

The Go Green Challenge 2009



During the 2008-2009 program year, DYCD-ISY promoted the ISY Green Contest, where In-School Youth participants came together in Green Teams and took the challenge to green their communities by developing and implementing Green Projects that help to protect and preserve the environment. A Green Project was defined as any project that has a positive impact on the environment. Teams could implement one of the following four project categories:

1. Beautification/ Renovation: youth choose an area in the community to fix up, renovate, recreate and beautify. For example, this could mean cultivating a community garden, replacing graffiti with art, planting trees, etc.
2. Recycling: create a recycling program for the ISY program and/ or community
3. Green Map: create a Green Map of the community using the Green Map Making system (<http://greenapplemap.org/page/youth>)
4. Green Education: educate a selected group of people around the environment and how they can take part in making NYC greener. Every little bit counts; this is the chance for youth to build a community of people taking action.

The Go Green Challenge, held on June 4, 2009, was a culmination of the **ISY Green Contest, featured 21 teams of ISY participants who presented their green projects before a panel of judges.** Guest judges from Sustainable South Bronx, Green Worker Cooperatives, and The Council on the Environment, all key players in the emerging green economy, reviewed each presentation and chose three winning teams. The first place prize went to the Citizen's Advice Bureau's Global Green League Team for their interactive, life-size environmental game board, murals, and the creation of their own environmental superhero, Global Man. Second and third place prizes went to the Door's Recyclable Pop Green Team and Jacob Riis's Riis Green Team, respectively. The program included youth performances and guest speaker, Thomas Abdallah, Chief Environmental Engineer for NYC Transit Authority.