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DYCD CALENDAR AND EVENTS

The local Neighborhood Advisory Boards (NABs) continues to hold a series of Town Hall meetings. These forums signal a new approach for involving the local NABs in advising DYCD in the allocation of CSBG funding. The 43 local Neighborhood Advisory Boards (NABs) help DYCD stay informed about community needs and service gaps, and help determine which programs will be funded. For more information, please contact DYCD at 212-442-5880, or visit us online at: <http://www.nyc.gov/dycd>.

January 18- NAB Brooklyn 16, 6:00 – 8:00 P.M., J.H.S. 275, 985 Rockaway Avenue, Brooklyn

January 30- NAB Brooklyn 13, 7:00 – 9:00 P.M., I.S. 303, 501 West Avenue, Brooklyn

February 7- NAB Bronx 3, 6:30 – 8:30 P.M., Charles R. Drew Educational Complex, 3630 Third Avenue, Bronx

January 24- DYCD and the Borough President's Office of Queens will present a **Building Bridges** forum to be held at LaGuardia Community College/CUNY, 31-10 Thompson Avenue, M Building, Little Theater, Long Island City from 8:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. To learn more about the *Building Bridges* initiative, see "Program Updates". Breakfast and lunch will be served. To RSVP contact April Chambers at (212) 442-6009 or email: ExtRelCalendar@dycd.nyc.gov

February 27- The Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD), the New York City Youth Board and the New York City Workforce Investment Board Youth Council invite you to attend a conference on Internet Safety, sponsored by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). This event, Keeping Children Safe In a Changing Online World, will take place in the morning at the Tribeca Performing Arts Center, at the Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC), 199 Chambers Street. The agenda will include feature presentations by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, NCMEC NetSmartz, and CyberScience Laboratory. For more information, please contact Sharon Robinson at srobinso@dycd.nyc.gov, or 212-676-8227.

SPOTLIGHT NEWS

****DYCD Announces the Release of the Immigrant Services Request for Proposals**

On January 3, DYCD announced that it would fund, through its Immigrant Services RFP, programs that address legal issues, domestic violence, and general services to immigrant families. The RFP package is available for pick-up beginning Wednesday, January 3, 2007 until Tuesday, February 6, 2007 between the hours of 9:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, except holidays, at 156 William Street. Proposals are due on February 6 by 2:00 P.M. The RFP may also be downloaded from the DYCD Web site: <http://www.nyc.gov/dycd>. Questions on the RFP content or procurement process may be emailed to: RFPquestions@dycd.nyc.gov.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on January 16, at 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon, or 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. at The NYC Department of Youth and Community Development, **2 Washington Street**, Room 1980, 19th Floor, New York, New York 10004.

****DYCD Enlightens South Korean Officials on Runaway and Homeless Youth Services in the City**

On December 19, DYCD and the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), represented by Assistant Commissioner Sally Herrick, hosted a delegation of South Korean government officials. The delegates came to observe runaway and homeless youth services in New York; Ms. Herrick reported on New York State's system, and DYCD presented features the five components in our continuum of care model. In addition, the visitors were given an overview of the legislative authority, budgetary and appropriation process, procurement process and monitoring procedures. The South Korean officials conveyed the similarities and differences in the runaway and homeless youth programs in their country.

****DYCD Conducts Visits of Runaway and Homeless Youth Sites for City Council Members**

On December 18, an announcement was made by the City Council Youth Services Committee and City Council Speaker Christine Quinn regarding a multi-faceted approach leading to the reduction of runaway and homeless youth over the next three years. Included in this effort would be a homeless youth population count, additional funding for services and a review of the current regulations governing runaway and homeless youth services. Following the announcement, DYCD staff accompanied the City Council Youth Committee to three residential facilities for runaway and homeless youth – Good Shepherd/Chelsea Foyer (in Manhattan) and Ali Forney and SCO Family Services (in Brooklyn).

PROGRAM UPDATES

****OST Skate Day Provides Winter Break Adventure**

On December 28, DYCD hosted its second annual Out-of-School Time (OST) Skate Day at The Pond at Bryant Park. Over 350 program participants took to the ice as part of this free event; OST programs operate exciting recreational, academic and cultural activities after school, throughout the summer, and during school holidays providing benefits to working parents. Joining DYCD was Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg; Citigroup's National Director of Community Relations and Public Affairs Denice Durham-Williams, Sports Commissioner Ken Podziba, Department of Parks and Recreation Assistant Commissioner Nancy Barthold and New York Rangers hockey luminary Brian Mullen. Rink time and skate rentals are provided by The Pond, and Ark Restaurant Associates provided hot chocolate and cookies.

****DYCD Continues to "Build Bridges"**

On January 11, in its efforts to build bridges and bring information and resources to the neighborhoods that need them the most, DYCD and the Office of the Queens Borough President, Helen Marshall, sponsored a training initiative for newly emerging community-based organizations in South East Queens. These free forums are designed to present information regarding government and private funding opportunities. York College/CUNY hosted the event and the CBOs were welcomed by Linda R. Butler, York Vice President for Academic Affairs. Deputy Mayor for Education and Community Development Dennis M. Walcott, DYCD Commissioner Jeanne B. Mullgrav, Council Member Leroy Comrie and Special Assistant for Youth Services to the Office of the Queens Borough President Tito Luna delivered remarks to the assembled organizations. DYCD staff panelists presented information on how to access funds through the agency's RFP process, access discretionary awards and meet the necessary fiscal guidelines. The program also included a panel on private foundation funding including representatives from Washington Mutual and the United Way of New York City. All information regarding current DYCD requests for proposal (RFPs) is available online at <http://www.nyc.gov/dycd>.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

****FOR YOUTH****

The **Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption's** primary interest is in funding projects that directly impact permanency through adoption of waiting children in the United States and Canada. Emphasis will be given to programs and projects on a national or regional basis that will help move children out of foster care and into adoptive homes. The Foundation is especially interested in addressing the permanency needs of children who are older, medically and/or emotionally challenged, from an ethnic minority and/or sibling groups who seek to be adopted together. The Foundation welcomes grant requests from U.S. and Canadian tax-exempt organizations. Preference will be given to applications that: propose innovative

recruitment and adoption awareness efforts that are easily replicated on a national basis; develop successful methods for overcoming procedural, bureaucratic or financial obstacles to adoption; clearly delineate outcome measures; are cost effective; include partnerships with other organizations, corporations or foundations; and have significant potential to demonstrate innovative service delivery to adoptive families and adopted children. Ongoing deadline (deadlines are April 9, August 6, and November 5 annually). For additional information, log on to: <http://www.davethomasfoundationforadoption.org/> .

The **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** announces a contest to promote the development of computer and video games that improve people's health and help them get the care they need. Their primary focus is a working prototype and storyboard/design treatments. Participants in the prototype competition shall develop working prototypes of a health-related game in a playable form. The games may be about any health or healthcare topic and could help with training, health education, disease management, prevention, or building general awareness and understanding. Participants in the storyboard/treatment competition will design a game that identifies a specific problem faced by healthcare providers (such as training staff to counsel family members or raising awareness about bone marrow donations) or address a significant health issue and offer potential strategies for addressing the problem. Eligible applicants include independent school districts, public and state controlled institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, private institutions of higher education and individuals. The deadline for applications is March 30. Approximately 3 awards, ranging from \$5,000-\$20,000, are available. For further information, go to: <http://www.gamesforhealth.org/competition/>.

The **Brookdale Foundation** announces funds to encourage and promote the creation or expansion of services for grandparents and other relatives who have taken on the responsibility of surrogate parenting when the biological parents are unable to do so. Eligible applicants include city or township governments, county governments, state governments, and nonprofit organizations. The deadline for applications is February 8, 2007. Awards up to \$10,000 are available. For further information, go to: <http://www.brookdalefoundation.org/relativesasparents.htm>.

The **Saucony Run for Good Program** has been created to encourage active and healthy lifestyles in children. Programs, whose participants are 18 years of age or less, have 501 (c) (3) status and can demonstrate their program positively impacts the lives of participants through their increased participation in running, are eligible. Submission deadlines are: February 15, 2007, March 30, 2007 May 15, 2007 Additional information is available at: <http://www.sauconyrunforgood.com/> .

The **Sparkplug Foundation** supports start-up projects primarily in three areas of focus: music, education and grassroots organizing. **Music:** Sparkplug seeks to foster the expansion of musical ideas by supporting new projects which promote original programming and new performers. **Education:** Sparkplug seeks to promote living environments in which learning is a natural activity and a habit, rather than a periodic task. The foundation values critical and investigative thinking, and supports projects which address class disparities in educational access. **Grassroots Organizing:** Sparkplug encourages individuals and grassroots groups to develop and enact activist strategies for addressing institutional injustices, and for envisioning and building a reasoned, just society. Eligible nonprofits must use the Organization Application. The next application deadline is May 16. View additional information online at: <http://www.sparkplugfoundation.org/> .

Gatorade and the **Women's Sports Foundation** are accepting applications from organizations that demonstrate leadership in their communities by inspiring girls to get involved in sports and physical activity. Eligible applicants include independent school districts, nonprofits, and community-based organizations. The deadline for applications is February 16. Approximately \$50,000 is available to fund 20 awards up to \$2,500. For further information and guidelines, go online to: <http://www.kintera.org/site/pp.asp?c=fkIWLGp3G&b=107774> .

Through its *Giving Voice Program*, the **Starbucks Foundation** will fund programs for youth, ages 6-18 that integrate literacy with personal and civic action in the communities where they live. The Starbucks Foundation invites Letters of Inquiry from qualifying organizations that work with underserved youth in one of two areas: 1) Arts & Literacy — programs that innovatively address literacy and learning for the 21st

century, provide high standards of excellence in mastering basic skills, and promote youth voices through a variety of venues; and 2) Environmental Literacy — programs that offer place-based approaches to addressing environmental literacy and empower youth to be heroes for a sustainable environment in their own communities. The foundation supports registered, nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organizations in the United States that deliver services to youth and address at least one of the program's action areas. Grants range from \$5,000 to \$20,000. March 1, 2007 and September 1 are the deadlines for Letters of Inquiry. For guidelines and more complete information, go online to:

<http://www.starbucks.com/customer/nocookie.asp?cookie%5Ftest=1&fav%5Ftest=1>

The **Innovating Worthy Projects Foundation** was founded to provide financial grants for structuring, developing or modifying special-needs children's programs of organizations recognized as charities by the US Internal Revenue Service. The Foundation accepts Grant Requests from January 1 up to and including August 31 of each year. However, IWPF will consider Grant Requests not exceeding \$5,000 throughout the year if funds are not exhausted from Grants approved at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees. The Foundation will normally take final action on Grant Requests at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees, held in January of each year. <http://www.iwvf.org/>

****COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT****

The **New York State Office of Children and Family Service** will offer funding for the *Safe Alternatives for Family Enrichment* initiative. It will become a new intervention strategy for families in disadvantaged communities to look for a solution to the problems associated with the lack of services and/or options available to serve vulnerable youth and their families. Funded programs should partner with mental health and substance abuse treatment programs directly or through a referral network. Funds are available for new programs or for the expansion of existing programs either through serving additional youth and/or providing additional services and are not intended to supplant existing funds. FAQs will be posted to this website on 01/17/07. The deadline for submissions is January 31. To view the complete bid profile and the solicitation document, go to: <https://ocfsws.ocfs.state.ny.us/obl/index.asp?menu=28&grantid=238>. If you do not have Internet access, contact Judy Dillenbeck at (518) 402-3602 or Judy.Dillenbeck@ocfs.state.ny.us.

The **F.B. Heron Foundation** is dedicated to supporting organizations with a track record of building wealth within low-income communities. The Foundation provides grants to and investments in organizations that promote the following five wealth creation strategies for low-income families in urban and rural communities in the U.S.: advancing home ownership; supporting enterprise development; reducing the barriers to full participation in the economy by providing quality child care; employing comprehensive community development approaches with a strong focus on the wealth-creation strategies; and increasing access to capital. Believing that successful efforts reflect the needs and strengths of the people that they serve, the Foundation prefers to support community-based organizations that demonstrate tangible results. Most grants range from \$25,000 to \$50,000. There is no deadline for a 2 – 3 page letter of inquiry. If interested, the Foundation will contact organizations for a full proposal. View additional information and guidelines on: <http://www.fbheron.org/>.

The **Ludwick Family Foundation** is committed to assisting a broad array of groups that are working to make a positive difference in the world. It varies from many other foundations in that it tends to provide grants for tangible types of items that assist a program or project (such as new vehicles or equipment, equipment replacement and modernization, improvements to facilities, and educational materials), rather than funding the program itself. Eligible organizations include nonprofits. Grants range from \$5,000 to \$50,000 and are made for a single year. Requests are accepted January 1 - March 1, 2007 (and July 1 - September 1). Go additional guidelines, go online to: <http://www.ludwick.org/GUIDE.HTML>.

The purpose of the **McKenzie Foundation** is to encourage and support non-profit programs primarily in the areas of education, health, human services, and cultural and environmental concerns. The Board has selected four initiatives that will shape its grant making for the next few years: early childhood development, education, the environment, and arts and culture. The McKenzie Foundation supports opportunities and experiences that enrich learning for all ages. Special consideration will be given to charitable efforts that inspire excellence and encourage personal development. Nearly \$500,000 was

awarded in 2002, ranging in size from \$600 - \$60,000. The deadline is ongoing. View additional guideline information online: <http://www.mckenziefoundation.us/index.php>

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announces funds to support research of hearing, voice, speech, language, balance, taste, and smell disorders in persons with HIV/AIDS. Eligible applicants include city or township governments, county governments, independent school districts, special district governments, public and state controlled institutions of higher education, state governments, nonprofit organizations, private institutions of higher education, and for-profit organizations. There are multiple deadline dates for applications. For further information, contact Christopher Myers at (301) 435-0713 or myersc@nidcd.nih.gov; or go to: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-07-129.html>.

The American Music Center announces funds to support organizations whose performances encourage and improve public knowledge and appreciation of serious contemporary American music. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations. The deadline for applications is June 30. Awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$20,000 are available. For further information, contact Anna Campbell at (212) 366-5260, or go to: <http://www.amc.net/resources/grants/performing.html> .

The **Institute for Interactive Journalism** announces *New Voices* funds to launch new community news ventures and to cooperate with J-Lab in spotlighting best practices and lessons learned. Eligible applicants include non-profits and community-based organizations. The deadline for applications is February 20. Approximately 10 awards up to \$17,000 are available. For further information, contact J-Lab ay (301) 985-4020 or go to: <http://www.j-newvoices.org/index.php/site/story/2007rfp/> .

The **Payless ShoeSource Foundation** supports programs that achieve measurable results in communities. Smaller grant requests (under \$5,000) are considered each month. Requests must include name, address and phone number of organization and contact person; brief explanation of the organization; explanation of how the proposed funding would be used and the results to be accomplished; and copy of the IRS tax-exempt certification. Larger grant requests (over \$5,000) are reviewed on a quarterly basis. These larger requests should also include a list of the organization's officers and directors along with the names and qualifications of those managing the program or project to be funded; financial statement for the most recent fiscal year; budgets for the proposed funding year showing anticipated expenses and income sources; and a representative donors' list showing who has contributed to the program or project with amounts indicated. This information is confidential and will be used for the grant-making decision only. The deadline is ongoing. Go to the Web site for additional information: <http://www.payless.com/en-US/Corporate/Foundation/Foundation.htm>

RESOURCES

Cause Communications' *Communications Toolkit* -- A guide to navigating communications for the nonprofit world is a comprehensive resource offering practical information in virtually every area of communications -- from how to develop and budget a communications plan to what tools you need to help raise awareness and funds. The toolkit is practical and easy-to-use, making it a must-have guide for nonprofits seeking to revolutionize communications with strategic marketing, advertising, branding, media relations, event planning and more. Tips, templates and strategy outlines are based on more than 25 years of experience from the professionals at Cause Communications, and on information from national qualitative and quantitative audits of what nonprofits need in the area of communications. The book was made possible by support from The Annenberg Foundation, The California Endowment, The James Irvine Foundation and The Marguerite Casey Foundation. For complete information, go to: <http://www.causecommunications.org/clients-cause.php>

A *Research-to-Results Brief* from **Child Trends**, shares a "Socio-demographic Risk Index" to help examine the circumstances in which children develop and the impact of those risks. This is the kind of important demographic information that can be used to back up an "children or youth at-risk" grant application. View the brief online at: <http://www.childtrends.org/Files/CumulativeRisksRTRRB.pdf> .

In creating the new booklet, *Stay Safe in Cold Weather!*, the **National Institute on Aging** publications team talked with older adults and considered the needs of people with limited reading skills. It is written in plain language and incorporates colorful graphic elements and other features to help readers understand the content. To order free copies or for more information about other NIA publications, visit the NIA Web site at: <http://www.nia.nih.gov/HealthInformation/Publications/staysafe/> or call 1-800-222-2225. Bulk orders are welcome.

NCFY's brand-new *Guide to Starting a Youth Program* gathers together a wealth of online information about how to start and manage a nonprofit organization or project that serves youth and their families. The *Guide* attempts to put youth workers on the right track by guiding them to Web sites written just for grassroots organizers and youth service professionals. Topics include: generating ideas, launching the organization, finding funding, locating best practices, and evaluating outcomes. Visit the *Guide* at: <http://www.ncfy.com/publications/guidetostarting/index.htm>

Financial Literacy Information for People with Disabilities discusses various state and federal initiatives for individuals with disabilities and their families to become more economically self-sufficient. The Brief includes descriptions of financial literacy programs and additional resources. For more information, go to: http://www.ncwd-youth.info/resources_&Publications/information_Briefs/issue16.html

ANNOUNCEMENTS

****January 15** – “Building on the Dream: Habitat – NYC’s 8th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service and Celebration”. Join Habitat – NYC and Concord Baptist Church on Monday, at 1:00 P.M. for a luncheon, civil rights panel and celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King’s Legacy. Keynote: Rev. Dr. Gary Simpson, Senior Pastor, Concord Baptist Church. Panel Discussion: “Faith in Action: Civil Rights in the 21st Century,” with Dr. Majorie Hill (Gay Men’s Health Crisis), Jose Valencia (NY Association for New Immigrants), and Wendy Weiser (Brennan Center for Social Justice). Musical Selections: Concord Baptist Church Choir. Location: Concord Baptist Church, 833 Marcy Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. Free and open to the public. Please RSVP to jfurlong@habitatnyc.org, 718-246-5656, ex. 320

****January 27** – Learn about summer camps and programs for children and teens with disabilities at a free Special Camp Fair presented by **Resources for Children with Special Needs** from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle, 405 West 59 St. in Manhattan (entrance on Columbus Avenue and West 60 St.). For information call Resources for Children with Special Needs at (212) 677-4650.

****January 27 and January 28**– The **Brooklyn Arts Exchange** is sponsoring *Youthworks 2007*, a free performance program for young people ages 7 – 18. Performances are January 27 at 7:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M. and January 28 at 5:00 P.M. Youthworks is an opportunity for young people to imagine, create, and perform their original plays, dances, and songs. Each performer works with mentors/coaches and BAX provides free rehearsal space, and culminates in a professionally produced performance. Email: info@bax.org for more specific information.

****February 3** –**Columbia University Athletics** will be recognizing *National Girls and Women in Sports Day* at the Columbia women’s basketball contest (Columbia vs. Dartmouth) at 7:00 P.M. To make this a special night for fans and our women’s intercollegiate sports teams, all fans and Columbia women’s intercollegiate teams will participate in special pre-game activities. Booths/tables will be set-up for fan interaction with women’s sports coaches and student-athletes. Fans will have the unique opportunity to meet and talk to coaches and student-athletes. Each intercollegiate team will also lead special fan interactive activities specific to their sport. Tickets will be \$2 per person for groups of 10 or more, \$5 per person for groups of less than 10. To purchase tickets or for more information, please contact Daniel Spiegel at (212) 854-8327 or das2145@columbia.edu.

****February 3** –**The Center for After School Excellence** will be offering its *After-School Studies* course at Lehman College: the first course will run from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. The course will yield three college credits and will run for a full semester. The class will only meet three times in person and all other sessions will be offered on-line. Course topics include: after-school program standards, social and

emotional development, and assessment. DOH required topics will also be covered - adolescent development and learning as well as program planning and delivery. To take this course, staff must have at least 60 hours of credits or a bachelor's degree. Anyone interested in attending must contact Jessica Cubas at (212) 547-6929 or jcubas@afterschoolexcellence.org. A limited number of partial scholarships will be available; the deadline for scholarship applicants is January 22. The registration deadline is January 24.

****February 10 – The Brooklyn Arts Exchange** is sponsoring a 2007 Teen Arts Conference for teens, parents, teaching artists and audiences at P.S. 24, located at 427 38 Street in Sunset Park, Brooklyn from 9:30 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. The Teen Conference offers peer to peer opportunities to teens who study and perform theater and dance in any variation. Workshops are free. The Conference also includes a higher education panel discussion. Advance registration is required for free workshops. Please call (718) 832-0018 after January 29.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

The **Jerome Foundation** invites applications from Minnesota and New York City for its *Artists for Travel and Study Grant Program*. The Foundation makes grants to support the creation and production of new artistic works by emerging artists living in Minnesota and the five boroughs of New York City. The foundation's Travel and Study Grant Program awards grants to emerging artists who create new work (music -- composers and sound artists; theater -- playwrights and creators of performance art and experimental theater; and visual artists). Funds are intended to support periods of travel for the purpose of study, exploration, and growth. The program supports such activities as research leading to the creation of new work, the development of collaborations, participation in specific training programs, time for reflection and individualized study, investigating artistic work outside of Minnesota or New York City, and dialogue on aesthetic issues. Grants of up to \$1,500 will be awarded for short-term travel of three to six days. Grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded for trips of one week or longer. Travel may be national or international. See the Jerome Foundation Web site for complete program requirements, application procedures, and details on informational meetings. The deadline is February 2. View the RFP online at: http://www.jeromefdn.org/IV-Grant_Programs/C-Travel_and_Study/Default.aspx

The **Meyer Foundation's Exponent Award** recognizes strong and effective nonprofit leaders with a track record of accomplishment who have the potential for future growth and development. The award program is part of a three-year, \$2.2 million Meyer Foundation initiative, Rewarding Leadership, designed to stabilize and strengthen the leadership of Meyer's grantees, to increase the voice and visibility of some of the region's most effective nonprofit leaders, and to help them attract additional resources. The award is intended for mid-career executives who may be in danger of burnout or who would benefit from a leadership development grant to take their skills and organization to a new level. To qualify for the award, a nominee must: be the chief executive officer (executive director or president) of an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that has received at least two grants from the Meyer Foundation since January 1, 2003; and have served in their current position for a minimum of three years but not more than 10 years. The deadline for nominations is April 9, 2007. The Foundation will honor up to five leaders each year. Organizations of reward recipients will receive a two-year grant of \$100,000 to be used for leadership development. For further information, go to: <http://www.meyerfoundation.org/>.

The **U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention** is sponsoring this year's *National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest* for the 11th Anniversary of AMBER Alert Program. This year's theme is "Bring Our Missing Children Home." Held annually, this contest challenges 5th grade students to develop artwork that represents America's goal to bring missing children home safely. The winning poster is displayed at the National Missing Children's Day ceremony, which will be held May 23, 2007. The submission deadline is March 30. Resources: For more information about the Missing Children's Day Poster Contest, visit <http://dept.fvtc.edu/ojdp/postercontest.html>

The **Child Welfare Fund** is sponsoring an award for New York City teens in foster care to promote a more positive image among agency staff, youth workers and the general public. Twenty-five young people will be recognized at a ceremony in June. The five Grand Prize winners will each receive \$1,000 and the

fifteen First Prize winners will each receive between \$400 and \$600. Adults may nominate one young person (born in 1986 or later) who has shown resilience, helped others, and achieved personal and academic success. Each nominator must write a letter of recommendation; each nominee must write two short essays. The deadline for submission is March 1. For additional information and entry forms, go to: <http://www.youthcomm.org> .