

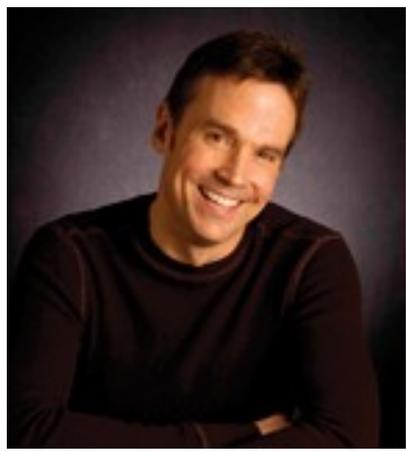


YLF NEWS



YLF ALUMNI GRADUATE ACADEMY?

LET'S DISCO!



We are interested in planning a *YLF Graduate Academy*, to be held during the YLF Week. We would like to invite ALL YLF Alumni to return to camp on Friday, June 12. Alumni will have a separate session from the YLF Delegates, spending four hours with Patrick Schwarz, learning the MAPS process.

In the afternoon, Alumni will join with the delegates for the afternoon sessions and of course, for our formal dinner **AND DANCE!**

If you are interested in this, please let us know by calling 405.521.4964 OR 800.836.4470 by December 1, 2008!

We want to invite you for this wonderful opportunity, but we cannot put time, effort, and money into planning this event unless we hear from you and know that you will participate!

It's sure to be a blast to see everyone... HMMM... **Reunion Dance** anyone???



Who is this masked person?

PLEASE RSVP!!!



2009 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS!

Why Should We Vote?



-from <http://www.gocollege.com/students-guide-to-voting.html#wisedecision>

Vote to Get Our Issues Addressed

Unfortunately in the past, political campaigns overlooked the young voting group and spent their budgets to woo the older crowd. Sometimes politicians make it difficult for **students** to vote when they confuse them on where they should vote. This seems unfair but it can easily be justified. Every election year the percentage of eligible **youth** who actually register and vote is small when compared with other demographics. The **youth** market is not ignored but it is also not considered a main platform for campaigns.

This is why we encourage college students to vote and make that change. It is already happening and if we keep the momentum, candidates will soon address the important issues we face.

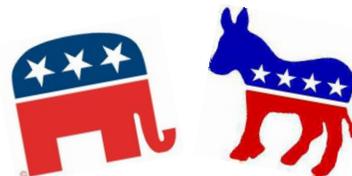
Vote to Reduce Our Burden

Fact is, most election issues directly affect the **youth** of our nation. The war in Iraq, education funding

for both public school and post-secondary, employment programs, the devaluation of the U.S. dollar and the shrinking economy are just a few of the current topics that directly affect the quality of our lives today and tomorrow. And if things aren't going too well, voting can give you the permission to complain and stand out.

Vote to Promote Democracy

If no one voted, democracy wouldn't work. Democracy wouldn't function properly and the system would crumble. Luckily, enough people still vote to keep it all afloat. But you can make democracy even more representative of the people by casting your ballot. *Could you imagine what would happen if the youth group suddenly rose up and voted?* It would dramatically throw off any projected outcomes by political pundits.



LEDERICK HORNE coming to YLF 2009!



LeDerick Horne spent most of his time in school believing he did not have much of a future. A severe learning disability (LD) combined with low self-esteem led him to doubt he would be able to go to college or pursue a meaningful career. But, in the challenging academic environment at Middlesex County College, and with the support offered for his disability through Project Connections, a Learning Disabilities Resource Program at the College, LeDerick became an outstanding student, compiling a 3.75 grade point average. He transferred to New Jersey City University and graduated with honors from NJCU in 2003. Since graduation LeDerick has become the head of his own real estate investment company called Horne & Associates, LLC. He was appointed the Board Chair of [Project Eye-To-Eye](#), a national nonprofit that provides mentoring programs for students labeled LD/ADHD. He is also recognized across the country as an advocate for people with disabilities.

YLF ALUMNI & STAFF BIRTHDAYS

October Birthdays

Jessica Baker - '08 Class
Jessica Craft - '08 Class
Dylan Drury - '08 Class
Kim Hoang - '08 Class
Truly Pettijohn - '07 Class

November Birthdays

Kedrian Glazier - '08 Class
James Estes - '06 Class
Chris Borden - '05 Class
Andrew Rains - '05 Class
Kylie McFeeters - '04 Class
Tiffany Priddy - '04 Class

Jooli Evans - Staff

December Birthdays

Jenny Olson — '06 Class
Kami Hayslip — '05 Class
Allison Jones — '05 Class
Joy Johnson — '04 Class

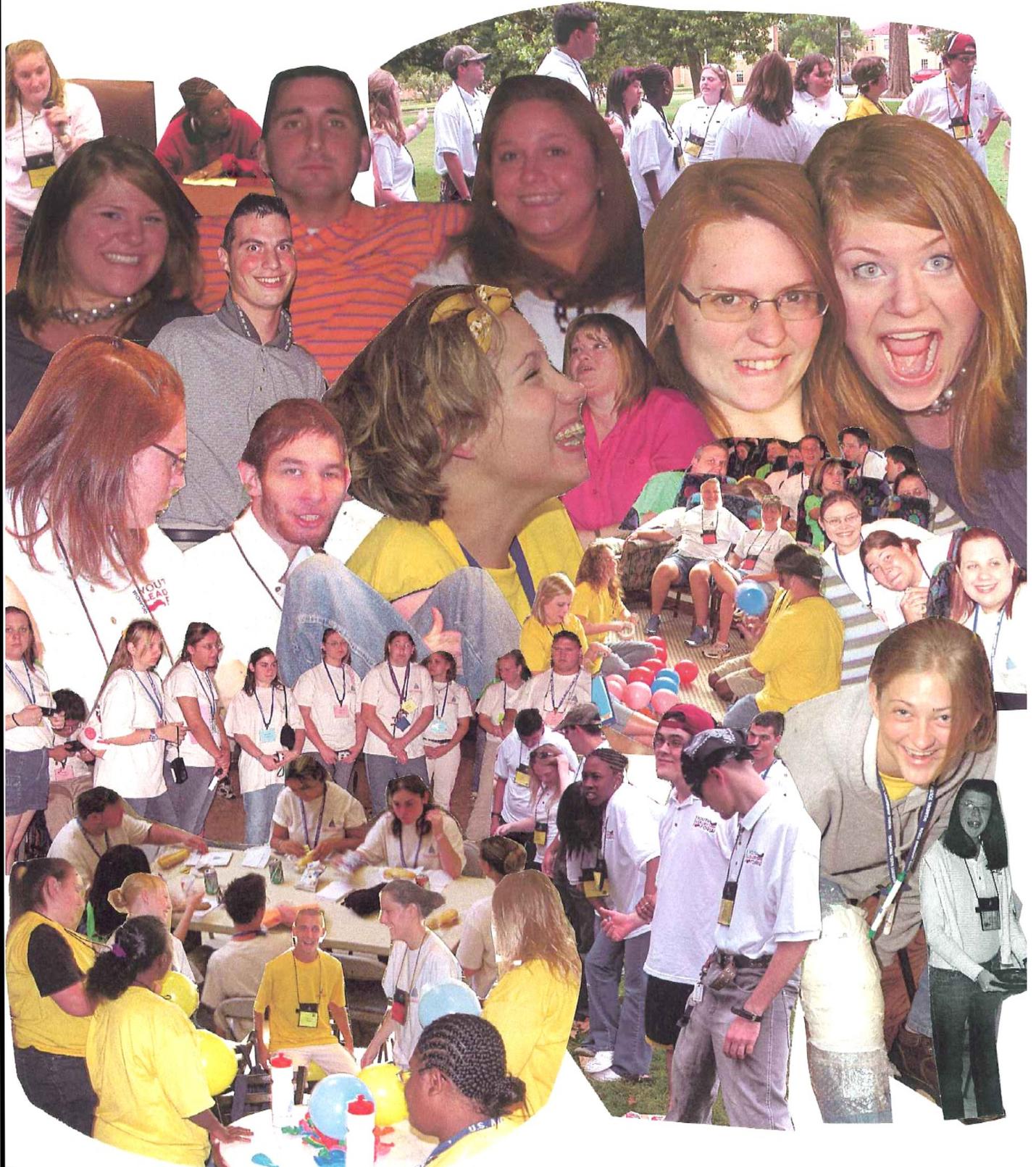
YLF HELLO'S

Hey, Hey, Hey! Several past alumni checked in at the office to give a shout out to their friends. **Jessica C.** from 2008 spikes her Volleyball hellos to **Dylan and Ashley; Rachael**

from 2008 would like **Dylan, Ashley, Jessica B,** and **Jessica C.**, and **Shay** to give her a call! Rachael also sends her geometric hello to Ms. Evans (aka **Jooli**)! **Dylan** checked in

after softball practice to throw some hellos to **Jooli, Jessica, Ashley** and **Rachael!**

"We're not waiting on the world to change. We're doing our part and being the change we wish to see in the world."





News 9 caught **David**, a 2007 YLF Alumni, at the capitol, giving a speech. For the whole story, go to:

<http://www.news9.com/global/story.asp?s=%209036520>

For those who didn't know, David was also an Alumni Mentor for YLF 2008.

Good job David! Keep up the advocacy!

(Oh, by the way...Thanks for sending in your blue card!)

I hear wedding bells!

Hillary, YLF Staff member extraordinaire for all 5 years, just checked in at the office and gave us EXCITING news! **She's getting married!!!**

**Congratulations
Hillary!**



Austin, a 2006 YLF Alumni, checked in with us from the campus of **OU** (Norman, OK).

He's been staying busy, studying Political Science and International Business and staying uber-active on campus!

Okay now...where's your blue cards? If you need some, give me a shout, I'll send them to you!

Keep it up! We're proud of you!

VISIT: <http://okylf.pbwiki.com/FrontPage>

About Your News!

The **YLF News** and **YLF Wiki** is **YOUR** connection to leadership, one another, and the YLF.

We want to hear from you! Send your comments, photos, articles, recipes, drawings, cartoons, etc. When you do so, don't forget to send in a "Blue Card!" I'll sign it and you'll be on your way to returning to YLF in 2009!

Send your newsletter or wiki contributions to:

Jenifer Randle
Oklahoma Developmental Disabilities Council
2401 NW 23rd Street, Suite 74
Oklahoma City, OK 73107

Or e-mail to:
jenifer.randle@okddc.ok.gov

Or call me, I'd love to hear from you!

YLF ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT & ACHIEVEMENT CARDS "BLUE CARDS"

Congratulations to those Alumni who have sent in one or many "BLUE CARDS"! Since the latest reminder, the number of blue cards increased by leaps and bounds... You guys are doing AMAZING stuff in your communities! Continue to share! Here are our blue cards turned in by years as of June '08 (NOTE: Those alumni who mailed in surveys were given a blue card for each survey mailed in):

YLF 2004: 4 blue cards
YLF 2005: 20 blue cards
YLF 2006: 3 blue cards
YLF 2007: 4 blue cards
YLF 2008: 32 blue cards

Here's what some of your fellow alumni have been doing. Help me in giving them

a Pat on the Back!

Cody ('07) active as basketball manager!

Chris ('05) presents to other groups while maintaining a 4.0 GPA in college!

Jessica ('08) has participated in a project to feed the hungry, presenting to groups (about YLF!), and is captain of the Volleyball team!

Lauren ('05) presents to other groups and graduated high school with a 3.91 GPA!

Jeri ('05) spoke to others about attending YLF!

***Remember: If you need more blue cards, write us a letter, e-mail us, call us! We'll send them to you!**

UNTIL NEXT TIME! — JEN