partnering with **Food Bank for New York City** for the 11th year in a row, **The Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation** launched a critical program in their first floor space on January 22. New Yorkers who earn \$50,000 or less with dependents, or \$18,000 or less without dependents, are eligible for the service. During the past 2012 tax season, they served over 3,300 clients and brought over \$3.5 million back to community members through this service. Additionally, all clients who receive this service are also screened on qualification for benefits such as food stamps and health insurance. The program will run until April 15, 2013.

The [NYC College Line](#) was officially launched on February 6! The Chancellors of **CUNY** and the **DOE** announced the website at a joint event, and spoke about their collaboration on college readiness and success efforts across the city. As the first directory of NYC-based college access and success programs, [NYC College Line](#) supports New Yorkers to prepare for, get into, and complete college by connecting them to programs around the city as well as to useful web-based resources. Whether you are a high school student seeking tips and tools to guide your college search, a college student on the hunt for internships, or an advising professional looking for upcoming workshops in your area, [NYC College Line](#) is designed to help parents, students, and student advisors alike access the right resources quickly.

The **Annie E. Casey Foundation** has released a *Kids Count Report on Disconnected Youth* which finds that nearly 6.5 million U.S. teens and young adults are neither in school nor in the workforce. With employment among young people at its lowest levels since the 1950s, these youth are veering toward chronic unemployment as adults and failing to gain the skills employers need in the 21st century. In addition to new national and state data on the issue, the report offers recommendations to support youth in gaining a stronger foothold in the economy. To view the report, visit: <http://www.aecf.org/KnowledgeCenter/Publications.aspx?pubguid=%7b3213DA55-8216-4065-B408-D7A521CDD990%7d>.

The **National Association of Workforce Boards** held a webinar entitled: *Big Changes are Coming to the GED Testing Program – Are You Ready?* The Webinar featured information on efforts to improve the GED testing experience and to help more adults become career and college ready. GED Testing Services is releasing a new GED test in 2014 and that test will be offered only on computer. More than 32 states are already offering the current GED test on computer to prepare for 2014. The Webinar discusses the changes to the GED test and testing system and how this will impact adult learners. To view and listen to the archived webinar, visit: http://www.nawb.org/webinar_ged_testing.asp.

The **New York Peace Institute** is committed to helping resolve conflicts resulting from Hurricane Sandy. Even the most difficult disputes can be resolved with the help of professional mediators. Mediation is a free, safe and private way to resolve Sandy-related conflicts. Mediators guide participants through a series of problem solving steps so that they may find their own solutions. Mediators do not make decisions, but rather help the parties to share their viewpoints and generate and evaluate options. Find out more about mediation. Contact Alan Gross: agross@nypeace.org or 917-359-0444.

The **Afterschool Alliance** has produced [Know Your Funders: A Guide to STEM Funding for Afterschool](#), a resource to help program leaders identify, sort through, and take advantage of the many funding opportunities available for afterschool STEM. They have also developed a toolkit to help programs become advocates for STEM in afterschool. [Making the Case for STEM Afterschool](#) provides steps to developing a strong case to present to any audience. It helps users tailor the message and identify data and talking points, and offers policy recommendations.

The **Wallace Foundation** recently released a report, *Building Citywide Systems for Quality: A Guide and Case Studies for Afterschool Leaders*, developed by the **Forum for Youth Investment**. The guide can help afterschool planners work with programs to build and sustain quality across a neighborhood, city or region. [Download the report](#), or view a [presentation](#) discussing its findings.

The **Foundation for a Drug Free World** offers free drug education events for elementary, middle school and high school aged groups and will conduct these in any NYC borough. The foundation also provides free educational booklets that focus on each illicit drug such as marijuana, ecstasy, alcohol, Rx drug abuse and numerous others. After-school organizations and parents can order these in bulk from www.drugfreeworld.org. After-school programs can also order the foundation's free curriculum by visiting the website. To book a free drug education event, please contact Meghan Fialkoff, NY Director, at: DrugFreeWorldNY@gmail.com. For more information on the Foundation for a Drug Free World, please visit: www.drugfreeworld.org.

If obesity rates continue on their current trajectory, those for adults could reach at least 44 percent in every state and exceed 60 percent in thirteen states by 2020, a report from [Trust for America's Health](#) and the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#) finds. According to [F as in Fat 2012: How Obesity Threatens America's Future](#) (124 pages, PDF), adult obesity rates in 2011 exceeded 30 percent in twelve states; twenty-six of the thirty states with the highest rates were in the Midwest and South; and all ten states with the highest rates of type 2 diabetes and hypertension were in the South. If the average adult BMI (body mass index) was reduced by just 5 percent in each state, the report argues, no state would have an adult obesity rate above 60 percent, and every state except Florida would save between 6.5 percent and 7.8 percent in obesity-related healthcare costs. Among other things, the report calls for fully implementing existing obesity prevention initiatives, investing in evidence-based programs, expanding opportunities to promote physical education and activity, and connecting clinical care with prevention efforts.

The systemic reforms and investments needed to provide African-American boys and men with a fair and substantive opportunity to learn and improve their outcomes must be accelerated, a report from the [Schott Foundation for Public Education](#) argues. [The Urgency of Now: The Schott 50 State Report on Public Education and Black Males](#) (56 pages, PDF) examined high school graduation rates by race/ethnicity and found that, despite some progress, wide gaps persist between African-American (52 percent nationwide) and Latino (58 percent) males and their white peers (78 percent). Funded by the [Heinz Endowments](#) and the [J.P. Morgan Chase, W.K. Kellogg](#), and [Lumina](#) foundations, the report calls for a support-based — rather than standards-driven — reform agenda that strategically aligns the resources needed to give every student the opportunity to achieve.

The juvenile justice system should invest in families and communities instead of routinely shutting them out of decision-making processes in which authorities' unilateral decisions often inflict lasting damage, a report from a coalition of grassroots organizations led by [Justice for Families](#) and [DataCenter](#) argues. The report, [Families Unlocking Futures: Solutions to the Crisis in Juvenile Justice](#) (56 pages, PDF), describes how the juvenile justice system, zero-tolerance policies, and aggressive policing practices unnecessarily incarcerate youth, prevent families from ensuring their children's well-being, and devastate already socioeconomically disadvantaged communities. Funded by the [Mitchell Kapor](#), [Akonadi](#), [Public Welfare](#), [Annie E. Casey](#), [Common Counsel](#), [Edward W. Hazen](#), [New York](#), and [Open Society](#) foundations, the report calls for building family participation into juvenile justice and school disciplinary systems, supporting positive youth development, and investing in community-based reconciliation as well as human resources and physical infrastructure.

In this era of online communication, it's more vital than ever that young people - and the adults in their lives - realize that words, pictures and videos posted and shared online can produce grave consequences. [Social Media For Kids®](#) is the first program of its kind that teaches young people how to promote themselves positively online, while avoiding online dangers such as cyberbullying. For more information, and to see how your organization can access this important programming, call 347-598-7753. Also, be sure to check out their [website](#).

New York State Afterschool Network (NYSAN) has created a *directory of useful e-newsletters and mailing lists* relevant to the out-of-school time field. The directory, which currently includes sign-up links for the online resources of nearly 50 national and regional organizations, is a living document; if anyone has a suggestion for a resource to be added, contact Jyoti Folch at jfolch@nysan.org.

The New York Urban League's free *Parent's Guide to College* is designed for caregivers of students who are the first generation in their family to attend college. The guide looks at college preparation from entering 9th grade through senior year of high school, as well as examining local options of the CUNY and SUNY system and black colleges. This guide will help parents, foster parents, and other caring adults take an active role in helping teens get a college education. To order a free copy, go to: http://www.nyul.org/parentguide?utm_source=CC+%23101+Youthsuccesstnyc.org&utm_campaign=Youthsuccesstnyc+8%2F2%2F2012&utm_medium=email.

Ready-Set-Go Resource Guide: Increasing Capacity to Engage Youth & Family Volunteers is a guide for ideas, best practices, and strategies on building your organization's capacity to engage youth and family volunteers. These concrete strategies are the result of a five-city Ready-Set-Go! pilot and bring together the expertise of more than 20 volunteer managers. For more information visit <http://www.generationon.org/orgs/guide-engaging-youth>

A report, *Successful K-12 STEM Education: Identifying Effective Approaches in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)*, developed by the *Committee on Highly Successful Schools or Programs in K-12 STEM* by the **Education and the National Research Council**, is the committee's recommendations to making "strategic decisions about improving STEM education," focusing on the science and mathematics parts of STEM. To view the report, visit: https://download.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=13158.

Visit the first career website for NYC youth workers: <http://www.AfterschoolPathfinder.org>. Pathfinder is the place where New York's youth workers, trainers and employers connect online and share job, training, educational and career opportunities. [Pathfinder](#) was developed and is operated by **The After-School Corporation TASC**, with the support of **DYCD**, **The Wallace Foundation** and the **Booth Ferris Foundation**. Site users can search job openings for New York City after-school and youth programs, and receive job alerts; post or find training opportunities, and receive training alerts; advertise for staff, and find tools to create winning cover letters and resumes. The site's most exciting feature, however, is an inter-active tool that lets a user describe his or her job and educational experiences, and plot an individualized path toward a career working with youth. [Pathfinder](#) is a useful professional development tool. Return to the website regularly to explore its many features and to get up-to-date information.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

The **New York County District Attorney's Office** invites high school students entering their junior or senior year to apply for the 2013 Summer Internship Program. It is an intensive six-week program for high school students who live in Manhattan and have a strong interest in learning about the law. This year, the program will begin on July 8,

2013 and conclude on August 16, 2013. Applicants should email or mail an official transcript, a resume and an essay, no longer than 2 pages, explaining the applicants' interest in the law. The deadline for all applications is April 26. The last day for interviews is May 10. Students must submit 2 letters of recommendation, one from their current school during the interview. The second letter may come from previous teachers, mentors, counselors, etc. and be mailed directly to the address below:

New York County District Attorney's Office, Community Affairs Unit, Attention: Ms. Carol Ragsdale, One Hogan Place, Room 843, New York, New York 10013, Telephone: 212-335-9082 or legalbound@dany.nyc.gov. Interviews are scheduled Monday through Thursday during after-school hours through April and May.

The *Peace First Prize* is a new awards program designed to recognize and support young leaders in the United States who have demonstrated compassion, courage, and the power to create collaborative change in their schools, neighborhoods, and/or communities. The program seeks to showcase the stories of young people who "have confronted injustice, crossed lines of difference, and had the courage and compassion to create lasting change." The prize is open to citizens and legal residents of the U.S. between the ages of 8 and 22 (as of January 1, 2013). All projects must have taken place in the U.S. Young people can apply for the prize directly or can be nominated by an adult or peer. All candidates are required to complete an application (nominated individuals will be sent an application). Video applications are encouraged. Five winners will receive a two-year, \$50,000 fellowship that can be used to further the winner's education and professional development or support his/her ongoing peacemaking work. Fellows also will participate in meetings with their peers; engage in a leadership development program supported by conference calls, webinars, direct coaching, and a structured curriculum; work with a national business, political, or community leader who will provide advice, connections, and mentorship through quarterly conversations; and actively engage in Peace First's mission and work, including public speaking, school visits, and participating in national and local peace initiatives. The deadline to apply is April 12. Visit the Peace First Prize website for complete program information, examples of young peacemakers, and nomination/application procedures: <http://www.peacefirst.org/prize/partners-sponsors>.

A program of the **Colin Higgins Foundation**, the *Colin Higgins Youth Courage Awards* annually honor lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, two-spirit, queer, and questioning youth who have transformed their experiences with bigotry and discrimination into opportunities to inspire others by taking action, rallying support, building community, and working to change the systems and institutions that impact their lives. Unlike scholarships based on grade-point average or written essays, the awards program looks to communities across the United States to nominate and lift up LGBTQ youth activists who inspire them and play critical roles in their schools, organizations, and community spaces. The 2013 awards program is inviting nominations of LGBTQ individuals who demonstrate courage in the face of adversity and discrimination based on gender and/or sexual orientation. Nominations should describe obstacles the nominee has faced due to their sexual orientation and/or gender identity, how the nominee has overcome these obstacles through community-level activism for LGBTQ rights, and how the award could transform the life of the nominee and help them achieve their dreams. The awards program is open to LGBTQ youth living in the U.S. only. Self-nominations are not accepted. Nominees must be 18 years of age or younger at the time of nomination. Three nominees will be selected to receive a \$10,000 grant, which will be presented at an honorary celebration and awards ceremony in New York City in June. The honorees will also receive an expense-paid trip to the 2014 [National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Creating Change Conference](#). The deadline for nominations is February 28. Visit the Colin Higgins Foundation Web site for complete program guidelines, the nomination form, and information on previous honorees: <http://www.colinhiggins.org/>.

As part of its dedication to helping millions of Latinos achieve their educational and career goals, **New Futuro** is giving students an opportunity to win a scholarship of up to \$1,000 with its [My New Futuro Scholarship Contest](#).

Students (16-24) can participate in the contest by: 1. taking a picture that shows what they dream of doing with their college education; 2. sharing the picture and filling out the entry form on the [New Futuro Facebook page](#) and 3. telling friends and family to vote for their picture. For full details visit [NewFuturo.com](#).

The **Eleanor Roosevelt Leadership's Center** 2013 *Girls' Leadership Worldwide (GLW)*, an international leadership development summer program for girls, is now accepting applications. During this nine-day, residential program, girls from diverse cultures and backgrounds come together to engage in workshops and activities designed to fully awaken the leader within them, using the leadership model of Eleanor Roosevelt. GLW seeks to empower the next generation of principled leaders who will create a just and sustainable world. Applicants must be 9th or 10th grade girls who have the potential to be leaders and would like to enhance their self-confidence and leadership skills so that they can make a difference in their community and the world. [Applications](#) are due by March 15, 2013.

Youth Communication is now accepting entries for the *Fifteenth Annual Awards for Youth in Foster Care*. Any current or former foster youth in the New York City foster care system born in 1992 or later is eligible to apply for the award, which promotes a more positive image of foster youth among agency staff, youth workers, and the general public. Applicants must write two essays to enter this contest, and can be nominated by any adult (including teachers, mentors, agency staff, youth workers, religious leaders, foster parents, or biological parents). Twenty young people will be awarded prize money at a ceremony in May 2013. Five Grand Prize winners receive \$1,000 each, and 15 additional winners receive \$400-\$600 each. Youth must [apply](#) by March 1, 2013.

The **Siemens Foundation** is accepting applications for its, *We Can Change the World Challenge* program. The program is designed to provide project-based learning, which allows students to learn about science and conservation while creating solutions that impact their planet. Teams of students in grades K-12 and their adult advisors (who must be full- or part-time school employees) will be challenged to create sustainable, reproducible environmental improvements in their local communities. Student and teacher/mentor prizes, which vary according to grade level, include scholarships, savings bonds, school grants, adventure trips, school assemblies, and more. Grant award prizes total more than \$300,000. The application deadline is March 5, 2013. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: <http://www.wecanchange.com/>.

The [Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts](#), the [Robert Rauschenberg Foundation](#), and the [Lambent Foundation](#) have established an *Emergency Relief Fund* to assist individual artists who experienced damage and loss as a result of Hurricane Sandy. The fund will be administered by the [New York Foundation for the Arts](#). Eligible artists can be working in any discipline and reside in Connecticut, New Jersey, or New York. Damages are broadly defined and include but are not limited to damage to physical work; damage to homes/studios/other facilities; loss of equipment or supplies; loss of income; and reimbursement for cancelled performances or appearances or engagements. It is anticipated that the overwhelming majority of grants will range between \$1,000 and \$5,000, but there may be extraordinary circumstances in which slightly smaller or larger grants will be made. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis and grants made every two weeks. In addition to direct grants from the Emergency Relief Fund, NYFA has lowered the administration fee on cash-flow loans it provides to organizations to 3 percent through the end of the 2012 calendar year. The NYFA database of opportunities also features a comprehensive list of grant and loan programs, housing resources, legal resources, and other information, both national and state-by-state, to help artists who suffered losses. For complete program information and the online grant application, visit the NYFA website: <http://www.nyfa.org/level2.asp?id=202&fid=1> .

The [CURIE](#) and [CATALYST](#) Academies at [Cornell University's College of Engineering](#) are one-week summer residential programs for high school youth who excel in math and science, enjoy solving problems, and want to learn more about careers in engineering. The [CURIE Academy](#) targets current sophomore and junior girls of all backgrounds, and the target populations for the [CATALYST Academy](#) are current freshmen, sophomore, and junior girls and boys from minority backgrounds severely underrepresented in the STEM disciplines. During both academies, Cornell University's faculty and graduate students lead classes and lab sessions, and youth work in teams conducting research and learning to solve problems that mirror real-life situations. In addition, social events, panel discussions, and other out-of-classroom activities provide participants with opportunities to network informally with each other and Cornell faculty, staff, and students. The application deadline for both academies is March 1, 2013.

The *Youth Works Program* addresses the needs of 105 young adults each year ages 18-24 helping them attain: (a) skills in literacy and numeracy, (b) opportunities for career exploration, (c) workforce readiness training and certification, (d) an internship, and (e) either permanent employment or further training or education. They offer a \$900 stipend for completion of the program. For more information call Vanessa Jarvis (718) 482-5171 or (718) 609-2132.

The *Knicks Poetry Scholars program* is a partnership between the **New York Knicks** and **Urban Word NYC** that awards full tuition scholarships to the University of Wisconsin, Adelphi University, Syracuse University, St. John's University and Mercy College to college bound high school seniors in the tri-state area. This competition aims to celebrate the value of outstanding students who demonstrate leadership qualities, community engagement, and a fresh perspective. Students who want a chance to win a full tuition scholarship will 1) apply to the schools of their choice, and after acceptance, 2) write an essay entitled the "Reason I Write" and submit it and a resume/CV and small portfolio of poems. To enter to win: knicksscholars@urbanwordnyc.org or signup@urbanwordnyc.org or call

Urban Word at (212)-352-3495. For more information on the Knicks Poetry Slam Program please visit: NYKnicks.com, Facebook or email knickspoetryslam@msg.com

The **Sodexo Foundation**, which works to ensure that every child in the United States grows up with dependable access to enough nutritious food to fuel a healthy and productive life, is inviting applications for its *Stephen J. Brady STOP Hunger Scholarship program*. The national program honors the efforts of students — from kindergarten to graduate school — who are working to end hunger in the United States. The program honors students working to build awareness and mobilize youth as catalysts for innovative solutions to ending hunger in U.S. communities in their lifetime. To be eligible, students must be enrolled in an accredited education institution in the United States and be able to demonstrate an ongoing commitment to hunger-alleviation activities in their community. Up to five students will be selected as national winners, with each receiving a \$5,000 scholarship and a \$5,000 grant for their anti-hunger charity of choice. In addition, scholarship recipients and two family members will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., for the awards ceremony in June. The Sodexo Foundation also will recognize twenty regional honorees with a \$1,000 donation for their preferred hunger charity. For complete program guidelines and to submit an application, visit the Sodexo Foundation website: <http://www.sodexofoundation.org/>.