



**ANNUAL REPORT
2011 - 2012**



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Welcome - Words from the Editor

This Annual Report is a culmination of the volunteering and organising efforts of the Liverpool Youth Council (LYC) members. Producing and editing this term's report proved to be an extensive task as a result of the multitude of contributions by Youth Councillors to their community; which is wonderful to see. The significant role that LYC have played over the past 12 months has been towards sustaining a signature event, which was Street Legacy for Youth Week. This was made possible through a continued partnership with The Street University. Furthermore, gathering from the general consensus reached from the mid-term interviews with youth councillors, it was indicated that consulting local young people was a growing interest among the members. We carried out focused consultations through surveys which informed Council's Youth Strategy, in addition, much shorter surveys were put forward to young people during local youth events.

Australia Day has been an ongoing event that LYC have committed to developing over the past terms. Unfortunately due to the wet weather circumstances, it had to be cancelled this year. Nevertheless, the Australia Day committee valued the skills gained from the event planning process and are hopeful that it will prevail in 2013. RADAR (Radical Adolescents Doing Afternoon Radio) has continued to be a diverse mechanism for engaging young people through media. The Community Development Worker (Youth) and Community Development Assistant are particularly excited for the new term as they are looking to train more members and have them on board to facilitate the program.

This Annual Report has encapsulated the endeavours of young people committed to making a difference for other young people in Liverpool. As the editor, I would like to thank the members that have contributed articles to this report as it is a proud and valued achievement.

Diana Vincent (Youth Councillor)

About the Liverpool Youth Council

The Liverpool Youth Council (LYC) is open to young people aged 12 - 24 years who are residents of the Liverpool Local Government Area (LGA) and who are committed and enthusiastic about representing youth needs. The LYC members serve a two year term and are required to attend regular meetings, planning days, training and have fun!

The Liverpool Youth Council or LYC, began as an initiative of the Liverpool City Council (LCC) as a medium for young people in Liverpool to voice their opinions and serve as consultants on behalf of the young people in the Liverpool LGA. LYC actively works towards addressing the needs of young people in Liverpool. By recognising the importance of young people in the community and providing a means by which young people can influence Council decisions and policies which may affect young people.

The attendance of the Mayor and Councillors at our meetings has provided an opportunity for LYC members to voice their opinions on youth issues to elected Councillors. The LYC is a positive initiative for young people in Liverpool and continues to be an exciting and useful resource for young people, the broader community and Council.

Liverpool Youth Council aims to:

- Provide specialist advice to Council on youth issues and youth policy
- Create an opportunity for young people to be involved in the community and in the processes of Council
- Act as a consultative mechanism for Council on issues that affect a diverse range of young people
- Provide a forum for young people to develop an understanding of the role of Local Government
- Plan and organise cultural, environmental, recreational and social activities for young people across Liverpool
- Assist young people to develop leadership and self-confidence and develop skills such as teamwork and public speaking
- Lobby and advocate on issues affecting young people
- Promote positive images of young people

Liverpool Youth Council Executive Reports

Chairperson - Winnie Jobanputra

As I look back on the past year of Liverpool Youth Council, to say that it was merely successful is an understatement. Martin Luther King Jr once said “One of the great liabilities of history is that all too many people fail to remain awake through great periods of social change”. Living in the 21st century as a young person, with the society continuously evolving and as Chairperson of the Liverpool Youth Council, I am proud to say that the LYC have remained awake, vigilant and attentive in order to bring about social change to the City of Liverpool.

The role of chairperson for Liverpool Youth Council is one which I am incredibly proud to have filled. When I first began my term on Liverpool Youth Council in 2010 I was immediately struck by the amount of passion, dedication and energy that LYC conveyed. It was through this dedication and enthusiasm portrayed by my fellow Youth Councillors that drove me to progress and actively involve myself in all the opportunities that Liverpool Youth Council provided. After serving as Secretary for the first half of my term, being elected to the position of Chairperson was a huge difference. However, it was also an invigorating and instructive learning curve. After what began as a daunting role, with the guidance of Council’s Community Development Worker (Youth), Council’s Community Development Assistant and the Vice Chairperson (a former Chairperson), I have been able to fulfil my role to the best of my ability. Over the past year through my role as Chairperson, I can firmly say that every Youth Council meeting has been a stepping stone towards progress. The guest speakers, the motions passed, decisions made and changes put forward have all been completed with one goal in mind, which is to represent the young people of Liverpool and to act as a catalyst for positive change in our community. From Australia Day and our annual Youth Week events to RADAR, youth consultation and many other activities, LYC continues to showcase a high calibre of dedication to work effectively to make Liverpool a better place.

Treasurer - Andrew Olivares

Within this past year of 2011-2012 I have had the privileged executive position as the treasurer of the Liverpool Youth Council. My role was to manage the Youth Council Budget of \$10,000 throughout the year. The role involved liaising with LYC members during monthly meetings to contribute budget information which included expenditure costs linked to training and events. Another part of my role was the allocation of funds towards the needs of LYC and the events that we were involved in. With this well set-out budget, which also included a 'buffer' for excess, we were able to financially drive forward our own training, events such as Street Legacy II and more achievements. The nature of the costs involved and access to sponsorships made the process of acquiring, overseeing and managing funds a much formalised and accurate process. Due to all the responsibilities placed upon me, I have been able to learn a vast amount about financial stability and the processes of monitoring and reporting monetary patterns. I have truly enjoyed my past two years as part of Liverpool Youth Council and also these two years as the Treasurer. I would like to thank Liverpool City Council and staff for allowing us to build in character and develop a strong connection to our city.

Secretary - Michael Rutherford

In 2011, I took on the executive role of Secretary at Youth Council meetings and I have grown to love the role. Initially, I was slightly apprehensive as I feared that my note taking would not be able to keep up with the frantic pace of Youth Council meetings. Secondly, as the minute taker I would be less able to contribute to and actively participate in discussions. However, it has played out quite contrary to my initial expectations. As Secretary I found that compiling the minutes has kept me on top of all Youth Council business, particularly correspondence at each meeting. Some key business I have minuted at meetings this term includes the planning for Street Legacy II in partnership with The Street University, the development and research for Council's Youth Strategy and the growth of the RADAR program. All of these are major achievements and successes for Youth Council this year. As Secretary I've also seen the variety of guest speakers who have addressed the Youth Council this year. They ranged from many local organisations such as Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre (CPAC), Liverpool Police, other Council staff, who have opened up new opportunities for Youth Council, and provided more insight into community relations.

This is my fourth and final year as a Youth Councillor, serving as Secretary has continued me to improve my understanding of how the Youth Council operates and has contributed to the development of my personal skills. I hope that these skills, such as learning to take minutes during a meeting and adhering to strict (and sometimes imminent) deadlines will serve me well in future endeavours. Serving as Secretary has been a great way to conclude my involvement. Although I am saddened to leave, I wish all the best to the continuing and incoming Youth Councillors, and I hope that they can achieve all of their goals for the benefit of the young people of Liverpool.

Income Statement 2010-2011 Liverpool Youth Council

| Item | Expenditure | Planned Expenditure |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Carry Over from 2010-2011 | \$2,500 | \$2,500 |
| Catering | \$895 | \$640 |
| Youth Week | \$5,000 | \$5,000 |
| Australia Day | \$384.72 | \$500 |
| Training | \$534 | \$700 |
| Printing | \$520 | \$200 |
| Buffer (Stationary) | \$59.52 | \$460 |
| Total Balance | \$9,893.24 (\$106.76) | \$10,000 |

Major Achievements 2010-2011

Australia Day - Adrian Vincent



Australia Day- Local paper newspaper article

There is no better way to spend your Australia Day than thong-throwing and Lamington eating your way to the top! Australia Day 2012 was going to be an event not to be missed- but sadly, Mother Nature had its own way of celebrating the occasion by raining down on its own parade. Nonetheless, nothing could phase our enthusiasm in preparing for the afternoon of festivities at Liverpool.

With stage performances from Three Wishes, Dora the Explorer and V-Tribe, the popular Thong Throwing and Lamington eating competition, Dunk Pod and Fireworks to end the night- surely we were not the only disappointed ones when the rain began to pour. Working alongside Liverpool City Council and Liverpool Police and Community Youth Club (PCYC), it was upsetting that the weather pulled the longest straw. Overall, all we can do now is wait in anticipation for 2013, so that the LYC team can celebrate Australia Day as it should have been.

Youth Week Planning (Street Legacy II) - Neha Indap

As part of National Youth Week annual celebrations, the Youth Council decided to build on last year's event- Street Legacy, and turn it into a signature event for Liverpool to hold every year. Street Legacy is a dance event, which brings together competitions



Street Legacy II - LYC and LCC Staff

to express many different forms of street dance plus a showcase of different crews from all over Sydney. This year, the event planning committee's job of recreating and further improving the event was made easier by the fact the event had already been carried out before. Planning was simpler because we knew exactly what to do, who to contact, what we needed, where we could get it from, the approximate costs of various components of the event and using last year's evaluation to make improvements.

As soon as the committee members had been decided on, we held meetings straight away, which I felt was a fast transition to get the ball rolling. The Street University was our partner in the event. It was a fairly small committee, which works better because in meetings we all have a chance to speak up and make decisions without delay. Planning was smooth due to fortnightly meetings and deadlines being set.

Youth Week Event (Street Legacy II) - Nikole Vamarasi

To celebrate Youth Week, Liverpool Youth Council, together with The Street University, hosted "Street Legacy II" – a hip-hop and R'n'B dance competition held at Street Uni's iconic blue headquarters. With free BBQ, prizes, and giveaways (not to mention a seemingly endless supply of free snacks), the day saw both local and out of area young people battle for the top spots in breaking, krump and crew categories. "Lipstix" took out the overall title for best dance crew.



Street Legacy II - Competitor's dance item

In only its second year running, "Street Legacy II" was fortunate enough to have Dario Phillips, Tiana Jouhbert and Matthew "Mistry" as judges – each of whom are known in the Sydney hip-hop and R'n'B scene, and for their work with local young people. With doors opening at 2pm, the event was a certified success, bringing in a crowd of over 300 who were treated to showcase performances, one of which was by female dance trio Saea Banyana. This was followed by an after-party featuring local rapper, Miracle and renowned Sydney DJ, Peter Gunz.

My role on the day was to be in charge of the registration which involved checking in crews and competitors, registering new entrants, and liaising with event staff and volunteers to ensure the event's smooth execution. At one point, I was asked what Youth Week meant to me, it was simple and encapsulated best by the diversity of the entrants and the success of the event itself - "Street Legacy II". It was an opportunity for positive and powerful social inclusion, a way to unite young people from all walks of life to create and engage in a constructive and collective youth experience.



Street Legacy II- LYC, LCC Staff and Mayor



Street Legacy II- Winners of each category with judges

RADAR - Adrian Vincent

The past year has brought new challenges, new faces and new opportunities for RADAR (Radical Adolescents Doing Afternoon Radio). From the addition of vivid segments to introducing a new member from the community as a regular on our fortnightly showcases like: trivia, music and youth-related news, RADAR has proven to be bustling with energy. The past 12 months for RADAR was particularly eventful with the debut of a Sydney rock band, Rage-line (an on-air call in service) being officially opened, new RADAR member Ben joining the team and UStream personalising and enhancing the listener's experience.

Speaking on behalf of the RADAR committee members, our efforts towards improving RADAR have been met by the plethora of active listeners. The experiences on the show and behind the scenes have been very worthwhile particularly with guest relations ranging from Youth Council members, school students and budding young people that want to get their voice heard and out there.

With the relocation from the previous studio to a newly operational studio, RADAR Liverpool can only look forward to the year ahead, filled with fresh opportunities to connect with more youth in the area and planning for the ideas that our listeners have submitted. Stay tuned!

Youth Week (Triple Threat) – Michael Rutherford



Triple Threat - LYC volunteers on the day



Triple Threat - First place winners

Triple Threat is an event which has been held during Youth Week for the last three years as a collaboration between Liverpool City Council and local youth services. This year was the first year that the Youth Council had any direct involvement in the event. Youth Councillors Cassandra Veale,

Nikole Vamarasi and I volunteered at the event. I speak for all of us when I say that we found it a rewarding experience. By volunteering this year, there was an opportunity for Youth Council to have greater involvement in the future; by either expanding our volunteering efforts *on the day and also* in the planning of the event. Greater Youth Council involvement in Triple Threat would also give the LYC calendar another key event, alongside Street Legacy and Australia Day. I encourage the new Youth Council to become involved in Triple Threat to build even stronger partnerships with the Street University and other youth services, and also to be part of an energetic, successful event for the young people of Liverpool.



Triple Threat - First place winners



Triple Threat - First place winners



Triple Threat - First place winners

Liverpool Youth Council and the Media - Bradley Birnie

Over the past year, Liverpool Youth Council (LYC) has continued to focus on and improve its relationship with the local media. As part of this biannual term, LYC 2010-2012 believed that the media would play a significant role in the exposure of what we do and of our events. Because of this, it was decided to have two media representatives, Bradley Birnie and Jessica Marcellienus. This allowed Youth Council to improve both the standard of work and level of interaction, with significant media representation in Liverpool.

Although Liverpool City Council's 2012 Australia Day celebrations did not go ahead, Liverpool Youth Council gained some local exposure during the lead up to the event. The Liverpool Leader recognised the ongoing work and activities of LYC at the Australia Day event, including the local favourite, thong-throwing. This year RADAR faced some difficulties due to the relocation of the local radio station, 2GLF. The program, which has run over many years, will continue to use local radio as a form of communication to local young people. Radio is an important aspect of our media representation and opens LYC to large scale broadcasting of local issues and publicity for events.

Even though the end of 2012 is here, the connection LYC possesses with local media will continue on for many Youth Council terms to come.

Consultation and Representation

Youth Strategy Surveys - Alexa Jaryn

The Youth Strategy Surveys were a great opportunity to find out more about the various opinions of young people in Liverpool and their different beliefs concerning opportunities and issues affecting young people in Liverpool. I surveyed many people from the Liverpool area and came to find that many of the common issues affecting young people were drug and alcohol issues, bullying, violence and boredom. The young people I surveyed were insightful, providing very diverse opinions and suggestions to solve issues affecting young people as well as opportunities to get more young people involved in the Liverpool community. I interviewed many people from different areas and age groups in an attempt to gain a wide perspective on these issues and suggestions for improvements. I found that everyone was extremely helpful, opinionated and willing to help make Liverpool more youth friendly.

Every Youth Council member was involved in the surveying process, some chose to conduct interview type surveys that gained responses from local young people through a face to face setting while others circulated copies through mail and email. Mark Helou set a 'Survey Monkey' application to enable online access to the Youth Strategy Surveys. The Community Development Worker (Youth), Community Development Assistant and Cassandra Veale were involved in the process of collating all the data acquired from the surveys and the information was used to inform Liverpool City Council's Youth Strategy 2012-2017.

Twisted Sounds - Christian Atkins

Twisted Sounds is an annual youth music festival organised by Liverpool PCYC, Liverpool City Council and 2168 Youth. It encourages young people to get involved in the community by providing opportunities for young people to run events, showcase their artistic talents and volunteer on the day. The event also gives young people the opportunity to interact with each other in a safe and constructive environment.

Twisted Sounds was held on Saturday 19 November 2011 and hosted a range of bands and activities for the audience to engage in. The bands ranged from popular headliners such as 'Sienna Skies' to up and coming local acts like 'Obviously Your Superhero'. Along with the music aspect of the event, 2168 Youth also held the opening of a youth photography exhibition as a part of the Fashion Enterprise project. The exhibition was judged by a panel of local community members and staff. The prizes for the winners included a Digital SLR, vouchers and a pair of Gideon shoes.

Twisted Sounds started in 2007 with a strong impact on the local music scene and has continued for five years running. It has since helped develop many other side projects and events that have benefited the community. Over the years the Liverpool Youth Council has helped out at most Twisted Sounds events to ensure that the day runs smoothly.

CBD Exposed - Diana Vincent

On Thursday 19 January 2012, Liverpool City Council and The Ted Noffs Foundation, Street University delivered the event 'CBD Exposed', which was held at Macquarie Mall in Liverpool. It was an urban

youth music festival that showcased local hip-hop talent from Liverpool, including rappers, singers and dancers. Many young people were involved in performing arts projects delivered by The Street University and had the opportunity to build on their skills and perform in front of their peers and the community.

My role was to survey those who attended the event, as part of Liverpool City Council's Youth Strategy which aims to develop opportunities for young people events in Liverpool through consultation with young people. Initially, it was proposed that the original survey be conducted, though due to the lively atmosphere and the volume of the music, it was thought that carrying out a lengthy survey would be an issue for communication and detract from viewing of the performances. So to solve this problem, the Liverpool City Council staff and I decided that we engage young people's perspectives through two simple questions - What do you like about Liverpool? What don't you like about Liverpool? Participating in these short surveys not only allowed young people to express their opinions and be heard, it also had the added incentive of a lolly to thank them for their time. Quite a number of responses to the questions highlighted the sense of camaraderie within the community, as it was suggested that there was a lot of stigma about Liverpool; which does not reflect the true nature of the suburb. It was also noted that the relationship between young people and neighborhood police could be improved. Overall, a vast number of individuals wanted to see their local community flourish with many more youth events like CBD Exposed. Due to its success, CBD Exposed has become an annual urban festival and the Liverpool Youth Council look forward to continually representing our organisation and consulting with young people at such wonderful events.

Insight Program - Jessica Marcellenius

On Tuesday 12 April 2011, SBS aired the Insight program focusing on the issue of Narcissism. I was given the opportunity to sit in the audience and share my view on this controversial topic from the youth perspective. I was nervous at first as I was surrounded by many experts in the medical field however everyone was incredibly humble and friendly. I met some amazing people including the Clinical Director of Mental Health at Mosman Private Hospital, Dr. Gunewardene and Tim Brunero from Big Brother. Participating in the realm of media opened my eyes to the challenges people encounter whilst trying to share their perspectives in a public forum. I found Insight to be a heavily pre-structured show in order to develop a discussion which was both enlightening and entertaining. Overall, it was an interesting experience which I will remember in the years to come.

Mayoral Concert 2011 - Michael Rutherford

The Mayoral Concert is an annual event organised by the Liverpool Seniors Network and Liverpool City Council. It was sponsored by Liverpool Catholic Club for the entertainment of senior citizens of Liverpool. For many of Liverpool's seniors, this event is one of the highlights of their year. It gives them the opportunity to socialise and catch up with many old friends, as well as share a meal and some quality entertainment. In November 2011, Youth Councillors Nikole Vamarasi, Mark Helou and I volunteered at the Mayoral Concert as ushers and tea/coffee attendants, adding to Youth Council's long history of volunteering at the event. We received a positive reception from the seniors on the

day, some of whom seemed surprised that young people would even volunteer their time at such an event! By presenting ourselves as representatives of the young people of Liverpool, we intended to create a positive image of young people to counter the negative stereotype often seen in the media. Not only do I think we achieved this goal, but all of us also gained a valuable experience from volunteering, and that warm feeling that comes from helping people altruistically.

Engaging Schools Forum - Nikole Vamarasi

The Engaging Schools Forum was hosted at the Liverpool Catholic Club and was organised by the Department of Education and Communities. The Engaging Schools Forum was a one-day conference in September that sought to promote youth services which are available within the Liverpool LGA.

Attendance was made up of school principals and other key school contacts (such as career advisers and head teachers). The event was an invaluable opportunity for local youth services to make their presence known within the community. Also, it was an opportunity for primary and secondary schools to learn about the resources available to students, parents and carers.

I was on-hand on the day to assist in showcasing Liverpool City Council programs and services, as well as to promote Youth Council and our work within the community. The main point of interest that emerged was information on safe school parking. Overall, we had at least 20 school contacts visit our table and distributed around ten LYC Annual Reports. In short, the forum presents a viable avenue for LYC to raise their profile amongst key youth contacts within the area. As well as being the perfect opportunity to become better acquainted with the services that cater specifically to the young people we represent. I would highly recommend attendance by fellow Youth Councillors in future.

Generationnext - Diana Vincent

On Sunday 13 November 2012, the Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre and the Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) hosted 'Generationnext'. This was a free event that was created by young people for young people aged 12 to 18. It involved live cultural performances, music, art-making, conversations and workshops with artists. It also incorporated the Casula Powerhouse Art Centre's Niu Warrior exhibition which engaged audiences with contemporary perceptions of the notion of the warrior. This event was a wonderful opportunity for local youth to access the interactive art experience created by 'Generationnext', which would normally be held at the Sydney Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA).

Christian Atkins and I represented LYC. Along with Wade Fitton (Manager of PCYC, Liverpool) and a few other individuals from Liverpool, we formed part of the planning committee. Our role was to inform the representative from the MCA about the demographics of the Western Suburbs, particularly in relation to the interests of young people of Liverpool. We made many suggestions about local performers, how to improve the accessibility of groups to attend the event, ideas for the art making workshop and ways to collaborate with artists. 'Generationnext' was a successful event and we hope that more organisations located outside of the Western Suburbs will provide opportunities for young people in Liverpool by collaborating with the local services.

Training and Development

Mid-Term LYC Team Building - Cassandra Veale



Team Building- Events Training (Group 1)



Team Building- Events Training (Group 2)

In October 2011, Youth Councillors participated in a team building day as part of their training and development. Team building days are scheduled regularly at LYC - they encourage Youth Councillors to get to know each other better and learn new skills. Youth Councillors were asked to identify their best assets during one activity - they were told to circle words they thought described them, and then share them with the group. At the end of the activity, Youth Councillors learned that each person was bringing something different to the group and that each person therefore, had value.

In another activity, Youth Councillors looked at group dynamics. As a group, they considered the importance of individual time management on group productivity. In order to encourage one another, Youth Councillors made a list of ways to stay organised and manage their time effectively. Making a list ensured that each Youth Councillor was able to find something that worked for them. Youth Councillors also enjoyed a visit from a former LYC member, Nina Zawity - who gave a brief lesson on event planning and management, followed by an activity where we had to plan and present a mock event for *Youth Week 2012*. On this day, Youth Councillors gained skills in communication, public speaking, organisation and time management, events planning and general management

End of Term Segment from 2008-2012

Michael Rutherford

It is remarkable to think that I have spent 4 years, just under a quarter of my life so far, as a member of the Youth Council. Not only have I seen LYC events get bigger and better, I have also seen myself grow, from a 13 year old who was amazed this group existed, to a 17 year old who has begun to take it for granted. Over these four years Youth Council meetings, and at times working group meetings, have been a regular part of my life. Not only that, but to look back at what I've accomplished as Treasurer, Secretary, leading Australia Day, hosting RADAR, and planning Street Legacy from the initial concept through to the second instalment. On top of that, LYC has given me the opportunity to get involved with YAPA Conferences and Youth Parliament. Although four years is a long time to be committed to one group, I wouldn't have chosen otherwise, because of all of the chances I had to learn and grow myself, even as my second term winds to a close. To all members of the next Youth Council, I would encourage you all to value the people you meet and the friendships you make, as I know I will carry forward the friends I have made here for the rest of my life. Also, grab each opportunity as it comes, and be prepared to take risks and innovate; because that is the only way you can change things for the better. Now, I become one of the LYC alumni, hanging around at events for years to come. I would not have it any other way.

Bradley Birnie

For four years, I have been able to take part in a wonderful experience that has allowed me to better connect with the young people of my community, and have a positive influence over Liverpool. The opportunities have been endless, ranging from my participation in the organisation of Youth Week and Australia day, to working on a state level with renowned organisations such as the Youth Action and Policy Association.

After participating in Liverpool Youth Council's radio program, RADAR, for nearly three years, I was able to shape my future career path, and am now currently studying Journalism at the University of Technology, Sydney. As a person, I have learnt the importance of making a difference. Starting when I was only 15 years old, in so many ways, this four year commitment has bettered me as a person, and I now possess skills that I will carry throughout my lifetime.

I know that Liverpool Youth Council is a valuable part of our community, and I look forward to seeing it continue to grow over the many years to come. I would like to thank absolutely everyone I have met and worked with over the years. You have opened my eyes to a completely different world, and I appreciate everything you do to make Liverpool an amazing place to live, work and study. Although this is the end of my term, I know that this isn't the last you will see of Bradley Birnie...

Diana Vincent

Participating in the Liverpool Youth Council over the years has allowed me to develop skills in communication, consultation, event planning, collaborating as a team, problem solving towards logistical solutions, promoting events, writing position statements as well as grant applications,

sponsorship letters and the Annual Report. Although it has sadly come to an end, my involvement with the Liverpool Youth Council over the four years has played a pivotal role in influencing my future directions. By engaging with my local government, I have learned much about policy processes and interactions with the community which has been further shaped by my educational background in Sociology and Development Studies (UNSW). I now intend to identify the community as a stakeholder by working in Corporate Social Responsibility where community engagement programs form part of a sector within select companies as a way of ensuring their ethical and social responsibility. I am thankful for the Community Development Workers for providing us with so many opportunities and for having worked so closely with the Youth Councillors to ensure that each of us meet our full potential. The Liverpool Youth Council has been an enriching experience and I will always appreciate the many lessons I have learned from it.

Christian Atkins

Throughout the terms that I have spent with the Liverpool Youth Council, I have been provided with the opportunity to learn, develop and serve alongside great members of the community. It has been a privilege to engage with Liverpool City Council and the wider community at such a level. I have enjoyed working in partnership with local organisations, working on a vast range of projects and events. It has been an unforgettable four years and an experience that I value deeply. I would like to thank all the individuals that make this committee a successful working group.

Liverpool Youth Council Member Profiles

AL-KHUZAI, KADHUM

Main Projects: Street Legacy Planning Committee and Australia Day Planning Committee.

Best thing about LYC: The greatest asset about LYC is that it can bring out the best in you and you learn so many skills, you get to be around like-minded people, who feel passionate about the community and the issues faced by young people, and who aim to address and correct these issues as a team.

Future directions: I intend to continue my Bachelor degree in Law/Communications and once I have graduated from Uni, my goal is to work in the field of human rights and international law.

FOLLERS, JESSICA

Best thing about LYC: The opportunity to represent the voice of young people in the Liverpool area, and to gain experience in dealing with areas of policy and social issues.

Future directions: To work in a developing country for a Non-Government Organisation, possibly in the human rights sector.

JAYRN, ALEXA

Main Projects: Volunteered at Street Legacy II and was part of the planning committee for the Australia Day event (despite cancellation).

Best thing about LYC: Being involved in youth events and providing the opportunity for young people to be involved in various activities.

Future directions: I hope to learn as much as I can in order to make a difference within my community.

ATKINS, CHRISTIAN

Main Projects: Volunteered at Twisted Sounds, 'Generationnext' planning committee, front cover design of new youth info card.

Best thing about LYC: Engaging my skills to provide opportunities for youth participation.

Future directions: I intend to develop and exhibit my art projects in a way which engages young people and diverse audiences; I hope to continue to work with local youth committees to foster arts and culture in Liverpool.

BIRNIE, BRADLEY

Main Projects: Media representative, Organisation of Australia Day and National Youth Week.

Best thing about LYC: The ability to build myself as a passionate and strong minded young person.

Future directions: Apply the multiple skills I have learnt through LYC to my career and life in general.

HELOU, MARK

Main Projects: Street Legacy II planning and RADAR.

Best thing about LYC: The team of supportive people who always strive to bring the best out in each other.

Future directions: Continue with my study in Engineering at UNSW.

INDAP, NEHA

Main Projects: Street Legacy planning

Best thing about LYC: Working with diverse people and learning everyone's skills and working together to make a difference within our community and help contribute a positive image for young people.

Future directions: Continue with my Bachelor of Commerce and cadetship with Price Waterhouse Coopers, and be on my way to becoming an accountant. I also hope to volunteer in orphanages in Latin America and Africa.

JOBANPUTRA, WINNIE

Main Projects: Chairperson, Secretary, Youth Week (Street Legacy), Australia Day planning and consultation with young people for the Youth Strategy.

Best thing about LYC: The best thing was by far the friends I have made and how much fun it was to work alongside them. It is amazing to be on the other side of an event, helping to organise and see it come together piece by piece. Also, the great sense of satisfaction of putting together a great event for the young people of Liverpool was amazing.

Future directions: Hope to finish Year 12 and go to Uni to study Law/International studies. I will definitely carry on the skills and everything that I have gained from my time on LYC and continue to advocate for young people and diminish the stereotype we hold by bringing to light the amazing things we actually do.

MARCELLIENUS, JESSICA

Main Projects: I was involved in the SBS insight program and participated in the communications working group with Bradley Birnie.

Best thing about LYC: Working with the LYC team has definitely been a great experience as well as developing new skills and being challenged to tackle problems from a variety of perspectives for the benefit of the youth community.

Future directions: I intend to continue studying a Bachelor of Arts in Communication (Public Communication) and hope to pursue a career in the media sector focusing on public relations.

OLIVARES, ANDREW

Main Projects: Volunteering for Street Legacy II, planning of the Australia Day event.

Best thing about LYC: Being able to meet so many different people from around Liverpool and surrounding areas. Building friendships and networking.

Future directions: I hope to broaden my horizons by gaining on my leadership skills and being able to strive as a young individual in Sadleir and gain the respect necessary to be successful.

RUTHERFORD, MICHAEL

Main Projects: Secretary, Australia Day and Street Legacy II.

Best thing about LYC: Growing Street Legacy II and developing it as a signature event.

Future directions: To use the skills I learnt from LYC in different arenas.

VAMARASI, NIKOLE

Main Projects: Australia Day planning committee, Street Legacy, Triple Threat, Mayoral Concert, Engaging Schools Forum, Vice-Secretary.

Best thing about LYC: Seeing weeks of planning come to fruition, a great example was Street Legacy this year. The team worked really hard and the event was a major success. Also, just being able to give back to the community is always rewarding.

Future directions: I'm back at university (for good) this year. Come July, I'll be starting my Security, Terrorism and Counter Terrorism Studies (BA) at Murdoch University. It's a three year degree and will hopefully put me in a good position to get into federal law enforcement. Aside from that, I'd love to travel.

VEALE, CASSANDRA

Main Projects: Australia Day, Youth Week (Triple Threat, Street Legacy II), Families Week, Liverpool Youth Strategy (2012-2017).

Best thing about LYC: The best thing about LYC is the people you meet.

Future directions: Continuing with my Bachelor of Arts/Law and advocating for the rights and interests of children and young people in law reform and policy debate.

VINCENT, DIANA

Main Projects: Informing planning committee for the Generation Next event, the 2011-2012 Annual Report, volunteering at Street Legacy II, carrying out short surveys at CBD Exposed, Youth Strategy consultation surveys.

Best thing about LYC: Acquiring skills and training to understand how to engage youth participation in Liverpool, informing organisations and services about the demographics of Liverpool and particularly reflecting the interests of youth in this area (Generationnext) as well as enabling youth to voice their perspectives through forms of consultation. I also value the partnerships that were formed and the interpersonal skills that I have developed.

Future directions: My career aim is to work in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and adapt my learning of local government processes towards community relations, grants development or research sectors of CSR.

VINCENT, ADRIAN

Main Projects: RADAR, MC for Street Legacy II, Australia Day Team Leader, Youth Strategy Surveys.

Best thing about LYC: The concept of young people having the ability to make a positive contribution and difference in the community, by enabling leadership, confidence, enthusiasm and intelligent qualities to achieve the best possible outcome from turning ideas into solutions.

Future directions: I hope to complete degrees in Law and Psychology towards my career, and leave a legacy of transformed lives one day.



Liverpool Youth Council

2010-2012

Support and Sponsorship

Sponsors

There have been a variety of organisations which have provided support or sponsorship to the LYC in various capacities.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the following:

- Liverpool Migrant Resource Centre
- Event Cinema, Liverpool
- Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre
- Mounties
- Ted Noffs Foundation Street University
- Gideon Shoes

Liverpool City Council Support

Councillor Delegate - Councillor Wendy Waller (Mayor 2008-2012)

This Annual Report is very timely in regard to the Committee's experience because this is the last year for many of the Committee members. I would like to personally thank those who are leaving the Youth Council for their dedication and efforts during the period in which they have worked so hard to represent the young people in the Liverpool community. The group's achievements are to be commended.

Council has been very fortunate to benefit from the talent and commitment of these young folks. To each departing Committee member I would like to extend my best wishes for success in your future endeavours.

A new Committee will be appointed this year and will take up the challenges of working effectively with Council to address youth related issues in the Liverpool local government area. This is an exciting and rewarding experience and is recommended to anyone who would be interested in making a valuable contribution. The Liverpool Youth Council's Annual Report demonstrates the dedication of this group during the past year. Congratulations and well done!

Council Community Development Workers

Community Development Worker (Youth) – Anita Leighton

The Youth Council model in local government is a unique and valuable opportunity for young people in our communities. The Liverpool Youth Council (LYC) 2010-2012 members have achieved many positive things for themselves and their fellow young people in Liverpool. This annual report presents a showcase of their many achievements over the past year. These dedicated and hardworking Youth Councillors have now come to the completion of their two year term, but as often happens, these young people go on to be active and valuable leaders in our local community and beyond. Also, many graduated members return in years to come to train up and work alongside the next generation of young leaders as they share their skills, experiences and leadership abilities.

Congratulations and thank you again LYC class of 2012. Thanks for you hard work, commitment, dedication, enthusiasm, energy and effective representation of your fellow youth. It has been a pleasure and fun working with each and every one of you. Take the many experiences and skills you have acquired and continue to fly.

Community Development Assistant - Emmy Phongphila

I would like to congratulate all of you on your achievements throughout your term. I hope you have enjoyed it all and have taken away a wealth of knowledge, skills, friendships and fine memories. For most of you, this is a new chapter of your lives without Youth Council. Nevertheless, I expect you will continue to be the wonderful young citizens you are already.

My final inspirational message to you is to continue being the catalyst for change, stay pro-active, be creative and always be yourself. I know you will all have exciting careers and lives ahead of you! Wishing you all the best in your future endeavours.

Thank You Council!

Liverpool City Council has supported the LYC by providing staff and resources to assist us in our important work. Thank you to Liverpool City Council for all the time, money and resources that have been given to the LYC. It has allowed young people to have a voice in Local Government and in their local community and to experience so much more through the various activities we have been involved in.

We would like to thank all the staff who have been involved with the LYC over this term, in particular:

Anita Leighton, Community Development Worker (Youth)

Emmy Phongphila, Community Development Assistant

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