



Center for
Democracy and Humanity
Mount Wachusett Community College

PRESS RELEASE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

United Way - Youth Venture Partnership Celebration

**Announces its selection as a stop on Youth Venture's 11-nation
"Dream it. Do it. World Tour" honoring young changemakers**

Concord, NH - May 2, 2007 -

On May 10, The United Way - Youth Venture Partnership Celebration will host the largest gathering ever of New England's young changemakers - Venturers, caring young people ages 12-20, who everyday affect their communities in positive ways.

This celebration will serve as an opportunity for United Way and Youth Venture to honor and thank the hundreds of young citizens who have created their own youth-led, youth-initiated, community-benefiting clubs or organizations in MA and NH.

Having been selected as a stop on Youth Venture's *Dream it. Do it. World Tour* is significant for these young people, because now their inspiring community-benefiting Ventures will be profiled and recognized worldwide.

The *Dream it. Do it. World Tour*, led by veteran Youth Venturer and community leader Kyle Taylor, will span eleven countries on five continents engaging thousands of youth in person and online via www.genv.net - Youth Venture's new global community website for young changemakers. The world tour, which launched April 24 in Washington, D.C., will begin its overseas leg in South America on May 11 the day after the stop in MA.

When and Where?

Thursday, May 10, 2007, 9 am - 2 pm
Colonial Hotel, 625 Betty Springs Road, Gardner MA
(For directions, please visit: www.colonial-hotel.com)

Why Celebrate?

Here's a sampling of the tremendous benefit and exceptional work United Way -Youth Venture teams are bringing to their communities in MA and NH:

- Rubber Ducky Studios - This group of friends, interested in media production, launched their idea to produce affordable videos and Public Service Announcements for small, low-budget non-profits in their community.
- Merrimack Bio-Diesel Crew - These high school chemistry classmates built a processor to convert used French fry oil into bio-diesel fuel to power a school bus! Their aim is to educate their community on alternative energy sources.
- Team Ultimate - For these Venturers, the seemingly simple game of Frisbee serves as a catalyst to help teach youth (especially young girls) valuable life skills, such as tolerance and learning to work and function as a team.

Meet the terrific kids behind these teams and many more...

Who's Attending?

- Dozens of Venture teams comprised of young changemakers from MA and NH, their parents, and adult mentors
- Education, business, and community leaders
- Key local, regional, and national representatives of event sponsors United Way, Youth Venture, and Mount Wachusett Community College
- *Dream it. Do it. World Tour* Venturer Kyle Taylor

About Youth Venture

By inspiring and investing in teams of young people to start their own social ventures, Youth Venture is working to build a powerful network of young changemakers around the world. Youth Venture provides coaching, resources, and seed funding for young people ages 12-20 to create, launch, and lead sustainable community-benefiting ventures. We believe this will catalyze a cultural sea change, transforming a generation of young people into capable leaders of social change - leading to a world of Everyone a Changemaker. www.genv.net Youth Venture was founded in 1996 by Ashoka.

About United Way

United Way is a national network of more than 1,300 locally governed organizations that work to create lasting positive changes in communities and peoples lives. Building on more than a century of service as the nation's preeminent community-based fundraiser, United Way engages the community to identify the underlying causes of the most significant local issues, develops strategies and pulls together human and financial resources to address them, and measures the results. United Way of America is the national organization dedicated to leading the United Way movement. While local United Ways tackle issues based on local needs, common focus areas include helping children and youth succeed, improving access to health care, promoting self-sufficiency, and strengthening families. For more information about United Way, please visit: www.unitedway.org For information about the local United Ways directly involved in sponsoring this event, visit: www.unitedwaynashua.org/ and www.uwncm.org .

About Mount Wachusett Community College

Mount Wachusett Community College is an accredited public two-year institution serving 29 cities and towns in North Central Massachusetts. Its main campus is located in Gardner, MA, and its satellite sites are located in Leominster, Fitchburg, Athol, Orange and Devens. MWCC offers over 40 associate degree and certificate programs, as well as adult basic education/GED programs, education and training for business and industry, and noncredit community service programs. Courses are offered in the day, evening, on weekends and online. Visit www.mwcc.edu for more details.

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United Way - Youth Venture Partnership: *Mobilizing the caring power of young people*