YEC eNews Issue no.7 February 2012 by UNICEF Young Envoys Club, Session 2011-2012

YE12 Orientation Day

After 2 rounds of interview and election, 60 potential Young Envoys were elected to participate in the Young Envoys Programme 2012. They met their future companions at the orientation day on 10 December 2011. The orientation day was the first day for the newly elected potential Young Envoys to meet, which various inspiring activities were held such as the brief introduction of UNICEF, mass games as well as the discussions on the expectations and target in the following year. Participants became more familiar with the work and goal of UNICEF and met new friends. The function was held successfully, with participants actively involved and brought up the atmosphere.



Mentors and YEC Ex-Co also joined different groups to guide the potential Young Envoys and gave valuable advice of their past experience. We are looking forward the potential Young Envoys will be united as one and contribute to UNICEF in the coming future.

YE12 Orientation Camp

After getting to know each other at the Orientation Day, potential Young Envoys 2012 continued their journey by first taking up the challenge of the overnight orientation camp at Gilwell Campsite on 29 and 30 of December. In the leadership training camp, all Young Envoys made great efforts in all activities. On the first day, they strived to do their best in the game so that they could gain 'money' for their dinner. Despite varying abundance of food, all groups made a delicious meal for their group mates and mentors. At night, they enjoyed an amusing talent show and a camp fire prepared by YEC members. Everybody had a wonderful time as the warmth and liveliness of the night brought the family closer to each other.

> **O**n the second day, many potential Young Envoys conquered their fears during the challenge of the rope course and high wall. YEC members participated in the camp as mentors together with Ex-Co Committee members. Each potential Young Envoys received a card of encouragement from their mentor before they left the camp. With their friendship strengthened and their perseverance tested, the green potential Young Envoys are now ready to carry on with their journey.

YEC Inauguration Ceremony It's time to greet the new cabinet of Young Envoys Club!

On 7 January 2012, the Inauguration Ceremony for Unicef Young Envoys Club Session 2011-2012 was held at Youth Square. We were honoured to have invited Ms. Leonie Ki, Vice Chairman and Chairman of Advocacy & PR Committee of HKCU to join us as our Guest-of-Honour, together with Council Members of HKCU, Mrs. Corina Wong, Ms. Margaret Coates, Mr. Dicky Yip, MBE, BBS, JP Dr. Maurice Leung and the Chief Executive of HKU Ms. Irene Chan. Over 70 potential Young Envoys 2012 and Young Envoys Club members also showed their support to the new cabinet with their presence.



Under the witness of our guests, the 9 Executive Committee members pledged to live up to our mission. We would hereby like to thank all guests, honourable advisors and helpers for their generous support. We promise we won't let you down!

At the ceremony, we announced the theme of the year – Bridging to Reach, Reaching the Ridge – as well as presented our annual plan, including the establishment of the Research Division. It is our mission to connect UNICEF with both Young Envoys and the general public so that we can work hand in hand to unite for children.





CE Candidates Forum

We are delighted to inform you that our members attended yet another children rights forum. The forum, named 'Children's Voice – Words to the CE Candidates', was held on the 29 January 2012 at Henry Leong Yaumatei Community Centre. Organized by the Alliance for Children Commission and with HKCU as a co-organizing body. The forum is dedicated to let children, who in Hong Kong's current political and election system lack an opportunity to expresses oneself, a chance to lobby for issues that they are concerned in the presence of one of the Chief Executive candidates, the Hon. Mr. Albert Ho Chun Yun, Leader of the Democrats and Member of the Legislative Council.

Together with other organizations, issues ranging from provision of rights to participation, lobbying for the establishment of Children's Council as well as education and housing issues were discussed.



Our members actively participated in the forum. Questions concerning the lack of response from the government and authority in response to children's opinion as well as the current constraints brought by the Election Ordinances on children's participation in election campaigns in Hong Kong were raised. We were glad to receive some affirmative responses from Mr. Ho. Some of the questions were even considered as challenging by the Chief Executive candidate. Indeed such active response from our members have demonstrated once again how we Young Envoys are capable in raising out problems and express our opinion on areas that are closely related to us and are of our concern.

The Chief Executive Election was bound to be held on the 25 March 2012. Prior to the election, there may well be other occasion where we may meet other CE candidates, as well as other forums hold regularly by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau. We cordially invite all of you to join us in all these upcoming occasion and become a true advocate of the rights of child by practicing your rights to participation.



If you would like to have a recap of the forum,

do feel free to visit the Youtube Channel of the Alliance by visiting the following link: http://www.youtube.com/user/WordstoCEcans?feature=watch.

Upcoming Events

Voices of Youth VOY Recruitment

The VOY team never ceases to work in front of the microphone and behind the scene. It's a team of promising bright-eyed youth that work with each other closely hoping to deliver what people of our age and beyond our age would like to hear about. In the process of projecting our voice, you learn from one another since we come from all walks of life and share different perspective on one same issue. You will enrich yourself by being a part of VOY, since you learn to handle crisis from very lively and ad-hoc scenarios in front of the microphone at the middle of your programme.



Sometimes we do doubt if what we do can leave great impact on our society, since we are still very green in the arena of broadcasting. However, if you are determined to deliver opinion of youth and children to society, these impacts, which are initiated by our initial small steps, will be achievable. Say it loud and scream it out, if we are truly to be the Voices of Youth. Though the application for VOY has ended, we hereby thanks the active support of the applicants. An interview will be held on 10 March 2012 and for more details, please refer to the details on the website below http://voy.unicef.org.hk/zh/voyrecruitment/.

Internal Gathering

Happy Chinese New Year!

How long have you connected with UNICEF? How long have you met your friends met in Young Envoys 's year? How long have you named yourself as a Young Envoy? Being Young Envoys, what we stay together is to make a difference for the children around the world. This year, YEC does not want to only reach the ridge, but also reach you! We are going to have an internal gathering with you, a passionate Young Envoy in May. If you want to know what the new committee members are going to do in the coming year; if you want to gather with familiar faces; if you just want to have a nice lunch with someone sharing the same dream with you; let's meet in the coming gathering! Hope to see you soon.

Details: Date: 6 May 2012 (Sunday) Venue: To be confirmed Food: buffet lunch Fee: \$ 100 (max. excluding the sponsorship from HKCU)

Can't wait to learn how the above events turn out to be? Stay tuned to our next issue! See you then!