



Upcoming Presentations

GYLI staff member's Jesse Blom and Imroz will be presenting in Chicago at Interfaith Youth Core's 6th Annual Conference on Leadership on a Religious Diverse World. The conference takes place October 25-27, 2009, with GYLI's presentation on October 25th from 3-4 pm on multicultural identity. For more details, please visit IFYC's webpage.

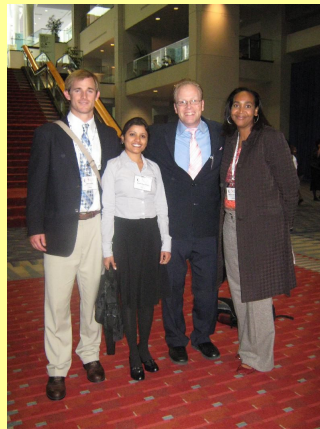
[Click here to view IFYC's events](#)

India Blog

Matt Nink traveled to India for two weeks in September to conduct workshops for teachers in Bangalore, Mumbai and Delhi. He also visited the Mahindra United World College India, one site of the 2010 Year Three institute. More information and pictures can be found at the link below.

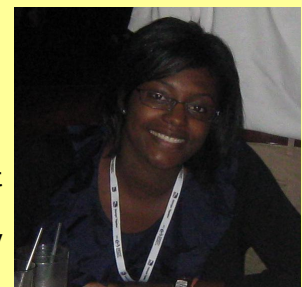
[Click here to view Matt's India travel blog](#)

GYLI presents at the Congressional Black Caucus ALC



GYLI was represented well at the recent Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Annual Legislative Conference (ALC) in Washington DC. This is one of the largest gatherings of African Americans in the country. Staffers, Matt, Jesse, and Imroz, and board member Kim Bouldin-Jones (see photo) all attended sessions and talked to many, many attendees at the GYLI exhibit booth. The three day event brings together political, business, and non-profit leaders to continue to address some of the biggest challenges we all face.

Matt Nink and Courtney Hurtt (GYLI '06, Michigan State University '11 and GYLI Year Two Coordinator) were named to a panel that spoke at the recent conference. This was a great honor, as the event brings together about 5,000 people from all over the country to address some of our most pressing social problems. Matt and Courtney spoke at the CBC Spouses Event entitled: "Positive Change: How America's Young People Are Moving It Forward." The event was a both the celebration of 3 high school essay contest winners as well as a panel discussion about how young people can spark and sustain civic and community engagement. Drawing from their GYLI experiences, Matt encouraged the youth in attendance to see themselves as leaders NOW, not in some distant future, and Courtney reminded them that no one else was going to pave their way. Courtney spoke about her project in her senior year at Detroit Country Day in which she worked with middle schools students in the inner city of Detroit to help them take and pass the tests to get into the Detroit area Prep schools. "There was no script, or anyone telling me how to do it, so I just had to see this vision through myself," Courtney said. She also spoke about her experiences this past summer working at an AIDS orphanage in South Africa. Matt and Courtney hope to return to the CBC ALC next year to



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conduct a youth session for the many high school students to attend the event.

Jesse Blom presents at Global Issues Network



On behalf of GYLI, I was recently invited to present at a regional forum of the Global Issues Network (GIN) in Rotterdam, Netherlands. This two-day forum was based on the topic of water, and it involved student and teacher delegates from four different international schools in Europe: American International School of Rotterdam (AISR), International School of Luxembourg, International School of Bremen, and International School of Stuttgart.

The host school, AISR, did a great job of organizing the two-day conference. Most of the program design, logistics, and organization was performed by the students -- youth leadership in action!!! Other presenters at the conference included a representative from the Port of Rotterdam, which claims to be Europe's largest port, an expert from UNESCO on Transboundary Water Sharing, and a representative from Unilever, a food and consumer goods manufacturer in Rotterdam.

I facilitated a simulation for all the participants - the students had to negotiate how to distribute a limited amount of water resources, which must be shared by various communities, each with different needs. Through this activity, participants had to determine how to resolve the conflict of a water shortage, while some had plenty of water, and others had very little. Of course, the group with the most water didn't want to share any!!!

Thank you very much to AISR for hosting the conference and inviting GYLI to be a part of it!!!!