

Futureversity awards the Trust

St Katharine & Shadwell Trust was awarded a stunning photographic print in recognition of its long standing financial support of Futureversity (formerly Tower Hamlets Summer University).

The Trust was one of three organisations to be recognised at the Futureversity's Summer Celebration Event, which took place on 23 September 2010 at Stratford Circus.

It was great to see young people who had been on the free summer courses provided by Futureversity come together at the event showcasing their talent.

The Trust was one of the very first funders of Futureversity when it began as a pilot in 1995 and has since seen the organisation, which offers a variety of courses to 11-25 year olds to develop their skills and self-belief, go from strength to strength.

Visit [Futureversity's](#) site to read more.

Transformers - new funding

The Olympic Lottery Distributer has agreed to fund the Transformers grants programme, targeted at communities in the five Olympic Host Boroughs, Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham, Waltham Forest and Greenwich.

Grants are available for between £10,000 and £20,000 per annum, with projects being able to get funding for up to two years.

The application process opened on 3 September 2010 and the programme will close in December 2010.

Closing dates for applications are:

29 October 2010 - Closing date for first round of applications

29 April 2011 - Closing date for first round of applications

28 October 2011 - Closing date for first round of applications

Go to www.transformers-1.org.uk for more information and to apply.

CITY.COMM in film

CITY.COMM supports the voluntary and community sector in the City of London. See what a difference CITY.COMM makes to the City's voluntary sector in a new five-minute film, which gives an overview of CITY.COMM's work and features participants at the CITY.COMMunity Fair.

Watch the video at www.citycomm.org.uk/news/film-worth-watching

Farewell to YouthBank TH

Sadly, YouthBank Tower Hamlets (YBUK) ended in July 2010.

YBTH has been part of the Trust for a very long time. However, the needs - and the level of service provision for children and young people - in Tower Hamlets have changed radically over the years, and the Trust must adapt accordingly.

Since its inception in 1999, YBTH awarded many grants to young people aged 14-24 and trained over 500 young people in grant making.

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St Katharine & Shadwell Trust is the only funder that recognises the issues of working in the area.
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Tower Hamlets Playgroup & Under 5's

Grassroots Grants supports Somali lone parents

Over the last couple of years, Grassroots Grants has provided much needed support to small voluntary and community organisations. Tower Hamlets Somali Lone Parents Project is one such group.

Set up in 2007, the group aims to empower Somali lone parents living in Tower Hamlets.

With a grant of £2,554, the group ran a series of workshops and network meetings to help Somali lone parents overcome difficulties in their lives. The network meetings created a setting for mutual support, sharing ideas and experiences.

“Many of them had not had the experience of meeting with other single parents”, says project organiser Fardowsa Abdillahi, who also organised sessions on local service providers and invited organisations like the local Job Centre along.

As a result of the grant, many of the lone parents have registered with Tower Hamlets College for ESOL classes and there is now a permanent network group of lone parents who meet up and help each other.



Apply now for £5,000

As Grassroots Grants draws closer to the end of its three-year programme, community and voluntary groups are encouraged to apply for what could be their last chance to grab a grant of up to £5,000.

Groups must be based in the City of London, Hackney, Newham or Tower Hamlets, be at least a year old and have an average income of less than £30k over the last three years.

Grants are for projects which strengthen communities, Strengthen organisational capacity and ability, bring people from different backgrounds together or respond to a local need.

Deadline for applications for City and Tower Hamlets groups is 5pm on Monday 18 October 2010.

The programme, which began in 2008, ends in March 2011.

Call 020 7782 6962 for an application pack or visit www.skst.org/grassrootsgiants for more info.

Tower Hamlets CVS - new site, new resources

Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service's (THCVS) new website is now up and running.

THCVS exists to champion the Third Sector in Tower Hamlets. This will be achieved through the creation of discussion forums, providing and sign-posting capacity building training, helping to refresh Tower Hamlets Compact and much, much more.

If your organisation has not already done so, be sure to register as a member of the CVS so that you can contribute to shaping its future.

THCVS developed following consultation with the voluntary and community sector and with support from Tower Hamlets Council and ChangeUp Consortium. It was launched at the Tower Hamlets Third Sector event on Wednesday 15th September 2010 at the Rich Mix Cultural Foundation.

Visit the new THCVS website at www.thcvs.org.uk for more information.

Free research database

A database of volunteering research has been launched by the Institute for Volunteering Research (IVR), the research arm of Volunteering England.

Evidence Bank contains about 200 entries of research, reports, publications and articles produced by IVR since 1997 and can be accessed for free.

Go to www.ivr.org.uk/evidence-bank.

Charities Survey - have your say

Have your say by taking part in The National Survey of Charities and Social Enterprises (previously called National Survey of Third Sector Organisations).

The results can help the government and local authorities better understand the issues surrounding our sector and the environment in which we work.

Go to www.nscsesurvey.com.

Free goods for charities

Giving World Online (GWO) is a not-for-profit, free and simple scheme, offering organisations the chance to pass on surplus goods to people in need.

Charities and community groups can register free to access quality goods free of charge and search for what your beneficiaries need.

Go to www.givingworldonline.com.

