

Students - Power with Purpose!



Volunteer Centre Sutton Celebrates Student Volunteering Week 2011

This week, **21st -27th February**, has been designated Student Volunteering Week and for the first time Volunteer Centres and Volunteer- involving organisations may award Volunteering England's Gold Awards.

Volunteering England's Gold Awards

Volunteering England's Gold Award is the only national student volunteering award that recognises Achievement, Dedication and Leadership within Further and Higher Education. The Gold Award is a prestigious mark of excellence in student volunteering.

Volunteer Centre Sutton is pleased to announce that for the first time Gold Awards have been achieved by 4 students from 2 Sutton schools.

The students that have been chosen for 'The Gold Awards' are two girls in year 13 from Overton Grange School and two boys in year 13 from Carshalton Sports College for Boys.

All chosen students were mentors last year and have continued their dedication towards the Peer Mentoring stream by helping with the delivery of the year 12s Peer mentoring training, they have also provided ongoing support for the current year 12 Peer mentors. One of the boys nominated has helped MAPS* run a course called Navigate for young people who are at risk of becoming NEET*; this student is also applying to become an adult mentor on our adult stream as he is 18.

The students nominated have excelled in one or more of the following criteria

Leadership

Students who excel in leadership may have run their own volunteering project or taken a lead on a committee or other volunteering events. These students will have been responsible for guiding other students as well as being a team player and volunteering themselves.

Dedication

This is an opportunity to reward the most committed and hard working of volunteers who may not be at the forefront of running projects but can be relied on continually. Being an inspiration to other volunteers, these students show loyalty and passion towards their volunteering.

Achievement

Awards for achievement in volunteering can vary between person to person. It may reflect an achievement in relation to a project, for example creating a new project or recruiting more volunteers. Alternatively the achievement may be on a personal level for a volunteer perhaps overcoming a significant personal barrier or developing a new skill.

From unsung heroes to those who have defied the odds or shown remarkable leadership, each year the Gold Awards reward the outstanding achievements of student volunteers.

This year Volunteer Centre Sutton will be presenting these Gold Awards as part of the Centre's

Volunteers Week 1 – 7 June 2011 Celebrations.

Look out for more news about this event.

*MAPS Mentoring and Peer Support

*NEET Not in Education Employment or Training