



AWARDS

The success of BLS YouthCAN's grassroots youth-led movement has received media attention and numerous awards. BLS YouthCAN students have been covered in the Boston Globe, on local radio and TV, including the nightly news, and were featured on the Today Show. YouthCAN received the President's Youth Environmental Award, an EPA Merit Award, the Secretary's Award for Excellence in Energy and Environmental Education, the National Energy Education Development Youth Award for Massachusetts (twice). YouthCAN won The Green Award, a Student Conservation Association Award, The National Wildlife Federation's ChillOut Competition, Rounds 1 and 2 of the 2011/2012 Lexus EcoChallenge. BLS was the first public school in the country to receive Eco-School's USA's Green Flag Award in 2011, and was one of three schools to receive Samsung's Sustainable Energy Award. BLS YouthCAN received special recognition from the Boston Chapter of the International Facilities Management Awards in 2010, and was invited to present about the Shared Green Roof project at the School Building expo in Chicago in 2010, and at *Les Respirations* in Enghien Les Bains, France, in October 2012.

MAJOR INITIATIVES:

Annual Climate & Sustainability Summit at MIT

The Summit engages several hundreds of students and educators in interactive workshops and activities where they learn about energy conservation, climate change, sustainability, youth activism and youth leadership. It is our highest visibility event with close to 100 schools in attendance annually.

Summer Youth Green Jobs/Energy Audit Training Program

The Green Jobs program (2nd Yr. 2012) engages youth from schools across the city in paid summer training that results in the youth participants forming green teams in the fall, performing energy audits at their schools or community centers, and creating and implementing energy action plans for their respective facilities. Participants gain skills in youth leadership, team building and organizing while learning about energy, energy conservation and how concerns about energy are related to social justice issues, global climate change, and overall sustainability. Ten teens are accepted annually and given an opportunity to work with local energy experts.

BLS Youth CAN Summer Garden Camp

The BLS Garden Camp (new this summer) engages a local business (Green City Growers) and YouthCAN teens in mentoring and teaching younger students from area elementary schools. The garden campers learn about the food cycle, where food comes from, the importance of eating healthy, sustainably grown foods, how to start and tend a garden, and how to compost their food waste

Statewide Education for Sustainability Campaign

The youth-led EfS Campaign aims at integrating the big ideas of sustainability into teaching and learning as broadly as possible, meaning across grade levels and curricular disciplines. Towards that end, BLS YouthCAN students have so far arranged two summer trainings (2010, 2011) engaging more than 50 teachers in Massachusetts in spendings several days learning how to integrate sustainability into their curriculum and developing their own sustainability lessons. Students also organize an Annual Teach-In on Sustainability at our own school (past 6 years.)

Sustainable Facilities Initiatives

YouthCAN has implemented many sustainability projects at BLS including an energy audit and lighting retrofit, a zero-sort recycling program that cut trash in half, and a school digester initiative.

BOSTON LATIN SCHOOL YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK

BLS YOUTHCAN



The Oldest School. The Newest Thinking:

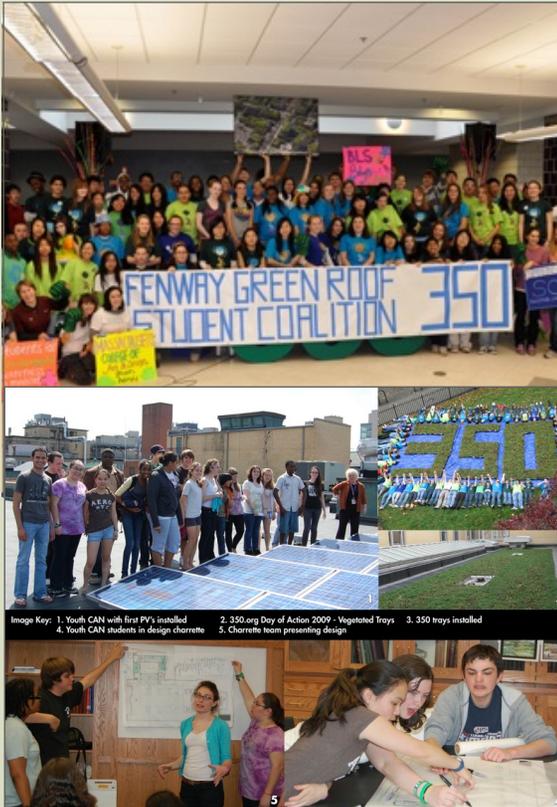
Educating for Sustainability

WWW.BLSYOUTHCAN.ORG

The Boston Latin School Youth Climate Action Network (BLS YouthCAN) is an after-school club at the largest public school in Boston and the oldest public school in the country. BLS students founded and oversee YouthCAN, a coalition of environmental youth groups at schools across the city with more than 22 member groups. BLS YouthCAN partners with many youth organizations, academic institutions, businesses, and public officials in the Greater Boston Area. YouthCAN students organize free events that serve dozens of schools and community organizations in the region every year. BLS YouthCAN's student-maintained website offers a well-documented guide to work YouthCAN has done to promote energy savings, sustainability curriculum, and a model for how other schools can effectively educate for sustainability and promote powerful youth leaders.

Shared Green Roof

Preparing Future Leaders



A SUCCESSFUL MODEL: YOUTH LEADERSHIP & COLLABORATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Today's students need their educational experience to prepare them for the future. Today's educator's need to integrate the big ideas of sustainability into what they teach. We believe that the world needs youth leaders like us, and facilities like the one we have proposed, schools that really impact the way we educate and think about our world. To solve the problems of global climate change, and make the shift to a more sustainable global community, we also need innovative collaborative models like ours. BLS YouthCAN is already bringing people together. Our projects are successfully educating for sustainability and our Shared Green Roof isn't even completed. Help us create a permanent educational space for the City of Boston where collaboration happens all the time, and together we will create a powerful example of how educational facilities paired with meaningful curriculum can give rise to the kind of change we most need to see in world, and how today's young people are leading the way to making it a reality.

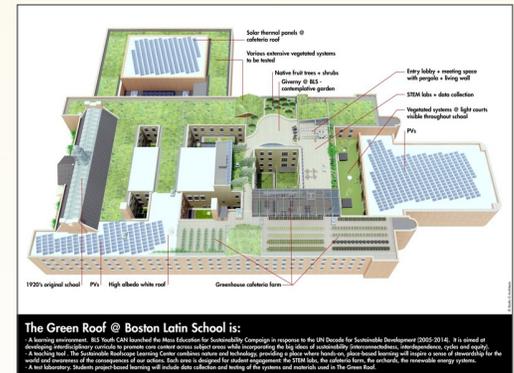
COMMUNITY OUTREACH & SHARING

BLS YouthCAN's goals of youth leadership, education for sustainability, energy conservation and facilities improvement, and community partnerships all come together in our Shared Green Roof and Community Learning Center proposal. It is a plan for a state-of-the-art community green roof where students and educators from across the city will come to learn how to think in terms of the world's interconnected systems. Our intent is for them to be inspired by the facility itself to think in new ways about what a sustainable future requires. The design for this shared facility was created by students who engaged and worked with local architects and engineers to design a space where students and educators alike can come learn in an exciting space. So far it has been entirely funded by students as well, through contests, grants, and prizes.

YOUTH TASK FORCE PROMOTING INNOVATIVE SHARED FACILITY

The direction of the Shared Green Roof Community Learning Center has been shaped by a coalition of students and teachers in schools and community groups across the city because YouthCAN students wanted the design to reflect the diverse interests, ages, and experiences of the future users of the facility. The project aims to create a national model for what educating for sustainability should look like. The project has already engaged hundreds of youth in meaningful service-learning and the opportunity to collaborate with the exciting and diverse variety of groups that are part of the task force. Together we have envisioned a place where school groups, community youth organizations, educators and others can come to explore the fundamental interrelatedness of issues like equity, social justice, health, security, access to resources, sustainable development, economic stability, and protection of the natural environment.

The shared green roof is designed to help learners begin to think in terms of these interconnected systems. With its outdoor classrooms, green house, green technologies, large sculptures, and creative design features, the facility will specifically foster the big-picture, systems thinking necessary for meeting the issues challenging today's global community. It will serve as a much-needed place where educators, students, environmental organizations, and other our community can engage in hands on, inquiry-based learning and education for sustainability. It will provide a year-round educational facility, a space for collaboration on sustainability initiatives, a clearinghouse for sustainability curriculum, and a green schools facilities model for how to save energy, reduce CO2 emissions, curb heat island effects and encourage youth leadership and service learning.



****Educating for Sustainability is an approach to teaching and learning that links the global to the local, and promotes learning that is interdisciplinary and inquiry-based. It helps learners cultivate the capacity to think terms of large interconnected systems and how such systems impact issues of sustainability.*