

Youth Employment in Parks

Crew Member and Leader Profiles



Sam Hurst

- plans to bike the coast of Australia



Peter Soukhot

- fills his free time with his love of fishing



Korvel Sutton

- loves to play basketball



McKenzie Smedley

- likes to draw, play her ocarina, and mush



Chelsea DeStefano

- likes to cook; favorites are orzo and manicotti



Briana Tobin

- plays the ukulele, piano, guitar, mandolin, and the banjo



Brandon Marlow

- is the current Mr. Service and plays in a death metal band



Freddy Reyes-Vazquez

- hopes that people will wake up and realize the harm that they are doing to the planet



Ronald Walls Jr.

- can sing in 3 languages (german, spanish, and italian)



Peter Metzger

- owns his own Samurai Sword



Grace Mitton

- someday wants to own a bakery in France



Joseph Graham Linden

- loves making music



Courtney Henderson

- knows how to ride a Bft unicycle



Halle Hustad

- wants to go to school to become a nurse



Peter Alexie

- is a very hard worker



Connor Keesacker

- is generally a pretty nice guy



Chris Hansmeyer

- whitewater kayaks and races snowmachines



Nelson Carpenter

- plays varsity hockey, takes AP classes, and is in jazz band



Xavier Spearman

- prides himself on keeping a positive attitude in any situation



Hunter Graham

- has survived a serious ski accident



Mariah Applegate

- loves to sing and has a goal of becoming a teacher for deaf children



Cami Hooper

- challenges herself by participating in wrestling and Airforce JROTC



Jazmin Manzo

- is a good story teller



Radhames Rosier

- won state in basketball last year



Aurora Agee

- wants to become a doctor, who works in Bush communities



Cenisa Gavin

- is very diverse and associated with different backgrounds



Ben Logan

- is very outdoor oriented



Bhavisha Bhalsod

- history helps her see beauty in the present and the future



Lindsay Wood

- wants to eventually be able to hike the Appalachian trail

Youth Employment in Parks

We Reflect Anchorage

YEP is a partnership between the Anchorage Park Foundation, the Parks & Recreation Department & Alaska Youth for Environmental Action.

In 2011, the Youth Employment in Parks program hired 25 diverse Anchorage youth as crew members & senior crew members. In addition, YEP hired 8 adults as crew leaders and program staff.

High Schools Represented

- Anchorage Christian School
- AVAIL
- Benny Benson Secondary School
- Chugiak High School
- Dimond High School
- East High School
- Grace Christian Academy
- Home School
- Polaris K-12
- SAVE
- Service High School
- South High School
- West High School

Languages Spoken

- ASL: 1
- French: 1
- German: 2
- Greek: 1
- Korean: 1
- Laotian: 1
- Spanish: 5
- Thai: 1
- Aujarati: 1
- Guj: 1

Ethnic Origins

- 62% Caucasian
- 3% African American
- 7% Asian or Pacific Islander
- 3% Alaska Native
- 21% Multiracial
- 3% Hispanic

Age Distribution

- 16 years old: 12.5%
- 17 years old: 75%
- 18 years old: 12.5%

In 2011, YEP is a first job for 10 of the participants!

