

## NEWS RELEASE:

08 July 2009



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### **Birmingham's Young People recognised for their leadership!**

**This week Envision awarded 150 young people from Birmingham with the 'Young Envisionaries Award' for demonstrating commitment, teamwork and making a positive difference to their community through leading by example.**

Envision hosted an Awards Ceremony for all those students who took part in the programme for sixth forms and colleges across Birmingham. This year over 530 young people from Birmingham took part in the programme. The event was hosted by Envision students Tom, from Bishop Vesey's Grammar School and Asia from George Dixon International College.

The evening, which was held at the Custard Factory in Birmingham, was full of activities including recycling and jewellery workshops, live music, food and the awards ceremony. There were special awards up for grabs for those students who had excelled during the year and taken advantage of every aspect of the Envision programme. This year, Joseph Chamberlain College's anti-racism group won team of the year for their fantastic workshops in primary schools and huge attendance at all Envision events. Liam from Archbishop Ilsey and Pippa from St Francis of Assisi won Male and Female students of the year respectively. Envision also recognised the work carried out by its adult volunteers from the local community who give up a few hours each week to support the young people on their projects during weekly meetings. Catarina won the Adult Volunteer of the Year Award for her work with Shenley Court School.

Other winners on the evening included Project of the Year, which went to King Edwards VI Aston Grammar School, Community Impact Award which went to Bishop Vesey's Grammar school and Contact Teacher of the Year which was awarded to Karen Paul from George Dixon International College.

Envision teamed up with global campaign, 'Not Stupid' to theme the event around climate change. Each student was provided with an activist pack and the trailer of the groundbreaking indie film, 'The Age of Stupid' was shown before the ceremony. Envision's Programme Manager for Birmingham Andrew Ridge said, "It was fantastic to see so many of Birmingham's young people recognised for their achievements over the past year and challenge the stereotype that they are disengaged and apathetic towards the important issues going on around them. They are clearly passionate about what goes on in their schools and local communities and take their responsibilities as citizens seriously."

**-Ends-**

**Cont'd**

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[www.envision.org.uk](http://www.envision.org.uk)

Envision (full name Environmental Vision) is registered as a Charity and a Limited Company in England and Wales  
Charity Reg No. 1095328 Company Reg No. 442212

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**Notes to Editor:**

- The Birmingham programme has over 600 young people who have signed up from across the City to take part in this academic year.
- Envision recently reached the finals of the National Lottery Awards, and are currently in the finals of the Guardian Charity Awards 2008. Nick Nielsen the Director & Founder has recently won the coveted Shackleton Leadership for his innovative leadership techniques.
- Envision has received a GoldStar Award – a cabinet office initiative – for its ability to engage underrepresented young people and adults in volunteering with a difference.
- Last year 93% of Envision students indicated an improvement in their confidence and 95% in communication skills. 97% of participating young people said that taking part in Envision had improved their understanding of social issues and 93% indicated an improved understanding of environmental issues.
- Envision is working in the following Birmingham Schools:
  - Archbishop Ilsley Catholic Technology College
  - Arthur Terry School
  - Baverstock Foundation School
  - Bishop Challoner Catholic School
  - Bishop Vesey's Grammar School
  - Bournville Further Education College
  - Bournville School
  - Cockshut Hill Technology College
  - Geroge Dixon International School
  - Handsworth Grammar School
  - Hillcrest School for Girls
  - John Wilmott School
  - Joseph Chamberlain College
  - King Edwards VI Aston Boys
  - King Edwards VI Camp Hill Boys
  - King Edwards VI Camp Hill Girls
  - King Edwards VI Handsworth Girls
  - Matthew Boulton College
  - Ninestiles School
  - Shenley Court Specialists Arts College
  - Small Heath School
  - St. Francis Assisi Catholic School
  - St. Paul's School for Girls
  - Washwood Heath Technology College

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