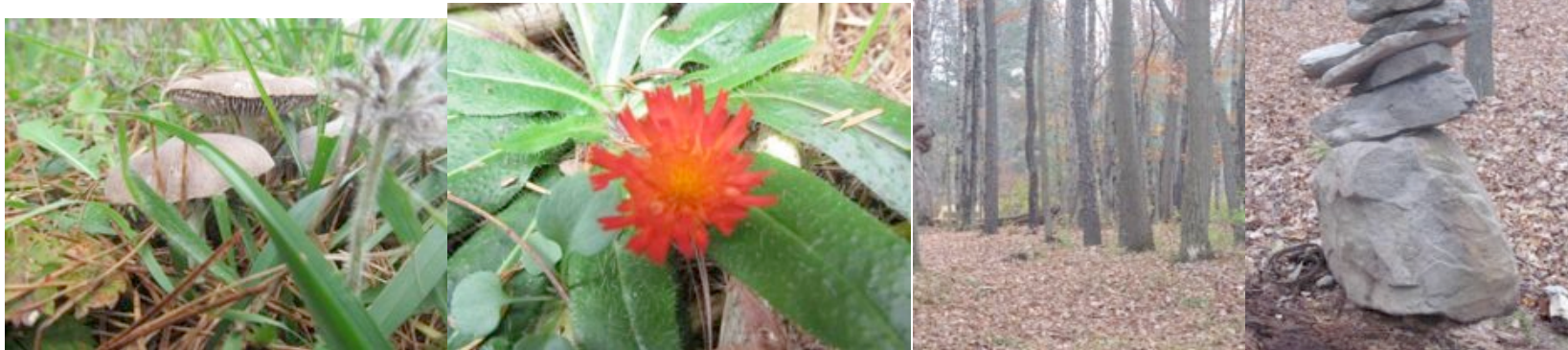


2013 Danby Youth Program Annual Report

Simone Lackey, Program Manager



Participant Photos from Simone's Photography Program

Danby Youth Services
2013 Annual Report
Program Manager: Simone Lackey

Total Unduplicated Count: 66

Male: 30 Female: 36

Distribution by Age of Unduplicated Youth

(Age as of January 1)

5 & under	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	over 18
0			5	7	15	14	12	4	3	1	1	3		1

Danby Youth Services
2013 Annual Report
Program Manager: Simone Lackey

Section 1: Youth Development Programs

Program Title	Number Of Sessions	Activities	Life Skills/Outcomes	Age Range	M	F	Total Youth Attending
2013 Fall Gift Givers	3	Activities include felting, sewing, candle making, card making, beading and jewelry making, making bath salts and scrubs, soap carving and other self-inspired creative endeavors of the youth.	Youth got to take home multiple gifts each night to give to people they care about. youth spent time considering what and who they are grateful for in their lives and make gifts to give them as an expression of gratitude. Youth got to use their hands to make things they had never made before. One example is a youth who was making a necklace for his mother and used a method and beads smaller than he ever had before and got to practice and utilize his dexterity, which from having him in other programs and getting to know him I know is something he doesn't do often. When collecting feedback, 3/8 said it was great, the rest said it was good; 7/8 said the leader was great. Many youth commented on how they enjoyed making gifts and doing the different projects we worked on and several noted that they learned for the first time how to make a candle.	8 - 12	2	6	8
2013 Fall Gingerbread House Build	1	The turn out for this program was very low. One family gathered to decorate a gingerbread house and have a lot of fun.	Youth got to interact with their family in a positive environment, working together to make decisions about how they wanted to decorate it and how they were going to collaborate to complete the task. At the end we built 2 beautiful gingerbread houses and the family was very grateful.	12 - 12	1		1

2013 Fall Photographic Explorers	4	<p>Activities included getting to know the cameras we were using, playing with perspective, taking pictures in the Danby community park, and playing active running games.</p> <p>We visited Jon Reis's professional photography studio, seeing lots of cool photos, watching a demonstration of a professional portrait of a human and object with lights and the youth got to learn about lighting, and Jon talked about photography as a profession and all the different aspects and processes involved. We visited the Brookton's market and experimented with taking photos of objects for a business. Youth looked through photos with a critical eye to select for printing and then titled and mounted photos for a photo show at the Danby Town Hall.</p>	<p>Youth learned to work with different technologies as they figured out their different cameras. Youth got to feel success when they completed mounting their photos and we hung them up. This was evident from the excitement the youth expressed when showing their parents their photo display. In their feed back forms, all said they thought the program, leader and location were great. When ask what they really liked about the program 2/3 said "everything" and that they liked going to the different locations. They noted how they learned about professional photography, prospective and how to select a photo. And they all also said they would like it to be for more sessions (challenging circumstances resulted in a shorted number of sessions).</p>	12 - 14	2	2	4
2013 Fall Primitive Pursuits	10	<p>Activities included team shelter building, active running games, animal embodiment games/ecological learning, sensory awareness games and team games, fire building, tending, etiquette and awareness, cooking over and around a fire.</p>	<p>Outcomes included team work and group decision making when youth worked together on a shelter building challenge and had to find a shelter location, which involved listening to each others observations about resources and hazards in the area, work together to gather materials and build the structure. When the two groups were done they were both really proud and excited to put their shelters to the test by putting cookies inside and pouring water over it. When one team's cookies got wet they were all still very happy to eat a share the cookies with each other. After that activity there was a new sense of unity amongst the youth and connection to that place, which they then all wanted to run off a build more shelters and make a village. At one program, a young boy who was not so sure he wanted to participate in the program at first asked, "Is program almost over," when I said "No," he responded "Yes! Because I never want this program to end!" Another memorable moment of feedback came from a parent when she said, "I am so glad [my daughter] is doing this. All the running around is so good for her. At home when I suggest for her to ride her bike she doesn't want to but she is happy to come here and run around with the other kids."</p>	8 - 14	7	4	11

2013 Fall South Hill Lunch Bunch	6	This Lunch Bunch was short, without many sessions. During this lunch bunch session we played board games and word games and had many conversation about challenges and events in the youth's lives. The youth also spent a significant amount of time eating their lunches while we chatted informally. Youth also received flyers and found out about upcoming programs.	One of main and most desired outcome of lunch bunch was that youth learned about and signed up for fall programs. Youth also got caring focused time with three adults (the program manager, the school social worker and the social worker intern) who were there to listen to them. While the fourth grade attendance was low with only 2 boys, there was a special opportunity for them to develop their relationship, which before was a challenge for both of them. At the end of the program, when asked what they liked about lunch bunch one boy said, "Because you help us make friends."	9 - 10	2	4	6
2013 Fall Winter Explorers	3	Activities included fire building, tending, etiquette and awareness, cooking over and around a fire, active running games, animal embodiment games/ecological learning, sensory awareness games, team games, disc golf and tracking animals and playing in snow.	One major outcome of winter explorers was the youth learning about dressing for the weather, which is also a lesson in responding to challenges through action. After a youth came to program in sneakers and jeans and experienced the cold weather one week, they returned the following week in snow boots and snow pants. Another outcome of this program, during a game of disc golf, was smooth integration of a multi-age group of youth and shared leadership amongst them as the oldest who had the most experience with disc golf guided the game, made sure everyone got their turn and kept track of points. At one point a boy who had started playing and then withdrew wanted to re-enter the game, the rest of the group welcomed him back in, gave him a fair starting score and he had fun finishing out the game with the rest of the group.	8 - 14	4	3	7

2013 Fall Youth Farm Day

1

Activities the youth participated in were trying a new local fruit (hardy kiwi), carving pumpkins, harvesting flowers, processing garlic, learning about the youth farm and the healthy snack program at a local elementary school, harvesting carrots, playing running games in rain, harvesting tomatoes and talking about the local food system and what local foods we were most grateful for.

Some outcomes included youth getting to use their hands and bodies to do a wide variety of farm work. Youth got to experience success in completing a lot of work; they harvested an entire row of carrots and processed several hundred heads of garlic for eating and planting. They also learned about how challenging farm work is and the value of foods as they worked to pick the very last of the cherry tomatoes in the field. Youth also developed teamwork strategies as they moved down the row harvesting carrots, each person doing what they were excited about and capable of. Older and bigger youth used the digging fork to loosen the soil while younger youth looked for and pulled out the carrots (there was a task of identifying them amongst the wild carrots) and carried the harvest basket down the row.

8 - 14

1

6

7

2013 Spring South Hill
Lunch Bunch

6

Lunch bunch was a time for Danby youth to gather together in the quiet of a social worker's room or an outside eating area to eat lunch, play games and do crafts. In this session we made everyone's favorite: shrink-dinks, made survival bracelets and worked on a teacher appreciation garden.

Youth got to focus and succeed in accomplishing different craft projects, while working in a comfortable and inclusive setting. They got to share joys and challenges in their lives and get support from each other, the social worker and the program manager. And youth learned gardening skills, as well as leadership and teamwork in the process of weeding, mulching and planting. One boy who has had a lot of landscaping experience got to share his knowledge with his friends. 5th graders moving onto middle school got to talk about what they were grateful for from their time together in elementary school and what they were excited for and afraid of in middle school. One girl shared her fear of meeting new people and all of the other girls at the table immediately responded with comments about how they would always be there for her. Afterwards it was clear that the one girl felt comforted and assured by her friends responses. This exemplifies several outcomes of lunch bunch, which are youth getting to develop compassionate, supportive relationships with one and other, that the group is an inclusive environment, and that youth have caring adults there to listen and support them. Some quote from the youth include, "[At lunch bunch] everyone treats you like a friend" and "[At lunch bunch] when you are feeling unhappy we help each other." Another great outcome of Lunch bunch was in the 3rd grade group where 4 young boys got to explore leadership dynamics among them through playing group games that require them to work together and focus. There were several social conflicts between two boys in particular and with supportive facilitation from the two leaders they were always able to work through the conflicts and accomplish the goal of the

9 - 12

3

7

10

2013 Spring Boynton Lunch Bunch	7	<p>During this lunch bunch we worked on a campaign called "Above the Influence." During this we talked about ways they experience their peer influencing them, negative influences youth observe happening around them and positive influences that keep them above the negative influences. We watched videos made by other youth from around the country that have been involved in "Above the Influence." Each youth took a picture with an "Above the Influence" Post-It note that was about being above some influences. Then we marched in the Parade as an "Above the Influence" group.</p>	<p>Youth had a safe space to talk about influences in their lives and ways to stay above negative influences. There were also similar outcomes to past Lunch Bunches in that youth from different towns got to come together and get to know each other. That during the lunch bunch the two program managers present (Enfield and Danby) got a chance to check in with the youth about how their day/week is going. Another simple outcome of this group is that the program manager is able to connect with other youth from Danby and get them involved in after school, summer and youth employment programs.</p>	11 - 14	2	2
2013 Spring Fox Walkers	6	<p>Our main focus was learning the art of walking quietly on the land in order to observe wildlife. We did a lot of hiking in the Six Mile Creek Nature Preserve on South Hill. We discovered two different fox dens and watched several fox cubs. We identified birds and wild flowers in field guides. We drew maps of the paths we explored. We dipped our feet in the creeks, had leaf and drift wood boat races and enjoyed the beauty of the gorges.</p>	<p>Youth learned the skill of "fox walking," were focused and observed many plants, insects and animals and learned about "scout etiquette" (not calling each other out and giving each person an opportunity to increase their awareness). Youth heightened their awareness playing games. And we did impliment out quiet observation skills and get to watch a few fox cubs from a distance for quite some time. Youth worked on overcoming fears of exploring unfamiliar territory and becoming more comfortable hiking around and in the gorges. One girl was especially grateful for the opportunity to overcome her fear of heights as she was able to walk along a path along a gorge. At the end of the program all the youth had positive things to say about the program and instructor, and several said they wished the program was longer. Much of what they focused on in reflecting on their learning had to do with fire and each child shared a specific technique they found helpful, which included what kind of wood they liked to use and they form/structure they liked to use when building a fire. Awareness of safety was another outcome of learning about fire.</p>	9 - 11	2	4 6

2013 Spring Primitive Pursuits	5	Much of this session was spent working on hiding and stalking skill. There were also team and paired fire challenges and lots of games. We coal burned spoons and worked on carving them.	During this session youth were encouraged to think about the skills they would like to build and work on them. Youth became more respectful and successful at playing stalking games were a few youth hide along a path and others walk along trying to spot the, using a specific etiquette of not calling each other out. Youth learned good sportsmanship in playing games that did not put a big emphasis on winning and were played for multiple rounds. Youth also learned teamwork in playing different nature games that required them to work together. All of the youth had positive feedback on the program and instructors, and when asked about the location many youth elaborately expresses gratitude for the community park. One specific example that notes a piece of learning that one child took away was, "I liked all the different trees here that are good for making	9 - 11	5	4	9
2013 Spring Primitive Pursuits Day Field Trip	1	Youth took a field trip to Primitive Pursuits Day. Activities there included: flint-knapping, friction fire workshops, guided tree ID walks, basket-making, games, clay sculpture building, meeting a hawk and....	Youth got to connect with youth of different ages/grades, and connect outside of school. They got to practice different primitive skills and make different crafts, including throwing atlatl darts at a target, making bark baskets and coal burning treasure chests. Older youth demonstrated the ability to be considerate and inclusive of younger youth. There was one younger boy who seemed a little timid about wandering by himself and two of the older girls made sure to include him and invite him along to an activity. Youth demonstrated ability to listen and be respectful during a story telling session. Youth also got to connect with the pervious Danby Program Manager, Julie Kulik, and engage	9 - 12	1	3	4

2013 Spring Raptor Researchers	1	Youth from Danby and Groton gathered at the Danby Town Hall on a day off of school to learn about raptors. We shared stories and curiosities, researched question in field guides and drew pictures and traced different raptors. We had a visit from the Cornell Raptor Program, who brought 8 different raptors. And we played games in the Danby Community Park based on Raptor-Songbird relationships.	Danby youth got to connect with Groton youth. They got to follow through on finding out answers to questions they asked in the beginning of the day and either researched in books or asked the Cornell Raptor Program. Youth also got a chance to ask many great questions of the presenters. They got practice being a well-behaved, respectful audience. They got lots of exercise pretending to be hawks and songbirds looking for food as well as time to develop their focusing and observation skills during a silent sit spot. Youth all enjoyed both seeing the birds as well as playing the games. And the Cornell Raptor Program commented on what great questions all the youth had.	9 - 17	5	8	13
2013 Spring Wild Edible Adventures	1	Danby youth joined together with Groton Youth, this time at Jennings Pond. The plan was to gather wild edible but because early spring had winter weather, there were not too many wild edibles. Instead we worked on fire skills, cooking over the fire and staying warm in the cold.	Danby youth got more time to evolve their relationships with Groton youth and friendship evolved on their second day of being together and some exchanged phone numbers. We worked together in several different team-building games. They experienced success working together to build and maintain a fire that was able to cook them a snack. They got exercise taking a long hike and playing two epic, running games. They practiced their navigation skills in moving through the woods next to Jennings Pond.	10 - 17	6	6	12
2013 Summer A Day at Sapsucker Woods	1	We enjoyed a day at Sapsucker woods watching and listening to birds. We walked around the trails, learned to use binoculars to focus in on birds and plants and played team building games while out on the trails. We went inside the lab and explored the sound room, watched videos about bird identification and bird language and got to share our observations with each other.	Youth got to practice respectful behavior at a public place that was very noise sensitive. They got to work on leadership skills in presenting and explaining games as well as working collaboratively. They got to practice technological skills in the sound lab. They were all kind and respectful to each other, they shared turns and resources in the lab spaces, video room and out in the woods. They were adaptable and resilient in the challenging, rainy conditions. They developed a positive relationship to the Lab of Ornithology and were well liked by the staff.	9 - 12	4	2	6

2013 Summer Girls Week	4	We visited Seneca Falls, Elizabeth Cady Stanton's house, the Women's Hall of Fame, the locks and the farmers market. We went to a yoga class, had a natural spa day and talked about body care. We went on an overnight in the Shindagin Hallow State forest, hiking in, making a fire and preparing our meals.	Girls got to feel a part of a safe and inclusive environment, meet new friends and share special time as young women. Girls got to learn about other significant women figures at the hall of fame and talk about what inspires them. They got to use their bodies and get physical exercise in the Yoga class. They got to talk about and learn more about health and taking care of their bodies. They got to overcome the challenge of backpacking into a camp spot and making a fire in the rain. They got to feel successful in making the fire and preparing their meals and got to enjoy eating healthy food. They got an opportunity to socialize in a positive environment. And they got to explore through their connections to each other and the outside community new ideas about what it means to be a part of community. They got to take leadership in facilitating games.	10 - 13	7	7	
2013 Summer Homestead Explorations	3	Youth visited three different examples of homesteads. One was a cooperative homestead with many people sharing land, farming and raising animals. One was the homestead of an older couple who had gardens, animals, solar panels and a fiber studio. The third was the homestead of a family with a big garden with an orchard and berries, and livestock. We made pickles, spun wool and ground wheat by hand to make muffins with fresh picked berries.	Youth got to see example of different ways of living off the land and learned about self-sufficiency. Youth got to see examples of things they could do (or are already doing) at home to be more environmentally-friendly. Youth got to feel successful in completing food projects (pickles and muffins). Youth also got to socialize in a positive environment. They got to work together on the food projects and experience cooperation and sharing of turns/responsibilities. They also got to experience leadership in facilitating and explaining games.	8 - 14	7	4	11
2013 Summer It's all about Danby and Having Fun	2	We played lots of team building games, explored the woods at Jennings Pond, went swimming, prepared for the Danby Fun Day, had a pizza dinner gathering and marched in the Danby Fun Day Parade.	Youth got to meet new youth and make new friends. Youth got to feel comfortable in the woods and work on fire building skills and cooking over a fire. Youth got to feel like a part of a safe group and help each other out. Youth got to engage their imaginations in making up games and playing games in the water.	9 - 12	4	4	8

2013 Summer Water Color	2	Youth gathered to practice water color skills, work on a painting project and play games. Families with young children were also invited to attend, with parents present and one family with two young children came.	With almost all youth not knowing each other before the program, youth got to meet new people and make new friends, feel safe in a new environment and overcome the hesitance of entering a new group. Youth had space for self-reflection as an artist and everyone was encouraged by the instructor and the other participants. Youth got to set a goal of a project they wanted to work on and feel success upon completing that painting project. Youth got to work together in playing team games and demonstrated the ability to be inclusive of each other, including the family with two young children. They got demonstrate responsibility in setting up and cleaning up the painting stations. And they all had the opportunity to be a part of a positive social environment. They also got to take leadership in facilitating games that they wanted to play.	8 - 10	3	2	5
2013 Winter Boynton Lunch Bunch	7	Lunch bunch is an in school program that meets in the lunch room to provide a space for Enfield, Ithaca and Danby youth to socialize in a relaxing environment. In this session of Lunch Bunch we worked on lanyards/boon-doogle, survival bracelets, shrink-dink and tie-dye. We also played board games including Set and Apples-to-Apples.	Youth from different towns get to come together in a safe and inclusive environment to get to know each other. Each day the youth had 2-3 supportive, caring adults checking in with them about how their day/week is going. It is also an opportunity for Program Manager to get to know the youth of Danby and connect them to outside of school programs.	11 - 14	2		2
2013 Winter Primitive Pursuits	7	In this session youth had the opportunity to develop nature awareness and outdoor survival skills and get more comfortable being in nature. They learned about making fires, staying warm in cold weather, making cordage, bark baskets and throwing sticks and learned to identify and ate wild edibles.	Youth collaborated to build fires and shelters, gather food and play cooperative games. They got lots of physical exercise running around during running games and also honed in on their ability to focus and pay attention in awareness games and sit spots. In playing games based on predator-prey relationships, youth learned about ecology. Through the tough lessons of being wet and cold they learned about dressing and preparing for the weather. And by navigating unknown territory as well as traveling back to places they had been before, youth learned sense of direction and navigation skills.	9 - 14	5	10	15

2013 Winter South Hill Lunch Bunch	7	Lunch bunch was a time for Danby youth to gather together in the quiet of a social workers room to eat lunch, play games and do crafts. In this session we sewed bean-bags, wove bracelets with embroidery thread, made shrink-dinks, and played various board games.	Youth got to focus and succeed in accomplishing different craft projects, while working in a comfortable and inclusive setting. They got to share joys and challenges in their lives and get support from each other, the social worker and the program manager. It was also a great opportunity for the program manager to get to know youth from Danby and get them involved in after school programs. This session of Lunch Bunch yeilded enrollment of 15 youth in other winter programs.	10 - 12	3	8	11
2013 Winter Wacky Wednesday	8	In this program we played games, made art out of snacks, did lots of arts and crafts and planted sunflower seeds. Arts/crafts included drawing, feltings, leather pouch making, crocheting, shrink-dink, survival bracelets, and tie-dye. Games included board games and outdoor running games.	With a wide range of ages (7-11) in this weekly afterschool program youth got to learn different craft skills, practice leadership and work on communication skills. This happened mostly through leading and teaching different games to each other. In playing games they got experience working together on teams to accomplish a goal, while exercising. While working inside on craft projects youth got a chance to both focus and relax. They worked on negotiating and sharing limited materials. Older youth got a chance to help younger youth. Every week a child brought home a project, and at the end of each day there were always youth excited to share one of their creations with their parent. They had time to socialize in a positive environment with their peers and youth of different ages. One example of positive communication is a conversation where one middle school girls was telling the 4th and 5th graders what middle school was like and they different opportunities they would have. At the end of the program 12 out of 13 youth said the program was great and most of what they all said was that they enjoyed the opportunity to be engaged doing fun crafts and playing games.	8 - 12	2	12	14

Section 2: Youth Employment

Program Title	Program Focus	Total Number of Youth Served	Ages	M	F
2013 Youth Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteerism	4	Age 13 & under:		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Career Exploration		Age 14 - 15:		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Job Skills		Age 16 & up: 1 3		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subsidized Employment				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Casual Employment				

2013 Trainings Attended - Simone Lackey

Title of Training	Training Sponsor	Date and Time (# of hours)
ICSD Student Interns	Sara Shenk	March 13, 10:00-10:45 (Part of RYS Staff Meeting)
2012 TCYSD Needs Assessment)	Amie Hendrix	April 10, 10:00 – 11:45 (Part of RYS Staff Meeting)
Evaluation Tools	Linda Schoffel	May 8, 9:15 – 10:00) (Part of RYS Staff Meeting)
CCETC Climate Survey & Diversity Discussion	Ian Creelman, Chibo Shinagawa	May 8, 10:00-11:00 (Part of RYS Staff Meeting)
Bridges for Youth and Families	Valerie Reine	June 13, 9:45-10:00 AM
Ithaca Children's Garden tour	Erin Martea	June 13, 10:00-10:30 AM
Tobacco Free Tompkins	Samantha Hillson, Tobacco free Tompkins	October 9, 10:30-11:15 AM
Outcomes Measurement/Evidence Review	Linda Schoffel	October 9, 10:00-10:30AM