

## **For Youth Initiative (FYI)**

is a by-youth-for-youth, charitable, non-profit organization that works primarily in the former City of York and areas of Etobicoke. FYI provides preventative programs for youth using five main programming streams:

- Life skills;
- Culture and arts production (CAP);
- Female-specific programming;
- Community development; and
- Recreation.

Overall, FYI aims to encourage civic engagement and increase access to employment, educational, recreational, economical and cultural opportunities for youth. Youth are involved in all aspects of decision-making at FYI and always supports and encourages youth to identify issues and act upon them.

FYI draws strength from a variety of community partners. FYI is a United Way member agency and funding is received from various levels of government as well as foundations. At present, the main contributors of funds are: Ontario Trillium Foundation, City of Toronto, Laidlaw Foundation, Human Resources Skills Development Canada (SCP Program), Toronto Community Housing Corporation and United Way. FYI also received support through the Mayor's Community Safety Award in 2006.

It is equally important to note local institutions, businesses, volunteers and community members also contribute to FYI's successes by donating time, space and expertise to FYI's initiatives.

More information on FYI, check out the website:  
[www.foryouth.ca](http://www.foryouth.ca)



**...empowering,  
youth-driven,  
inclusive and  
accessible...**



# **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**



A United Way member agency



Jamal Hemmings and Amon Beckles (centre), winners of the basketball tournament at FYI's 5th Annual Slam Jam Community Festival

# FYI

has launched a Scholarship Program in commemoration of Jamal Hemmings and Amon Beckles, two Toronto youth who were both tragically lost to gun violence in November 2005. Jamal and Amon were participants in FYI's daily programs and will be remembered for their positive, vibrant personalities and dance skills. FYI will honour their memory through the FYI Scholarship Program.

Applicants will be invited to submit a written application, and creative component (i.e. filmed submissions on DVD where the applicant describes why the scholarship is important to them, or a spoken word performance on DVD or CD etc.) A community-based committee will review all applications to select recipients. The criteria for the awards will not be solely based on academic achievements. The FYI Scholarship Program grants will be distributed to young people who demonstrate leadership skills and community-based volunteerism.

The FYI Scholarship Program serves as a momentous way for the community to recognize and show commitment towards young people. FYI believes that it is crucial to invest in young people to generate youth leadership and healthy communities.

In order to ensure the success and continuation of this program, we need your help.

## IN MEMORY OF AMON BECKLES

Please help support this program by providing a financial contribution to the fund. Donations can be made to For Youth Initiative. FYI is a United Way member agency, and the charitable number is 87602 6725 RR00001. Tax receipts will be issued for donations over \$10. (Please specify that you are donating to the scholarship program).

For more information please email at [scholarship@foryouth.ca](mailto:scholarship@foryouth.ca) or call 416-652-9618.



**"Jamal and Amon were two of my closest friends, many of my other close friends are in jail. I was excited to find out about a scholarship opportunity for those of us that might not have good grades but have contributed to our community. The FYI scholarship fund is important because it will make it possible for me to apply for post secondary education."**

**-matthew w**

## IN MEMORY OF JAMAL HEMMING

In support of the community's youth to pursue brighter futures, the program will provide funding supports for various forms of education including: college, university, training, trades, certificate and GED programs.

To be eligible, applicants must be between the ages of 16 and 24, and reside within the boundaries of Caledonia, St. Clair, Scarlett and Lawrence.

Each year, the goal is to award a minimum of four scholarships:

- 2 scholarships of \$2,000 each, to be used for academic purposes, including college, university, training or trade programs
- 2 scholarships of \$500 each (to be used for General Equivalency Diplomas).

**No contribution is too small.  
We appreciate your support.**

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