Green Industry Career Pathway
Student Learns More

Through the Green Industry Career Pathway Program, Old Colony YMCA YouthBuild Brockton student Kendra Scialdone has learned more about herself and the green industry.

“\textbf{I learned I like nature and that I want to spend more time outdoors in nature. The Green Industry Career Pathway Program lets me enjoy the outdoors while learning.} I have gained skill in areas like data collection, map reading, compass navigation, property management and learned about different green industry jobs. \textit{I have also learned that we are part of nature and so are these [Trustees of Reservations] properties. When I am out in nature I feel free, without boundaries. The experience really allowed me to step out of myself and get to know everything in more depth.}”

Kendra will be attending Massasoit Community College in the fall.

Message From the Executive Director

Yes, We Can! There is transformative energy in the belief that yes, it can be done. Young people need to hear this message of confidence and encouragement until they have the absolute assuredness of their own worthiness and come to know within themselves that yes I can, yes I will. Eagle Eye staff and our partner instructors and Champions provide this vision to the youth we serve, opening their Eagle Eyes to see that yes, we can… do so much more than we ever imagined.

Si Se Puede! As a member of the Eagle Eye community, you know how important it is to have passionate leadership committed to the care and preservation of healthy communities of plants, animals and people. Many of you give generously to be sure that urban young people from low income communities continue to have transformative experiences in nature that begin this leadership path. Thank you. Your contributions this year brought 5 different YouthBuild sites out to properties of The Trustees of Reservations to learn first-hand about land management and ecological surveying.

\textit{(continued on p.3)}
Green Industry Career Pathway Program Completes Its Fourth Year

The Green Industry Career Pathway Program began in 2005 and over the past 4 years has introduced more than 800 YouthBuild students to jobs and careers in the green industry, to experiences in nature, and to green industry professionals. The program is a collaborative effort between Eagle Eye Institute, YouthBuild U.S.A. and The Trustees of Reservations. This GICP program year, 258 YouthBuild students participated, the greatest number to date. A new addition to our GICP Program offerings this spring was the Ecological Surveying Program. On this program day, students were exposed to the field of ecology, GPS mapping, specimen collection and identification, field guide usage, data collection and analysis as they learned why vernal pools are important resources to protect. Other programs offered include, Stewardship Days, Winter Exploration, Land Management Basics, Massachusetts Arborist Association Arbor Day Celebration and the Learn More About Forests™.

“I feel stewardship is important because it gives other people clues how beautiful the environment is.”
- YouthBuild Student

Green Industry Career Pathway Program Participant Brian Velozo Earns Seasonal Job with The Trustees of Reservations

Old Colony YMCA YouthBuild Fall River student Brian Velozo has attended every Green Industry Career Pathway Program event this past program year. “I learned a lot about land management and I love doing this kind of work.” Due to his commitment, positive attitude, work ethic and eagerness to learn, he has been offered a seasonal job with The Trustees of Reservations. Brian will be working as a maintenance technician in The Trustees of Reservations’ southeast region. Brian follows 7 past YouthBuild students who have made the transition from being a participant in the Green Industry Career Pathway Program to a job with The Trustees of Reservations. Brian begins work at the end of May. After participating in the Learn More About Forests™ sessions, Brian will also participate in a weeklong residential internship at MountainStar Forest. Congratulations Brian!

“I enjoyed going into the vernal pool and getting fairy shrimp. It’s interesting how everything works out in nature.”
- YouthBuild Student
YouthBuild Brockton Staff Share Benefits of Participating in Green Industry Career Pathway Program

My name is Jay Casilli and I am the Program Manager at YouthBuild Brockton. This is my second year participating in the Green Industry Career Pathway Program (GICP) and I see a lot of value that it brings our students, organization, staff and myself. The program is a great opportunity for our students to learn about nature, the green industry, stewardship, how fun and peaceful the woods can be, and to broaden their horizons while working together as a team. On the organization level, we see the value in having time out in nature as part of our program year for all students. We have become more green minded. We have fostered a relationship with The Trustees of Reservations and have exposed our staff to the benefits of spending time in nature. In addition, I have seen my own personal benefits as well. I learned I still enjoy nature and taking teens into a new environment. I learned how forests are important in helping to protect the water supply for humans and more about green industry jobs. I find myself applying and sharing what I have learned about nature during the GICP Program with my daughter, wife, other family members and friends. During the program year, I look forward to the GICP Program events and the opportunity to learn more.

Spotlight on: Jim Mulroy
IT Professional Volunteers

Jim Mulroy responded to Eagle Eye’s call for assistance entering data from more than 1400 questionnaires given to students and staff this Fall. A man with IT experience and a love of nature, Jim welcomed the opportunity to play a support role and make a difference behind the scenes, contributing his technical skills to Eagle Eye to “work towards social justice through an organization and cause he believes”. Jim’s peaceful and pleasant presence was a welcome addition for the 15 weeks he joined us a couple of hours each week. Thank you Jim!

Message from the Director
(continued from p.1)

Young adults from 3 YouthBuild sites enjoyed a residential Learn More About Forests™ program at MountainStar Forest deepening their connections to themselves and to nature as they strengthened their leadership skills. All came to understand why green jobs are so important.

Together, We Will! We ask you to inspire and involve your friends, family, co-workers. Help Eagle Eye expand its network, reach more urban youth, and continue cultivating the committed environmental leadership we need. $100 pays for one more young person to begin to develop a sense of environmental responsibility and gain marketable skills. $500 permits one youth to experience the Learn More About Forests™ program living in the forest for 3 days. Give generously today so more urban youth can care for the earth today, tomorrow, and into the future.
The Power of Nature: Drawing Out What Lies Within

“Nature is an urban youth’s best instructor. The power of nature is not in the power it has to give you but in the power it has to draw out what you have within.” So says Eagle Eye staff person Josh Revolorio who, with Eagle Eye program Director Kent Jackson, and YouthBuild graduate Raheem Hooks, joined five students and two staff from YouthBuilds New Bedford, Brockton, and Fall River for this year’s three day two night “off the grid” Learn More About Forests™ (LMAF) experience out in the Berkshires at Eagle Eye’s co-founders, Anthony Sánchez and MaJa Kietzke’s MountainStar Forest.

“I have never been camping in my life. It’s so beautiful out here,” says James Ortiz, a New Bedford student. The LMAF was filled with new experiences for the urban residents, encouraging all participants to open their Eagle Eye, and see the change inside them waiting to grow. Cortlyn Gomes, another student from YouthBuild New Bedford, described the overall experience as “refreshing! I was more open minded and willing to try new things.” According to Harold Rosa, GICP graduate and former MountainStar Forest intern, “All the thinking I got to do helped to clear my mind. I learned I am more of a leader that I thought I was.” Kendra Scialdone and Brian Veloso (see articles on p.1 & 2) have both been chosen to participate this summer in a week-long residential internship at MountainStar Forest.

Living together in community the young adults learned more about themselves and each other as they became aware of choices they can make about the food they eat, the water they use, the trash they produce, choices that impact the environment. For YouthBuild staff, this program serves as a catalyst for teaching messages of responsibility, awareness, and environmental leadership, opening them to reconsider how they can continue the transformational process when they return to the city. “I will take focus and clarity back with me. I feel more centered. Students need this experience because it reconnects them to something that is real. It also keeps them on a positive trajectory,” said Temesticles Ferriera, staff member from YB New Bedford.

(see article on p.5)

The Sun Beating Down
by Kendra Scialdone

The sun beating down
Sweet rays of bliss on my face
The rocks cold and strong
Letting you know support is never far
The scars and grooves on earth’s surface
Reminders of past mistakes not soon repeated
The leaves, symbols of a thousand memories
Never quite forgotten
The broken branches twisted and scattered
Showing the ruins and horrors of your past
The cool breeze of all your hopes and dreams,
So close that you can feel them but just out of grasp.
A woodpecker high in a tree
Knocking on the door to some future unknown
Newly formed trees among the rubble
Showing from struggle and suffering can come new life
The chirps of birds calling to me, giving hope to the hopeless
The sound of my feet on broken twigs and dying leaves
Taking their first steps toward a new life
Always remembering but never dwelling.
Just moving forward into the forest with a million more leaves
Lined with the happiness of new memories
And what’s to come.
As far as The Trustees and the green industries, Eagle Eye has been the gateway, the ones who have opened up this whole other realm to us that we hadn’t realized was there, that we weren’t pursuing. And because of that, it’s opened up so many other opportunities,” says Temestocles Blessed Ferriera, PACE YouthBuild New Bedford.

“The introduction Eagle Eye made to The Trustees has given some of these youth employment which is very important. New Bedford is in a tough economic situation. We’re dealing with young people who have limited choices and choose very negative things to do. Now, the reality of getting a job that pays weekly is not only mind-changing, but life-changing.

“As a staff person looking to transform young people’s lives, give them opportunities, show them another way, a positive reality, [you] need to role model, step outside your comfort zone, and lead by example. Your students will see you in a different light and you’ll see yourself in a different light. You make a lot better decisions, a lot better choices when you have a chance to quiet your mind and to really see what’s important.

“It’s part of the big picture of world peace and [the GICP program] is a step in that direction. I am really thankful to Anthony and MaJa for having this vision, to make it a reality. It’s having an impact.”
Eagle Eye Institute
2008 Key Accomplishments

Program
☆ 132 YouthBuild (YB) students participated in GICP* from 6 MA cities

☆ 60% of the students at each YouthBuild program site indicated they were interested to continue with GICP through the winter/spring, a higher percentage than last year

☆ Of the 28 students who continued through the Winter/Spring, 14% were placed. 3 previous GICP graduates also secured seasonal employment. This number was more than double last year

☆ All students successfully completed their placements in contrast to previous years

☆ Three of these students were offered and accepted a 2nd placement with Trustees

☆ The Greater Boston YMCA participated for a 2nd year in a 2 day Learn About Forests™ and Stewardship series. The Stewardship day was at a Trustees property with GICP student mentors

☆ GICP graduate and residential land management intern at Eagle Eye Land Trust in Peru MA assisted with Learn About Forests™ for Boston YMCA youth

Marketing and Promotion
☆ Two promotional videos produced; “Youth For A Change”, by Emerson College student filmmakers, and “Inspiring Urban Youth to Value Nature” by Anthony Sánchez

☆ WCVB Channel 5 Chronicle’s May 07 segment “Au Naturel” re-aired

☆ E-newsletter distributed every 4-6 weeks

☆ 2 GICP graduates featured in The Trustees Winter issue of Special Places “Generation Green”

☆ National webinar offered through Alliance for Community Trees on success of GICP as model adult workforce development training program

Fundraising
☆ 6th Annual Hikeathon raised 14% more than last year

☆ 31% of budget income from program fees (up from 20% last year)

Organizational/Administrative
☆ Launched a strategic planning process, including a 360 of Executive Director, Board and organization provided pro bono by MSPP**

☆ Launched enhanced database (constituent management system)

☆ Added new Board member bringing the number to seven

* GICP – Green Industry Career Pathway; combines Eagle Eye’s Learning, Stewardship, and Career bridging programs into a comprehensive 9 month program for one consistent group of urban young adults, ages 16-24 currently enrolled in MA YouthBuild (YB) programs delivered by Champions from one land conservation agency, currently The Trustees of Reservations.

** MSPP – Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology
Soaring Eagle ($5000 and above)
MaJa Kietzke & Anthony Sánchez

Golden Eagle ($1000 - $2500)
David Bryant & Ellen Berkman
Sarah Doering
Cathy England
Cheryl Forte
Katherine Gross & Peter Thorne
Kira & Joe Jewett
Chris & Bill Labich
Carol Pine
Ron Pusifer
Gail Strand
Henry Vandermark
TreeLink

Eaglet ($500 - $999)
John Bullitt
Chris Cato
Jack Connolly - Wedgwood Crane & Connolly
Peter Creighton
Ginny Dorne
Sigrid Ewers
Nixon Insurance
Mark Niedergang & Marya Axner
Carol Woolfe - Blackbaud

Nestling ($250 - $499)

Eagle Egg ($100 - $249)

Grants Received 2008: $126,100

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$100 and less
126 individuals, couples, and businesses whose names space does not permit to print but whose contributions are very much appreciated.

In-Kind Donations Received from:
Support Eagle Eye’s Proven Programs in Nature for Urban Young Adults

**Contribution Levels**

- Visionary Eagle $10,000
- Soaring Eagle $5,000
- Bald Eagle $2,500
- Golden Eagle $1,000
- Eaglet $500
- Nestling $250
- Eagle Egg $100
- Nest Builder $50
- Other $ ______

Name: _____________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________
City: ___________________ State:____ Zip: _____________
Email Address: _______________________________________

**Please send your tax-deductible contribution to:**

Eagle Eye Institute
14 Chapel St.
Somerville, MA 02144
(617) 666-5222

Or go to [www.EagleEyeInstitute.org](http://www.EagleEyeInstitute.org) and click “Donate Now” to make an instant credit card donation.