



networks

The Journal for Youth & Children Workers in Lothian

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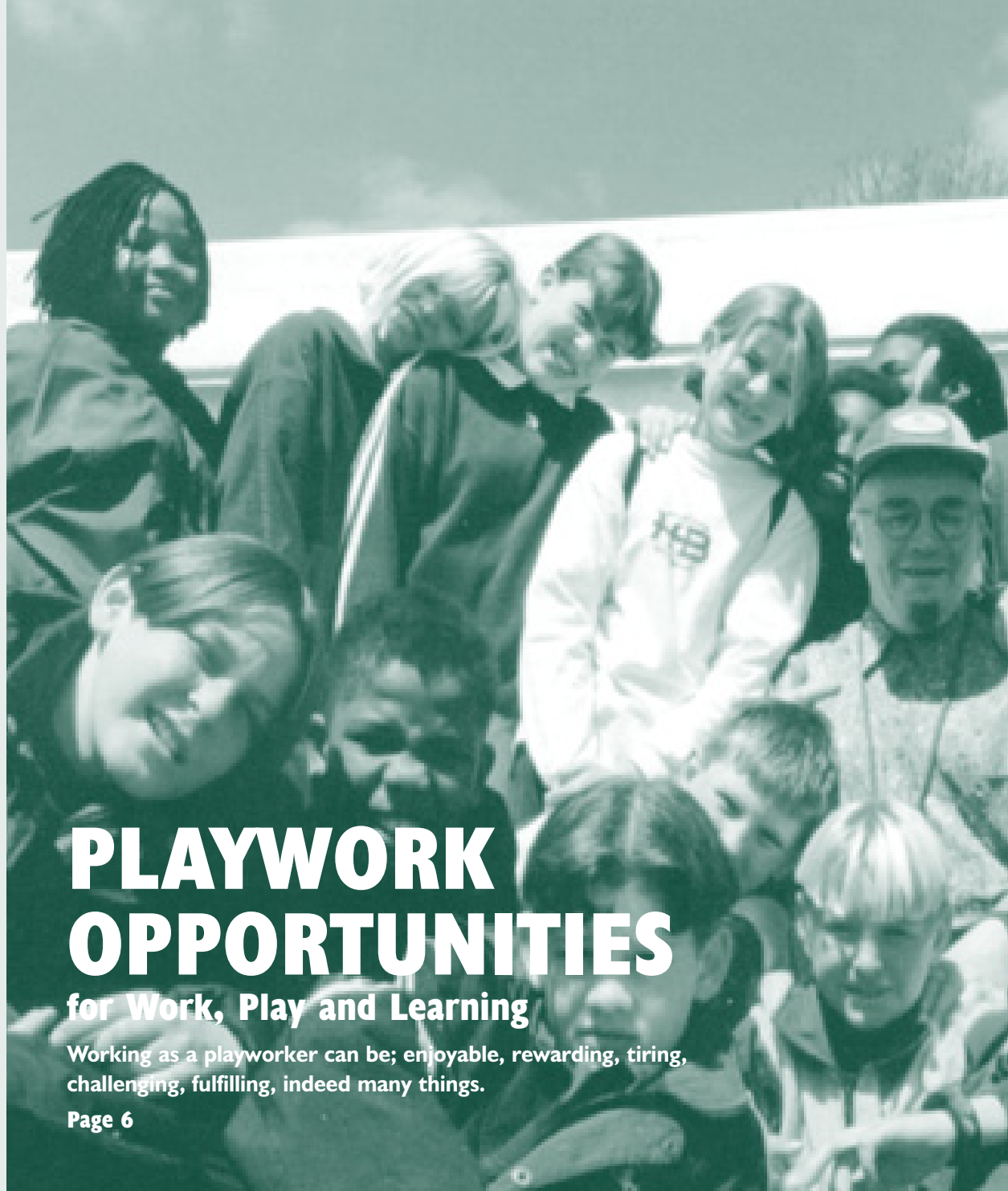
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Bonaly An Ideal Location

The Edinburgh Scout Council's Training Centre at Bonaly, at the foot of the Pentlands has been used for many years by a wide variety of children's groups for: adventure days, picnics, family outings, residential, bbq's, etc.

When planning your programme you could consider it as a venue for an activity.

There are two residential buildings, one specifically designed for disabled people and accommodates 24, the larger building can take up to 48. The 20 acres of field, woodland and stream give great opportunity for creative activity and there is access to the facilities of the site, eg field shelters, toilets and lots of games and outdoor equipment. Contact the resident manager Barry Johnson on 0131 441 1878 or visit www.bonaly.org.uk for more info.

'Drugs on TV'

ITN Factual is an award-winning specialist unit within ITN, producing and co-producing first class factual programmes for both terrestrial and satellite channels at home and around the world. They have contact LAYC about "the documentary we are making - a one hour programme for Channel Five on the subject of young people and drugs. It will feature discussions on areas such as solvents, cannabis, dance, drugs, to the harder drugs such as cocaine, crack and heroin.

We are interested to talk to young people of all ages about their experiences with and knowledge of drugs. Anonymity and confidentiality will be observed.

Call Rachel on 020 7430 4365 or 020 7430 4511 or via email rachel.heywood@itn.co.uk

The Baby Driver . . . ?

Lothian Community Transport Services are currently reminding groups of EU Directive (91/439/EEC). What? . . . You've forgotten what that one is?

. . . It's the one that says that drivers who passed their car driving test after 1st January 1997 can only drive minibuses in certain circumstances.

- They are at least 21 years old and held their licence for a minimum of 2 years and;
- The minibus has a gross weight of less than 3.5 tonnes and is not towing a trailer and;
- They provide their services on a voluntary basis - (the only way for paid members of staff who first passed their car test on or after 1st January 1997 to drive a minibus for them to pass a second (category D or D1) driving test.

As the cost of this test is approximately £1,000 LCTS are seeking funding for subsidising training aimed at Lothian - based on voluntary organisations.

For more information contact Kenny Duncan, Training & Personnel Manager, 200 Sir Harry Lauder Road, Edinburgh EH15 2QA Tel: 0131 669 9959 e-mail: lcts@dial.pipex.com

Growing Up with Addicts

The study is on experiences of older children growing up with a parent with a drug or alcohol problem which is supported by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and based at the Centre for Research on Families and Relationships at the University of Edinburgh. At this point in the project, they are contacting service providers to discuss the possibility of recruiting one or two interviewees through their organisation.

The aim is to interview 40 young people, aged between 16 and 20, from across Scotland.

We would be very grateful if you could help in any way with our project, for example with recruitment or with identifying people and agencies in your area.

The interviews last for about an hour, and are conducted at a time and place of the young person's choice. To avoid direct questioning about some potentially sensitive issues, we use a 'life grid' approach to discuss several aspects of the young person's personal history. This approach seems to have put interviewees at their ease. Each young person who participates in the study is offered a £10 voucher.

For further information contact:

Sarah Wilson, Research Fellow, Centre for Research on Families and Relationships, 23 Buccleuch Place, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh EH8 9LN

Tel: 0131 651 3002 (direct) or 0131 651 1832 or e-mail Sarah.Wilson@ed.ac.uk

Sun Grants

The Sun Microsystems Foundation invites eligible education and non-profit organisations to bid for cash grants of up to \$10,000 (US dollars) to support innovative summer academic enrichment programs that emphasise hands on learning in maths, science, technology and/or engineering. Grants aimed at organisations working with primary and secondary school aged children/young people in Scotland, with emphasis on under represented/disadvantaged populations. For more information contact Paul Wilson at Volunteer Centre Edinburgh on 0131 478 7063 or e-mail paul.Wilson@volunteeredinburgh.org.uk

Small Grants Fund

Do you or your group seek to benefit people in Mayfield, Easthouses, Woodburn or Gorebridge?

We want to support you to explore and test out ideas for projects which develop community assets, improve neighbourhoods and help local people access jobs and opportunities.

Grants of £1,500 may be available to you Would you like to apply?

Contact Liz Kampman, Regeneration Team, Development Unit, Midlothian Council, 1 Eskdail Court, Dalkeith EH22 1AG. Tel: 0131 271 3458 e-mail: liz.kampman@midlothian.gov.uk

Closing date for first round applications is 14th March 2003.

[The Small Grants Fund is administered by the Mayfield and Easthouses Trust and Midlothian Council. It is managed by representatives of the four local communities.]

EYSIP Grants Programme 2003/04

Edinburgh Youth Social Inclusion Partnership Grant Programme Guidelines for 2003 are now available. Download the guidelines from www.youthinclusion.org or phone 0131 555 5111 for more details. The Guidelines contain new info and criteria for the different Grant opportunities EYSIP will be offering during 2003/04. Closing date for Small Grant applications is 28th April 2003.

Edinburgh Youth Social Inclusion Partnership, F1 54 Timberbush, Edinburgh EH6 6QH
(t) 0131 555 5111 (f) 0131 555 6006
(e) t.george@youthinclusion.org
(web) www.youthinclusion.org

Down at the Farm

There is a new project called Out of Bounds at Gorgie City Farm. This project will target 'hard-to-reach' 13-21 year olds offering each individual support to reach their chosen goals. Working with the animals in a practical hands-on way to build up a portfolio of transferable skills. The project started in December 02 and is funded initially for 3 years. For more information contact Cerys Thomas on 0131 337 4202.

CRBS Registration

Volunteer Centre Edinburgh is now registered with CRBS as a Trusted Partner. This allows us to do Visual Identity Validation for individuals identified as the lead signatory on the CRBS registration forms. This means that instead of having to go to Stirling, lead signatories from voluntary organisations in Edinburgh can come to our office to be visually identified. All you need to do is call us to make an appointment and we will need to see one official photo ID (eg passport, driving licence) and one official home address ID that is less than 3 months old (eg bank statement, gas/electricity/phone bill). We then send a form to CRBS confirming that the lead signatory has been visually identified and the organisation sends its registration form and relevant documents directly to CRBS by recorded delivery, enclosing a cheque for £5 to cover postage and administration. If you need any more information about this or would like to make an appointment please call Jude Wilson on 0131 478 7063.

BBC Children in Need Funds

The next deadline for applications is 30th March 2003.

Grants are for children aged 18 years and under who are disadvantaged by eg poverty, disability, distress - contact for more details: 0131 228 4225 or e-mail: Pudsey@bbc.co.uk

LINK UP FOR ANOTHER YEAR

Leisure Links pilot has proved a real hit with LAYC and PACE affiliated groups across the city. And we know this because many of you completed the recent survey.

With some 84 groups registered for the scheme, the uptake has been very encouraging with some 86% of respondents indicating that 73% had used them a few times/regularly.

Groups also found the information about the scheme clear (91%) with 81% reporting receipt of cards within 3 weeks of registering.

86% of groups surveyed said that between 2-5 staff members had used the Leisure Cards with 75% finding them easy to use. The remaining found them evenly split between being OK or having a problem with their use.

People's previous use of Leisure Centres confirmed that the scheme had acted as some kind of stimulant with only 25% suggesting they were existing users of Edinburgh Leisure Services.

The club discount card had less impact with 42% saying they had used it. However, with that 80% said the booking was administrated 'very well' and 86% suggested it had acted as an incentive to book facilities.

When asked if people wanted the individual cards and club discounts to continue 100% said yes to both!!

So what next? Edinburgh Leisure are keen to keep the scheme, indeed to



look at ways to offer even more incentives for the future.

An attempt to reactivate existing cards had not proved possible and although Edinburgh Leisure intend to honour current cards, some people have had difficulties.

Further attempts to re-activate failed again !

Therefore new Leisure Cards and club discount cards will be re-issued to run up to the end of March 2004.

Work in putting together re-registering forms is in hand and these will be circulated to all PACE and LAYC affiliates within the next few weeks. In the event of having any continuing problems with existing cards, can you let either Stuart at PACE or Ian at LAYC know. Every effort will be made to resolve local difficulties where we can. However, we may have to live with some prior to new cards being issued.

Finally, can we thank those groups who have used the cards and who have ensured that Edinburgh Leisure were delighted to continue it into a more long term arrangements.

EDITORIAL

LEARNING FROM THE PAST

The recent death of George Younger brought back some uncomfortable memories of his tenure as Scottish Secretary of State.

At one point then Lothian Region seemed to be on the verge of being ruled by The Scottish Office. Cuts to budgets appeared as a constant theme as youth work in Lothian hung onto for survival.

It was a time of great anxiety, but also one of character building as we sought to defend work with young people with a passion and belief second to none. Adversity had its good side after all!

Nearly 20 years on and it would appear those days are well behind us. Funding for new initiatives is the new guru.... Millions seen destined for local authorities from an array of laudable funding points. Changing Children Services, Quality of Life, NOF, Health Improvement all suggest a flourishing of funding which includes funds to the voluntary sector. We're in the partnership zone so the voluntary sector is well paced to take advantage of some of this action.

But increasingly it's hard to put your finger on where actual funding has directly emerged for the voluntary sector.

It seems odd that our increased activity in partnership working has not always served us well when it comes to funding priorities.

New funding for new projects is fine, but lets not lose sight that its success is often dependent on gaining access to young people in the first place.

Open youth provision is the bedrock of youth work and the up-dating of it through the likes of 'Open all Hours' proves its value yet again.

It's all very well funding new initiatives, but not at the expense of mainstream youth work provision. A greater balance needs to be struck or we're in danger of the youth work baby being thrown out with the funding streams.

A current feature of Scottish Executive is the way in which they're railroading funding onto local authorities often with no consultation, little time to respond and confused results.

If there was a key lesson from the turmoil of the mid 80's, it was that central dictatorship is no way to develop fruitful partnerships. It's a lesson we all need to learn before it's too late.



Edinburgh Leisure



Dunford Awards

Looking for a small grant that would assist your group to buy some equipment, help towards a trip away or get a project kick started, then the Joyce Dunford Bequest may well be for you.

Open to any LAYC affiliated group, you can apply for up to £100 using the form attached to the information leaflet included with this mailing.

The application should be returned by March 21st and you will be advised by the end of March on how you've got on.

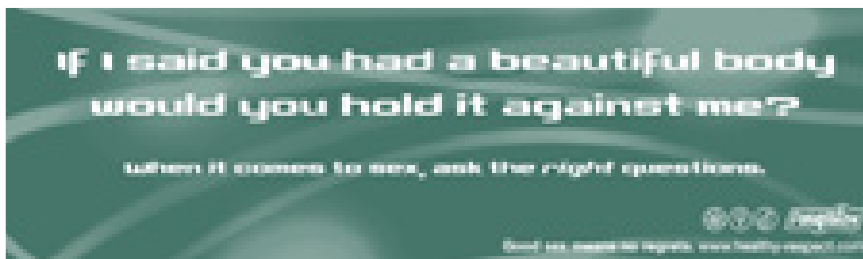
The Bequest is particularly keen to support those groups who are just getting on their feet and those smaller affiliated groups.

If you need any further information contact Ian Boardman at LAYC.



healthy respect

CHEESY CHAT CAMPAIGN SAYS IT'S OK TO TALK



Healthy Respect has launched a new ad campaign aimed at getting young people to talk about sex and relationships.

The campaign, aimed at 13 to 25 year olds, encourages young people to be more open and direct in their relationships instead of hiding behind cheesy chat up lines.

"Many young people are too embarrassed to talk about sex," commented Dona Milne, Project Manager. "The adverts promote the idea that they needn't be, because it's the sensible thing to do to make sure that they don't get into situations they are not ready for. We want to say to young people that it is OK for them to ask questions about sex and talk about relationships."

Over the last two years Healthy Respect has been working on developing new sexual health services for young people. The campaign supports this work and the project's programme of education sessions, which is currently running in schools and youth centres throughout Lothian.

The campaign features on buses, bus shelters, posters and radio with an on-air Forth One promotion boosting the campaign during a week long cheesy chat-up competition on Healthy Respect's website. Young people were invited to log on to the site and send in their cheesiest chat-up lines. Hundreds of young people logged on to enter the competition and take part in the web poll to vote for the top ten cheesiest lines.

The winning chat-up line was

"Are you wearing Space underwear? Because your bottom is out of this world"

The lucky winners received a DVD recorder and record tokens.

Young People Invited to Have Their Say

Healthy Respect is inviting young people to take part in a survey on young people's sexual health services.

The results of the survey will be used to improve sexual health clinics and drop-ins that provide a special service for young people.

Young people can access the online questionnaire by clicking on

www.healthy-respect.com

Healthy Respect Open Day

In response to numerous requests for information about Healthy Respect's work, the project is hosting an open day on Monday 17th March 2003.

It is hoped that the timing of the event (12.30-7.00pm) will enable teachers and youth & community staff to attend.

The day will consist of workshops and clinics on specific aspects of Healthy Respect's work around young people's sexual health.

For a booking form please contact Healthy Respect on 0131 536 9454 or email the project on healthy.respect@lhb.scot.nhs.uk

PLAYWORK OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORK, PLAY AND LEARNING

EVER THOUGHT ABOUT WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, TAKING PART IN TRAINING WHILE FOSTERING CHILDRENS DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PLAY?

Already working with children and young people and are looking to enhance your skills ?

Working as a playworker can be; enjoyable, rewarding, tiring, challenging, fulfilling, indeed many things. People who work as playworkers tend to be extremely positive about their job. There is a high level of job satisfaction within Playworkers. People tend to go into it because they enjoy working with that age group. Sounds obvious, but how many people are doing things in their work that they really enjoy?

One Playworker when asked 'What made you think about becoming a Playworker?' said 'I liked the idea of working with kids outwith the school and I liked the fact that it was a Career with opportunities to progress'

When asked 'What is best about the job?' He answered 'the children, they look up to you and that is brilliant. It's great to be able to build a relationship with them and there parents and watch them grow in confidence and self esteem'. Playworkers can have a huge effect on how much children get out of play opportunities.

Some would say that with the advent of Computers, Games Consoles, DVDs, Videos, Satellite TV and negative perceptions of safety in the Community that Play is not as prevalent as it was a couple of decades ago. More and more of children's leisure time appears to be taking place within the home where opportunities for Play and interaction with



other children may be limited. Does this mean that children are not exercising their creativity as much, are not getting as many chances to develop their interpersonal skills and are not as active as they maybe should be? Will this influence their development? Who knows? Whether it be Out of School Care, Playschemes, Special Needs Playschemes, Activity Clubs or Youth Clubs the benefits for the children and young people engaging in play can be immense which can only be positive for their parents/guardians. Within these settings there exists a strong emphasis on Play.

There are now more and more opportunities for people to work within this field and over the years the opportunities for career progression have increased. Examples of jobs include, Playworker, Activity Leader, Playscheme Leader, Co ordinator, Development Worker, Trainer/Assessor and Youth Worker.

Indeed many people also view it as a beneficial experience for them prior to them going onto further Education or moving into other jobs.

Greater opportunities also exist for people to take up training. The Edinburgh Childcare Partnership have a bursary scheme whereby people can get a large percentage of the costs for training paid for. This exists for people who are working with 0 to 15 yr. olds. The training has to lead towards a qualification, in terms of Playwork this could be SVQ's in Playwork levels 2/3, Scottish Progression Awards in Play and Care or Training and work based assessor awards. There is also a wide variety of shorter courses which do not have a qualification attached to the available, many which are free of charge.

Recently a Playwork Recruitment Fair at the Balmoral Hotel saw 250 people attending. The event proved extremely fruitful for organisations wishing to recruit and for people who came along wanting to apply for jobs or find out more information. The interest shown by those who came along was excellent and communication between organisations and members of the public extremely encouraging.

The Edinburgh Childcare Partnership in conjunction with the City of Edinburgh Council are aiming to have another event which is provisionally targeted for the 2nd of May 2003. Look out for information on the forthcoming Recruitment Fair in the local newspapers!

It's a good time to be a Playworker!

If you would like any more information on the contents of this article please don't hesitate to contact Stuart Macfarlane, Development Officer for Playwork, the City of Edinburgh Council.

Tel: 0131 529 7912 or e mail stuart.macfarlane@edinburgh.gov.uk

Gie's A Job - Childcare Packs 'em in!

It was a cold and windy night in the middle of January, but the weather certainly did not deter people from coming along to the Playwork Recruitment Fair! 250 people came to the Balmoral Hotel to find out about playwork and playwork vacancies throughout the city of Edinburgh. Over 50 vacancies involving working with 5 to 15 year olds were advertised. A number of organisations were present including special needs playschemes, out of school care projects, umbrella organisations, jobcentreplus and The City of Edinburgh Council Play Action Team. A big thanks to all organisations that came along and helped to

make the event a success. The level of interest was far greater than expected, which gave the organisations representatives little time to draw breath. Considering Edinburgh's low unemployment rate the turn out was encouraging. Organisations normally advertise jobs in a variety of ways, including through jobcentreplus, local newspapers, schools, community centres and libraries. Many organisations report that they have difficulties in recruiting staff. There is an need to explore different options for recruiting staff, which the Edinburgh Childcare Partnership will be taking forward.

An evaluation of the event is underway. Amongst other aspects, the evaluation will allow us to establish how many people moved into employment as a result of the fair and if this form of recruitment is a viable and worthwhile option. It will also allow us to consider and plan any future events. We are aiming to have another one on the 2nd May 2003. Look out for more information during April. Stuart Macfarlane, Development Officer for Playwork, The City of Edinburgh Council. Tel: 0131 529 7912 e-mail: stuart.macfarlane@edinburgh.gov.uk

IT'S BEHIND YOU . . .

There's more to theatre for children and young people than Panto you know !

The Bank of Scotland sponsored Children's International Theatre programme this year shows just what it can be - from puppets for 3 + 4 year olds to Hamlet for teenagers (complete with 2 double bass players).

'Imagine', the organisation promoting and developing performing arts for children in Scotland have this year scheduled a show especially for after school clubs.

Daredevil Opera Company (Canada) with their show Cirkus Inferno

Friday 30 May 2.30pm (60 mins / no words/ Royal Lyceum Theatre)

What happens when Lucky and Lady show up at Cirkus Inferno? Mayhem! This loveable pair of troublemakers cancel the show and put on a whole new one of their own. They find their way into the circus props, creating a fantastic mess in the process. This hilarious slapstick adventure features original cartoon sound design, pyrotechnic effects and unbelievable sight gags. Meet Lucky and Lady, the world's most dangerous clowns.



With an audio-visual style that speaks to people of any language the innovative artists at Daredevil Opera Company leave audiences of all kinds laughing around the world.

'Trailblazers . . . outrageously good fun' Scotsman

- Bus travel subsidy giving up to 80% of your bus costs back
- One free helper or teacher for every 10 children booked (1:4 for special needs)
- Tickets still £3.50 each
- Accessible venues with wheelchair spaces in theatres
- Audio described performances, touch tours and signed performances
- Extra help for special needs visitors
- A helper to guide your group

Telephone School Co-ordinator Kirsty Brown on 0131 225 8050 for further help or advice or contact Imagine, 45a George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2 HT Tel: 0131 225 6440 e-mail: info@imagine.org.uk website: www.imagine.org.uk

OPINION PIECE

Play or Care? You Choose . . .

Incredibly someone deep in the basements of the National Lottery Office has heard my ranting and raving about the demise of pure play projects. Yes if you think back to a long time ago they were the ones where the kid didn't need a reason like a working parent to go along and enjoy themselves!

OK before you start some ranting and raving of your own, I will defend childcare projects as in general being some of the best provision around and yes the quality and cash to go with it was a long time in coming!!

However, you are all aware of Johnny who stands at the door waiting on his pal, but can't come in because the grant you received to run the project says so But according to the recent round of consultations the good people of the National Lottery are about to put that right. Or will they?

There is no doubt that there will be more much needed funding around, but will we end up with the integrated system that allows Johnny to play with his pal or will we end up with a system that continues to keep them apart? Or worse still one where projects need to compete for his attendance. If you accept that the government had to start somewhere and childcare was key to the economic regeneration of the country (therefore it had to be wrapped around the needs of the parent).

However, as childcare has quite rightly become more professionalised and more funding has come on stream to develop 'childcare' the play sector has been fast disappearing; struggling to find funding to keep up with the legislative changes; losing volunteers (who were quite rightly moving over to paid posts) given the growth of the childcare sector and many play projects reinventing themselves to only take kids of working parents are only some of the reasons why Johnny is still standing outside.

Rubbish I hear you say, WELL here is just one fact. In 1990 the Edinburgh area had approximately 60 purely voluntary summer playschemes - last year that had reduced to 4. Despite the grants being readily available. Still rubbish? Now we know that over that period many of these have changed to care holiday provision But Johnny is still outside!!!

So lets get to the point. In a nutshell, you have to applaud the innovation and development of childcare in this city, but now we have to be even bolder. We will soon have the funding on stream that will allow the city to build on its successes and create a structure that allows any child to attend the same project regardless of their label. Lets not reinvent the wheel and start creating new structures when the ones that are there are perfectly adequate given the correct funding to develop and be innovative. In some quarters it could even be called 'added value' with a pricing structure in place that supports those in the greatest need. Why not here!!! Remember Johnny? He simply sees it as play - its us adults who complicate the rules. If we are bold enough he could just be walking with his pal through the doors of a project near you.

THE LONE RANGER?

It's all change in Holyrood Park! The Ranger Service moved into the brand new Education Centre at the end of last year. It is the interesting-looking building at the back of the parade ground. Also a new Community Ranger joined at the start of this year- me! My main responsibility is to get 'the community' involved in the park, so I think it is time Edinburgh's children and youth clubs got to know what we get up to over here.

Our new centre has two large rooms with stunning views out across Arthur's Seat, and a small laboratory equipped with microscopes, a video-microscope, basic apparatus and survey equipment, not to mention the whole of Holyrood Park! These facilities mean we can offer groups and clubs indoor space as a base for exploring the park using self-led trails, as well as for Ranger-led activities. We have a programme of events (see below), but can run a wide range of fun activities: practical conservation, nature, geology, archaeology, art, or guided walks, for groups of any age and ability.

April 20 and 21

GREAT EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Join in our Easter activities and trail, bring the family too

April 30

STORY OF BELTANE

A family event to celebrate the Beltane

Sept. 14

ARCHAEOLOGY DAY

Bring the family to learn what life was like 2000 years ago

Oct 31

HOLYROODS HALLOWEEN

Join the rangers to discover more about this ancient festival.

Contact the Ranger Service for more information on 0131-652 8150, or hs.rangers@scotland.gov.uk

Playsquad Seeking New Staff

PACE's playsquad have a vacancy for an enthusiastic, highly skilled playworker. The playsquad are charged with visiting children's groups after school and throughout the school holidays to pass on a range of fun packed, exciting activities. The successful playsquad will be joining a key service that PACE offers member groups, which has gained an excellent reputation with workers and volunteers.

Do you have the play skills to maintain and develop our play squad?

If the answer is YES, please contact our office for more information or to request an application pack.

Hours of Work: 22-30 hours per week

Salary: £8.98 - £10.20 per hour

Closing Date for Applications: 7th March 2003

Note: This post is currently funded until 30th Sept 2003.

PACE, Unit 7 Castlebrae Business Centre, Pepper Place, Edinburgh, EH16 4BB

Tel: 0131 468 5505 Fax: 0131 468 2645

e-mail: pace@eh112bu.freereserve.co.uk



Gracemount Leisure Centre

Open All Hours

Now in its 3rd Year Open All Hours is on at Gracemount Leisure Centre on a Friday evening from 6.45 - 9.30pm. Open All Hours offers activities for S1 - S6 including Swimming, Rookie lifeguard, football, play station 2's and the Internet access. The Open All Hours session can cater for 100 young people per evening which is on a first come, first serve basis. Activities are coached by qualified coaches and supervision is on hand from community education workers. Entry to the evening is 50p and project runs until Easter 2003. (For more details call 0131 658 1940)

Hand Ball

Handball is a popular team sport played indoors with a soft ball. Sessions are available for S1 - S6 on a Wednesday afternoon 4 - 5pm for S1 - S3 and 5 - 6pm for S4 - S6. Sessions are coached and are 50p for each session.

Body Combat

An exciting new exercise class for 12 - 17 years old. Wednesday 4 - 5pm for only 50p. Come and try this energetic combination of kick boxing, kung fu and karate blended with cardio vascular work out. Most of all its fun.

NRG Zone

Teen pulse sessions for 13 - 16 year olds held in the pulse centre, Friday 4pm and Sunday 12 noon at a cost of £1.85 and £1.50 per session. Each session is supervised by one instructor who offer advice on using the equipment safely.

Warrender Swim Centre

Open All Hours presents "The Aqua Lounge"

Warrender Swim Centre offers activities on a Friday evening 6 - 9pm for young people S1 - S4 at a cost of 50p. Activities include Arts and Crafts, swimming, pulse centre (for 13 - 16 year olds). This group is in partnership with the 3M's project and activities are supervised by Community Education workers. This project will run until Easter 2003. Limited to 40 people per session. (For more information contact the centre on 0131 447 0052)

Edinburgh Leisure

Craiglockhart

Teen Pulse Sessions

Held in the pulse centre on Wednesday and Friday 3 - 5pm at a cost of £2.50 per session. Aimed at 13 - 16 year olds offering instructions on using the equipment safely in a supervised session: (For more details call the centre on 0131 443 0101)

Jack Kane Sports Centre

The Jack Kane Sports Centre working with Café K (EYSIP funded youth club), have established an NRG Zone session for young people on a Friday evening between 6.30pm and 8.30pm. The NRG Zone session provides under 16's with the opportunity to take part in circuit training and access the Pulse Centre with a qualified coach, all free of charge. The NRG Zone started on Friday 13 December and numbers are reaching a consistent 12 per session. Young people have been very positive about the sessions.

Port Edgar

Watersports for All

Port Edgar is probably the largest and most active sailing school and watersports centre in Scotland. In its spectacular location beside the famous Forth Bridges, the Sailing School and Marina are managed by Edinburgh Leisure on behalf of the owners, City of Edinburgh Council.

The Sailing School has a fleet of nearly 50 dinghies and 40 kayaks or canoes as well as 7 rescue craft. It is open daily for on-the-water activities from Easter to late October, including evenings Monday to Friday as long as it is light.

Port Edgar provides courses in sailing or kayaking for all abilities and ages from 8 years upwards. Applications are welcome from any group wanting to try out these activities, whether it is a taster session or a full course. Introductory taster sessions last about 2 hours and can be arranged most weekday evenings to fit in with normal club activities. Maximum group size is usually either 12 or 15 people, depending on activities requested.

Enquiries should be made to the Principal, Port Edgar Sailing School, South Queensferry EH30 9SQ, telephone: (0131) 331 3330.

Fancy Playing Golf?

Did you know that Edinburgh Leisure provides golfing opportunities for people who have never played the game before, or those who have had a go, and want to take it further?

In the summer and winter we run golf coaching camps for: Beginners and Improvers designed for young people, Parents and children, Adult Beginners and Improvers, Women's Beginners and Improvers.

If you play the game and are interested in achieving a national golf Handicap, then why not think about joining a Club? The City of Edinburgh Golf Club runs competitions across all of our courses and for all abilities.

And to make it easier for people to start off with the game, we are redesigning the old Braids 2 course into the "Prince's Course, Braid Hills", an exciting 9 hole course deliberately planned with young people and beginners in mind.

You don't even need your own clubs. We have a selection of courtesy clubs at the course to get you going.

Come and give it a try.

Call Alasdair or Colin on (t) 0131 650 1001 or (e) golf@edinburghleisure.co.uk if you want more information.

Out of School Into Sport

Edinburgh Leisure received funding from the Scottish Executive to establish a range of multi-sport after school clubs across the city. The project started in January 2003 and is proving to be very popular with 11-18 year olds. Young people can come along to try out different activities or choose to take part in coached sessions with highly qualified staff all free of charge. We are trying to encourage young people to start something new as well as encouraging young people to enjoy being more active. Why not take part in one of the following:

Volleyball	Mon. Jack Kane Centre 4-5pm
Judo	Mon. Meadowbank 4-6pm
Multi Sports	Wed. Ainslie Park Leisure Centre 4-6pm <i>(try out the pulse centre, swimming, football, basketball, badminton, hockey & more)</i>
Handball	Wed. Gracemount Leisure Centre 4-6pm
Bodycombat	Wed. Gracemount Leisure Centre 4-5pm
Basketball	Wed. Meadowbank 4-6pm
Basketball	Thur. Meadowbank 4-6pm <i>(Young people with disabilities)</i>
Funky Hip Hop	Frid. Ainslie Park Leisure Centre 2.45-3.45pm
Girls Football & Hockey	Frid. Jack Kane Centre 1.30-3.30pm
Athletics	Frid. Meadowbank 1.30-3.30pm
Netball	Frid. Drumbrae Leisure Ctr. 1.30-3.30pm

If you would like more information or want to refer a young person please call Helen Macfarlane on (0131) 652 2178 or call the centre directly.

Why? Why? Why? Why?

A Call for Support from the Youth Work Community

There is a group in society that experiences daily discrimination. They are routinely followed around shopping centres, barred from public places, suffer from restricted access to shops, and are regularly suspected of trying to avoid paying the correct fare on buses. In addition, the mistakes of a minority of the group gain screaming headline attention, while the positive contribution of the minority is ignored.

Who are they? Young people. Like apartheid, the shocking and strange mechanisms of prejudice and discrimination are being so absorbed into our culture towards young people that it no longer stands out as unfair, in the daily lives of our communities.

It is difficult for youth workers to work effectively with and on behalf of young people when so many adults only see our work as 'keeping young people off the streets', preventing crime or containing a menace to society. The majority of young people in the city don't cause trouble, and we should argue that they have just as much right to be on the streets - or anywhere else - as others. Many of us believe our work is undervalued (and therefore under-resourced), but this is only in part connected to our difficulties in describing the benefits of youth work - and yes, we do often succumb to describing our own work in the negative terms described above. If young people themselves were valued as citizens, then the services to them would perhaps be given higher priority, and for more positive reasons.

Citizen Y



A new campaign is being launched in March to highlight and challenge the negative attitudes towards young people in Edinburgh. Called Citizen Y, it will use public relations and marketing techniques to ask the general public 'Y are young people stereotyped and treated so poorly? We are asking people to 'question their perception' and to show their general support for young people by wearing the campaign logo and starting to make eye contact with young people, show respect, and treat with fairness.

The campaign is being taken forward initially by Edinburgh Youth SIP, with the hope that partners will come on board and sustain the campaign for as long as it takes to develop a more positive attitude and culture amongst the general public towards young people. In turn, the renewed public support will hopefully lead to a better deal for all young people in both private and public services.

Gary McCormack (Gangs of New York; Sweet 16; Acid House; and a Leather too) has agreed to help launch the campaign, so hopefully Citizen Y can grow from an obscure logo to a symbol as significant as the red ribbon, that everyone will grow to recognize that the wearer respects young people as Edinburgh citizens.

Your Help

The campaign is primarily targeted at adults, but must of course reflect young people's views and experiences, and have credibility with them. If you know of young people who would like to take part in radio, TV, newspaper interviews, or other campaign stunts, we are happy to involve them in this campaign. We will give them training and opportunities to get their personal learning or progress accredited, recognized and rewarded.

But your role as an adult supporter to the campaign is crucial. We would like you to persuade your colleagues, parents, friends and postman to wear Citizen Y with pride, and understand what it means.

Early in March we plan a huge distribution of badges. Please help us out by taking your share and being prepared to make them available, in your community facility, place of work and anywhere else. Posters, postcards and other campaign tools will follow - take your part by getting on our list of distributors. Contact Tommy on 0131 555 5111 or t.george@youthinclusion.org and leave your name and address (where stuff can be posted to). More details on the campaign will be posted on www.citizeny.org soon.

Supporting Youth Workers

A New Library Resource Near You

Edinburgh Youth Work Partnership has given every local library a special collection of publications especially designed to support youth workers in their day to day work, and help them keep abreast of what is happening in youth work in the city and further afield.



The collection includes:

Publications and Resource Packs

- It's My Right! Resource Pack - Young Women's Charter
- Action Research Toolkits
- The Reading Kit 2
- So You Want to Work with Young People
- Conflict Resolution Skills for Teens
- New Youth Games Book
- Making a Difference
- Delivering Good Youth Work
- The New Youth Arts and Crafts Book
- Anti Racist Work with Young People
- Dramattack!

Local News and Information

- Youthscape (report on the city-wide Viewfinder survey)
- The Bottom Line
- Networks (in case you are looking at this over someone's shoulder)
- Annual Reports, information on local projects and much more . . .

Remember, libraries are open in the evenings and weekends. They are free to join and easy to use - no more searching unkempt shelves in the back of the community centre office for something that was last seen several months ago!

. . . Happy Browsing

Past, Present and Future

LAYC have once more benefited from Youth Scotland's Training & Development Project and secured a number of one off training sessions. In January a dozen practitioners from a variety of after school settings took part in a 'Managing Challenging Behaviour' training day facilitated by Elizabeth Quinn, a child behaviour specialist with 25 years experience in working with children with special, emotional and behavioural difficulties in the West of Scotland.

This course suffered a bit with last minute call offs and non attendance which was a pity as there were another half dozen people who were wanting to attend. After checking participants comments on the day, LAYC have asked Liz to come through later in the year to repeat the session.

March 8th is all go with Spark In the Dark leading us all into somewhat energetic pursuits with Games to Drop into Your Programme. There are still a very few places for people who have never played with Jim Balloch before. As the leaflet puts it: 'A workshop full of games with no equipment! Bring an empty mind and Jim will fill it'.

May sees the focus shifting to more serious matters with a 'Safe & Sound - policies and procedures for a safer youth and children's work environment' - facilitator Susan Smith. (Applications are limited to 2 persons per club for this training day).

LAYC are keen to encourage other groups and agencies to make their training events open to others if space permits.

Give us advance notice and we will include details in Networks. Summer 2003 issue - copy date Friday 2nd May; circulated Friday 30th May.

The Soul Owner

A sixteen year old writer and director, Tariq Ashkanani from Prestonfield in Edinburgh and 6 other young people from Edinburgh, Haddington and Kirkliston have been finding out what it's like to make a short film.

In December Tariq's work with films from other groups of young people were shown at the Edinburgh Filmhouse. The young film-makers worked on their scripts, with the support of Young People Speak Out, selected a cast and crew for the project, learned how to use the equipment, trained as directors and made a shot by shot plan of the film.

This fantastic experience was made possible by YPSO with funding from the Post Office, City of Edinburgh Council Arts Education Unit, EVOT, GO4IT, Westerhailes Education Centre and supported by the Lottery through the Film Council's First Light Initiative.

Apart from Tariq's film 'The soul Owner', YPSO have supported a further 2 films all directed by young people in Edinburgh - 'Cry Wolf' writer/director: David Bain of Westerhailes and 'Good Girls Turn Bad' writer/director Leanne Steen of Granton.

YPSO, a community organisation which works with groups of disadvantaged youngster - between the ages of seven to eighteen - all across Edinburgh and the Lothians, and use video in a group-work setting to help young people express themselves. Film-making and video is a collaborative process and is the perfect medium for teaching a variety of practical and social skills.

For more information on the work done by YPSO with schools and community groups, or on the Film Council's First Light Initiative, please contact YPSO on 0131 220 4244.

Prize Winning Film

Gavin Blackie, 18 of Muirhouse, Edinburgh has just won 'Best International Short Film' in the 17-20 year old category at the '5th Olypian Film Festival for Children and Young People' in Athens for his film the 'Babysitters Worst Nightmare'.

He put his short film in his knapsack, embarked on an odyssey to Greece and returned victorious with the award.

The film was produced by Edinburgh Mediabase with support from Young People Speak Out (YPSO) and was supported by the Lottery through the Film Council's First Light Initiative and the City of Edinburgh Council's Education Arts Unit.

Edinburgh Mediabase is a resource facility for anyone interested in film digital video or new media. It provides affordable access to training and equipment hire as well as advice and support for emerging filmmakers. YPSO use video in a group-work setting to help disadvantaged young people express themselves. The two organisations share premises in Edinburgh's city centre.

Having made his first film with YPSO, when Mediabase were looking for scripts, YPSO put him forward as someone with the talent and ambition to make a professional production. At the tender age of 17, Gavin Blackie had his script, 'The Babysitter's Worst Nightmare', plucked from a list of hopefuls. The story is about a child who gets her revenge when her babysitter turns out to be less than ideal.

Mediabase helped Gavin develop his idea and trained him and his contemporaries to direct, act and crew the production with support from a YPSO youth video worker.



YOUTH BUS COMPETITION



Why not enter this fantastic competition being run by the City of Edinburgh Council to design the livery of a youth bus - open to all 11 to 18 year olds who either live or go to school in Edinburgh. The closing date for the competition is Monday 10th March 2003.

The City of Edinburgh Council's Edinburgh Young Scot initiative has teamed up with Lothian Buses and Scotland Against Drugs to bring you Edinburgh's first youth bus! The Youth Bus has received almost £15,000 from the Scottish Drugs Challenge Fund, administered by Scotland Against Drugs on behalf of the Scottish Executive. This competition is currently being launched across the city for all young people to have their say in the look and name of the state of the art, converted, single-decker bus, kindly donated by Lothian Buses.

There are two parts to this exciting competition:

DESIGN THE OUTSIDE OF THE BUS (or the livery as it is known in the trade!)

We are looking for imaginative and creative ideas for the exterior of the vehicle. Ideas can be submitted in any format. They could be:

- A drawing / painting/ sketch of a single-deck bus.
- A collage using ideas from magazines, newspapers etc
- Words and text descriptions of the idea

The design must include (or leave space for) the logos, which are featured on this page.

NAME THE BUS!

We are looking for a name for the bus which will be memorable and recognisable. To get you thinking, some suggestions are 'Satellite' and 'SmartBus'. Entrants should also tell us why they have chosen their name for the bus.

Competition entries should reflect Edinburgh, young people and the Edinburgh Young Scot package. For more information see www.edinburghyoungscot.org Entries can be posted or e-mailed to Edinburgh Young Scot, contact details are below.

What will the bus be used for?

From August this year, the Edinburgh Young Scot team will use the bus as a resource for 11-18 year olds, travelling around Edinburgh visiting secondary schools and youth clubs as well as local festivals such as the Mela and Fringe Sunday. It will be kitted out with laptops, TV screen, comfy seating, DJ decks and an awning for sunny days! Young people will be able to come on board to:

- register for an Edinburgh Young Scot pack
- access youth information websites
- pick up information on youth issues
- meet youth workers
- watch videos and have discussions
- make and record their own music
- take part in various workshops
- join the Edinburgh Young Scot E-Team, the group of young people who write the content for our website.

What's in it for the winner?

- Free bus travel for a school year with a Lothian Buses GoSmart Kids Ridacard.
- Meet the professional designers who will transform the winning idea into a working design.
- Have the design professionally painted onto a single-decker bus for the whole city to see.
- The runner-up will receive music vouchers.

Entries will be judged by the Edinburgh Young Scot Youth Bus Steering Group set up to make decisions on the conversion and launch of the vehicle. It is a representative group which includes young people, City of Edinburgh Council Officers, Lothian and Borders Police, Lothian Buses and students from Edinburgh College of Art. Please remember to put names and contact details on each entry. Entries can also be returned through the City of Edinburgh Council's internal mail system. Please return all entries to: Edinburgh Young Scot, Room 5, New Parliament House, 5-7 Regent Road, Edinburgh EH7 5BL. For more information please contact Eilidh Scott on 0131 550 6810 or e-mail eilidh@edinburghyoungscot.org





1.5 Million Children

The nations annual Holocaust Memorial Day was held in Edinburgh hosted by the City Council. Held on 27th January, it commemorates the liberation of Auschwitz in 1945.

The culmination of events was an incredibly moving evening held at the Usher Hall where the theme focussed on the 1.5 million children murdered under the Nazi regime between 1933 and 45.

Young people from across the city read a series of contemporaneous writings made by children and young people which gave moving insights into their plight and those of their families.

Although the focus of the evening was the Nazi holocaust, references were made to genocide in Cambodia, Rwanda and in former Yugoslavia.

But current prejudices were not forgotten. Young people from the travelling, LGBT and minority ethnic communities provided personal testimony of how they faced persecution today.

Those involved in the memorial commemorative event need to be congratulated for hosting such a moving evening, one that reminded us of the unrelenting horror, countless sacrifices, but the endurance of the human spirit as exemplified by the testimony of children and young people.

Some of the most telling voices were from those Edinburgh youngsters who visited Auschwitz -Birkenan concentration camp last year. Their perceptive insights brought home the need to ensure the world community never forgets those and puts in

place measures to prevent any repetition. At this time in world affairs it's a message that has particular meaning.

As part of the day, city libraries also produced an excellent guide to a range of resources from literature to music and internet sites available through the Edinburgh room in the Central and other city libraries.

The Holocaust Memorial Day commemorative event was pulled together by the City Council, Home Office and Scottish Executive. The planning group was chaired by Roy Jobson, Director of Education and project managed by Martin Hutchison, Community Education. It was an event that Edinburgh was honoured to host and did the city proud in doing so.

A Moderate Start in Scotland



As you read this there are over 50 youth groups in Scotland using the Youth Achievement Awards to give young people the opportunity to support, assess and award each other with certificates accredited by a qualifications authority. These groups are supported by 9 YAA operating agencies who have registered and received training to provide local support.

The first ever home grown Moderators meeting in Scotland was held in November 2002. (This is the meeting at which those that are delivering and supporting YAA get together with ASDAN, the Awarding Body, and approve portfolios for accreditation). 23 portfolios, including Scotland's first Gold portfolio were submitted and approved.

Over 100 activities were included in these portfolios and included horse riding lessons, taking part in arts and crafts and doing up a bus as a mobile youth drop in centre.

Some of the challenges completed by young people for this first moderation meeting included:

- At Bronze level one young person took part in a pool competition which ran over a 6-week period. The young person also helped organise a buffet for the Finals evening of the event.
- Another Bronze participant was involved in writing and designing a newsletter on a computer. The young person was also then involved in distributing the finished newsletter.

- Designing and painting a mural on the outside wall of their project formed one Challenge for a young person towards the completion of their Bronze Award.

- At Silver Level, the organisation of a disco for other members of their project aided one young person in completing their Award.

The Challenges are examples of the groups' normal activities but the addition of Youth Achievement Awards not only offers a nationally recognised certificate but also a structure for peer support and assessment, self reflection and identification of responsibility taken.

These are good examples of how easy it can be to integrate the Awards into the existing activities of any group.

In December, Youth Scotland appointed a consultant, Duncan Kirkpartrick, an ex HMI, as a further step towards an exciting strategy to build the capacity of Youth Achievement Awards. The consultancy will identify needs of both the voluntary and statutory sectors that can be met through the Awards, identify key and unique aspects and draw comparisons with other awards and qualifications. The report should be completed by March 2003.

So are you up for the Youth Achievement Awards? It's not just for great big youth projects - Kinlochard Youth Club in Stirling which were featured in a recent HMI Review are a fairly ordinary example of a fairly ordinary youth group who have decided to

operate the Youth Achievement Award. This report was supportive of the benefits the YAA can bring to supporting and assessing young people's learning in youth work settings.

LAYC is in the process of approaching all 4 local authorities to support the Association in making the Youth Achievement Award and Dynamic Youth programme available to all member groups.

Achieving Funding

LAYC are grateful to EYSIP for small grant funding towards supporting a limited number of eligible youth groups in Edinburgh to introduce the Youth Achievement Awards as part of their practice. EYSIP themselves have decided to operate the Awards Programme throughout the various groups they themselves are working with.

Already interest has been expressed by a number of larger agencies working with young people throughout the city, but LAYC are keen to ensure that all kinds of youth groups including local clubs are able to get involved in delivering the Awards. For more information contact Graham at LAYC.