

# Nectar: News from the sector

September 2009



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## NCVYS Update

### ***NCVYS to launch social networking site for the voluntary and community youth sector***

NCVYS is launching a social networking site – an online forum for its virtual communities of interest where members in the voluntary and community sector can sign up to share practice and exchange ideas about working with young people. The '**NCVYS Community**' will enable members to interact virtually with others from the voluntary and community sector and beyond, working to improve outcomes for young people. This forum will enable users to **post questions and receive instant feedback through discussion forums, post events, share information about projects and resources, share experiences** as well as chat in real time directly through the site! The forum will be particularly useful to those in the NCVYS network who may not always be able to attend meetings but will still be able to interact with like-minded individuals and organisations virtually. The site will host NCVYS's **communities of interest** for those interested in particular areas of work like the environment, infrastructure development and faith-based youth work. To register your interest, email [Faiza Chaudary](mailto:Faiza.Chaudary@ncvys.org.uk) or keep an eye out on the [NCVYS website](http://www.ncvys.org.uk).

### ***Attend the launch of Safe Systems - new accreditation scheme***

On the 29 September 2009 NCVYS will be launching a new safeguarding accreditation scheme titled Safe Systems. The scheme will help **small to medium voluntary and community organisations achieve good safeguarding** practice and will provide an introductory level of achievement towards the established NCVYS Sound Systems accreditation scheme. For more information about this scheme and to attend the launch in London contact [Chris Brewster](mailto:Chris.Brewster@ncvys.org.uk), Safeguarding Officer (T: 07971 054925).

### ***Exchange online***

NCVYS has recently launched an [online version](#) of its popular *Exchange* magazine, aimed at readers in the voluntary and community youth sector. The magazine is currently free for readers to view online and back issues can also be viewed in the archive section. Readers can view the latest issue on '**young people and dis/ability**' (Summer 2009 issue) by visiting the below link. NCVYS will still continue to print and distribute issues of *Exchange*, which members receive for free.

## ***Young Partners Award nominations***

The **Young Partners Award 2009** is open for nominations until 18 September so make sure you submit your entries! The Award celebrates young people's involvement in decision making within voluntary and community organisations and projects. If you know of an organisation that works with and for young people, why not nominate them? Winners will receive cash prizes, certificates, promotional opportunities and free membership with NCVYS. For more information contact **Selena Brown**, Communications Officer for Young People on 020 7278 1041.

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## **Projects & Campaigns**

### ***MoLeYa – seeking practitioners who work with young adults to improve their literacy***

NIACE is currently involved in MoLeYa, a multilateral European project funded through the Grundtvig Programme. The purpose of the project is to raise awareness of the factors that contribute to improving young adults' (aged 16-25) motivations to improve their literacy skills and engage in learning. The project will involve a European Trainers' Meeting - to be held in Jena, Germany in March 2010 - and a Motivation Guide. As part of the project research, NIACE is currently seeking to identify practitioners who work with young adults to improve their literacy skills. To find out more or to volunteer for a short telephone interview, contact **Nicola Aylward**, Project Officer at NIACE on 0116 2047059.

### ***BYC survey for young people - Your Experiences: Getting work, Getting Paid and Going Out***

The British Youth Council (BYC) has launched a **new online survey** to find out how the current economic situation is impacting on the lives of young people. BYC wants to hear from young people themselves about whether the recession has had an impact on their lives, work, training, studying, volunteering and leisure time. BYC will be feeding back the results of this survey directly to the Office for the Third Sector (OTS). All respondents will be able to enter a prize draw for a chance of winning a year's subscription to their favourite magazine!

### ***Let's slogo! Competition for the European Year of Volunteering 2011***

2011 will be the European Year of Volunteering to celebrate volunteers and the contribution they make to society. The Volunteering 2011 Alliance is running an open **competition to choose the official logo and slogan** for the upcoming European Year of Volunteering 2011 and is calling on all those interested, particularly young people, to submit their ideas. The public will be able to vote from the shortlisted entries during October and the winning ideas will be used throughout the EU during the EYV 2011. The finalists of the competition will be invited to Brussels on 16 December 2009 where the winner will be announced. The deadline for entries is 18 September 2009.

### ***UK Youth in partnership with CTC and ContinYou launches Bike Club***

UK Youth, CTC (the UK's national cyclists' organisation) and ContinYou are setting up bike clubs in cluster groups across England this summer. Funded by Cycling England and the Department for Transport over two years, Bike Club is an inspirational programme that builds cycling into the everyday lives of children and young people. Cycling is not only about getting from A to B. It is about independence, health and well being, fun and adventure. This programme will build on young people's needs and passions and is a safe and sustainable tool for engaging young people and opening up new opportunities. If your youth group is already involved in a similar bike project, the partners would love to hear from you: please contact **Abby Oatway** for more information or to share your experiences about your own bike project.

### ***Host a Faith Drama Production show for your young people***

**FAITH Drama Productions**, a young Arts based company educating, mentoring and inspiring the young through theatre, is looking to showcase their hit production 'Life On The Stairs' in different venues around the country, in more unconventional places such as prisons, churches, schools, community centres, hostels, shelters, pubs, parks and estates. If you'd like to hear more about the production and see how you can bring the show to your youth group, contact the group on **info@faithdrama.org.uk** or 07958 172 398 or take a look at their **website**. They will be performing an abridged version in Bethnal Green, London this weekend for anyone who's interested.

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## Events

### ***Oxfam Climate Change Conferences for Young People - 12-24 October 2009 across-England***

Oxfam is launching a programme of regional conferences and is inviting 100 schools across England to get involved. Conferences **The [conferences](#)**, to take place between **12-24 October in Birmingham, Bristol, London and Manchester**, will support curriculum requirements for responsible citizenship at Key Stages 3 and 4, including critical thinking and enquiry, advocacy and representation, and taking informed and responsible action. Each conference will encourage students to participate in active debate, and draw up a personal action plan to take forward in their school and community, while developing their understanding of social justice and global governance structures. Attending will help students develop their skills in peer leadership and political literacy, and will enable them leave empowered, motivated, and informed- equipped with the knowledge, understanding and skills to effect real change. Each event will host up to 4 delegates from 25 schools in the local area, and attendance is free of charge.

### ***Child Abuse: Neuroscience and Intervention***

This NSPCC-Anna Freud Centre Conference will bring together an international group of clinicians and neuroscientists, providing a unique forum to explore the latest research and innovation in understanding and tackling childhood adversity. The event aims to facilitate a genuine dialogue on research and intervention on child maltreatment and its impact on brain development, focusing on attachment, parental drug & alcohol abuse, and trauma. The **[conference](#)** will be held at **University College London on 31 October 2009** and will feature speeches from Eamon McCrory (NSPCC, Anna Freud Centre & UCL); Nancy Suchman (Yale); and David Trickey (Leicester Royal Infirmary).

### ***Attachment in Middle Childhood: New Developments and Challenges***

This conference presents recent work in the field of attachment, focusing on new developments and challenges in the study of attachment in middle childhood. The **[conference](#)** aims to bring together eminent researchers and clinicians to present their work with a particular focus on research using the Child Attachment Interview. The conference will be held at **University College London on 21 November 2009**.

### ***Why do girls binge drink? YWCA conference – 21 October 2009, London***

The YWCA is organising a cross-sector **[conference](#)** to consider the risks and consequences of girls' binge drinking, to help us find ways to tackle this worrying problem. Speakers will include: Professor Ian Gilmore, President of the Royal College of Physicians; Chris Sorek, Chief Executive of Drinkaware and Don Shenker, Chief Executive of Alcohol Concern. Workshops will be chaired by Emma Reynolds from Tesco; Wulf Livingston from the British Association of Social Workers; Helga Swidenbank from Bronzefield Prison and Olivia Bailey from the National Union of Students.

### ***Trans Community Conference 2009 & An Audience with Jason Elvis Barker***

The Trans Community Conference, convened by Gendered Intelligence and hosted by Central School of Speech and Drama, is taking place from **9am to 6pm on 12 September 2009 at the Embassy Theatre in London**. This year's conference will take a creative approach to the themes of education, equalities and diversities, policy and practice, political activism and work carried out in the voluntary and community sector through art, drama, applied theatre, voice work and creative writing. Some free places are still available for young people, family members or partners. To find out more about the event and how to access the free places, email **[transcommunityconference@googlemail.com](mailto:transcommunityconference@googlemail.com)**. The conference will be followed (7-9pm) by **'An Audience with Jason Elvis Barker'** - award winning filmmaker, comix artist, occasional stand up comedian, co-producer of Transfabulous and a programmer of the London Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

### ***Securing healthy futures for young people - conference***

Coventry University and the National Youth Agency are organising a **[one-day conference](#)** on **18 September in Coventry** to address the health needs and well-being of young people. The event will include debates on: sexual and mental health, substance misuse and healthy life styles. The event is intended for youth work practitioners, health professionals with an interest in young people, university/college lecturers in youth issues, and local government policy makers. The cost is £30.00 per person.

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## Funding & Awards

### ***RADAR People of the Year Awards 2009***

RADAR's [People of the Year Awards](#), celebrates excellence and achievement by both disabled people and those organisations with a commitment to furthering the equality agenda for disabled people. One of the awards categories is *Disabled Young Person of the Year* - for the disabled young person who has made the most difference this year to disability equality. This year's theme for the Awards evening on 30 November is: **'Future Proofing Disability Equality'**. The 2009 People of the Year event will, for the first time, include both an educational and challenging day and a celebratory evening. The deadline for nominations is 1 October 2009.

### ***£1 million funding for charities – Young Offenders Programme***

The [Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales](#) has launched its Young Offenders Programme with £1 million funding available to charities working to improve the life choices and chances of young offenders in England and Wales. You need to be a registered charity in order to apply. Your charity can be any size but should have a proven track record of working with young offenders, aged between 15 and 21, in areas including: accommodation; skills training; employment mentoring; drugs and alcohol; mental health; restorative justice; and family support and relationships. Grants can fund new and innovative work. They can also be used to extend a proven model of successful work or to enable the development of joined up projects. Funding can be up to three years and can cover core and project costs. Capital costs are not covered. The **application deadline for expressions of interest is 25 September 2009**.

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## Resources

### ***Ramadan Health Guide***

This [NHS booklet](#), put together by medical experts, Islamic scholars and researchers to ensure the medical advice and suggestions are scientific and culturally sensitive, is aimed at helping you understand the health issues related to fasting, so that you are able to make more informed choices, minimise complications and maximise the benefit of your fast. The booklet will: guide you through physiological changes that occur when you are fasting; give examples of beneficial and harmful foods during fasting; discuss potential medical problems and remedies; suggest a diet plan; and respond to the most frequently asked questions about fasting in general and medical issues in particular. The booklet also contains a section for doctors and medical professionals, to enable them to provide more informed services. It may also be useful for anyone working with young people who are fasting during the month of Ramadan.

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## Training

### ***Learning Out the Classroom Quality Badge training event***

The [National Council for Drama Training is delivering a workshop](#) on behalf of the Arts Council to support arts organisations seeking to apply for the Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge. The badge is a nationally recognised accreditation that will be awarded to learning providers who meet the requirements to **provide and sustain high-quality learning outside the classroom** and therefore this workshop is an excellent opportunity for those offering learning experiences and activities outside the classroom. The LOtC Quality Badge is intended to assist schools in identifying external providers who deliver good quality teaching and learning experiences and manage risk effectively. The training event will take place on **Friday 18 September from 12.30 to 5.30pm** at the Better Bankside Community Space on Great Guildford Street near London Bridge.

### ***Improve your confidence and help young people be more financially capable***

Working in partnership with the Financial Services Authority (FSA), Fairbridge Training has developed a **FREE one-day training session** called [Young People & Money](#). This course delivers financial capability awareness so that you can help encourage young people to think about their own financial needs. Delivered **across the north of England** by experienced Fairbridge trainers, the course will include topics like: understanding of the psychology of young people & money; skills to engage young people in financial matters; and help for young people to manage debt. For more about Fairbridge Training please call 020 7199 6032.

### ***Identifying Housing Status and the Prevention of Homelessness***

Youth Access and Shelter are offering a [training course on preventing homelessness](#) on **19 October in London**, suitable for anyone working as an adviser or advocate for young people on housing issues. This one-day open course aims to increase participants' understanding of landlord tenant law with a view to identifying circumstances where it may be possible to prevent homelessness.

### ***Welfare Benefits for Sick or Disabled Young People***

Another Youth Access [course](#) on 7 October in London, aimed at information and advice workers, youth workers and others providing benefits advice to young people aged up to 25, will look to develop participants' knowledge of welfare benefits that can assist young people experiencing physical or mental illness or disability, but which are currently under-claimed.

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## **Web & New Media**

### ***Calling on members to join NCVYS on YouTube***

NCVYS has recently launched a new [YouTube page](#) dedicated to keeping those interested in knowing more about NCVYS updated on its work. NCVYS welcomes all interested parties who already have YouTube accounts to become subscribers or friends of the NCVYS page. For more information contact Communication and PR Officer at NCVYS, [Mariam Sheikh](#) on 020 7278 1041.

### ***Free Working with Offenders Directory - promote your organisation and win a prize!***

Clinks' new, improved [Working with Offenders Directory](#) is ready for organisations to submit their details. Do this by **25 September and you could win up to £50 in high street vouchers!** Listing an organisation's details is FREE, quick and easy to do online. It enables you to promote your organisation's work to all those who use the Directory, including VCS organisations, prison and probation officers, commissioners and offenders. The new version includes an improved search function which allows users to search for services in a particular area, or type of service offered, for example. Once populated the Working with Offenders Directory will be the first port of call for information on services to offenders.

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## **Vacancies**

### ***Envision recruiting volunteers***

[Envision](#) is looking for dynamic and enthusiastic individuals who want to encourage young people from diverse, inner-city and BME backgrounds to explore different issues that concern them. Volunteers will give up one lunchtime a week from September/October 2009 to May 2010 to facilitate inspiring meetings with a group of students at a school near them. For instance, the group at Archbishop Tenison's School decided they wanted to raise awareness of the issue of child poverty and homelessness. Volunteers helped the group to do a brainstorm to find out what they wanted to do. They then helped them make an action plan. Over the year the students organised a 'Cakeathon' fundraiser, an end-of-exams fundraiser and a Fairtrade Coffee Morning for the elderly – supporting The Salvation Army and Great Ormond Street Hospital. The students had been nervous about calling the Salvation Army, but their volunteers helped them to plan out what they wanted to say. For more information contact [Emily Pickering](#) on 020 7253 1677.

### ***BYC seeks Media & Communications Assistant***

(Salary £19,161 – £20,256 - NJC pay scales 15-18 inc. Inner London Weighting)

The British Youth Council (BYC) is looking to recruit a [Media & Communications Assistant](#) to help promote the positive contribution that young people make to society and to provide support in raising awareness of BYC, both on and offline. The ideal candidate will have knowledge or experience of working in or with the media. You will also have experience of a communications or marketing environment and you will be proficient at providing admin support to a busy team. In addition to this, you will have excellent interpersonal skills and be adapt at prioritising competing demands and working to deadlines. The closing **date for applications is midday 4 September 2009** and interviews will be held on 14 September 2009.

## ***Encompass looking for facilitator for international 'Journey of Understanding'***

Encompass empowers young people to promote tolerance and intercultural understanding in their local communities and is currently looking for a **Facilitator** to co-facilitate one of our international 'Journey of Understanding' programmes which will take place in Scotland from 22-30 November 2009. The role of the Co-Facilitator will be to enable and encourage a group of 24 young people from the UK, US, Israel, Palestine and Indonesia to develop intercultural dialogue and understanding through a programme of non-formal learning and facilitated discussions, which will take place alongside a programme of outdoor activities led and managed by Outward Bound® instructors. This is a paid role and all expenses for the duration of the programme will be covered by Encompass. **Applications are due by Friday 25 September 2009.** For full details, contact [Erika Moisl](#) on 020 7493 9739.

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*This bulletin is prepared by the National Council for Voluntary Youth Services. Please contact Ilona Pinter at NCVYS for more details, or email [ilona@ncvys.org.uk](mailto:ilona@ncvys.org.uk)*

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