April 2024

Newham Deanery Youth

ooliveaohonmele@brcdt.org

NEWHAM DEANERY & PARTNERSHIPS LAUNCH YOUNG JOURNALIST PROJECT

INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION



In a bold move to inspire and cultivate the This will be done by Newham Deanery & Partnerships has unveiled its latest initiative, the Young Project. Journalist This innovative programme aims to equip young minds with the essential skills and ethical grounding journalism.

Journalist/Reporter, General Assignment Reporter, Investigative Reporter, Feature Writer, and Beat Reporter. The Young Journalist Project seeks to inspire youth to for Newham Deanery & Partnerships. "We pursue careers in journalism.

by providing next generation of media professionals, the comprehensive training in news writing, investigative reporting, multimedia and storytelling, digital media. programme offers online and face-to-face workshops and seminars led by seasoned journalists and media professionals, covering required to thrive in the ever-evolving field of everything from the fundamentals of news writing to the intricacies of investigative Participants undertook various roles, such as reporting. "Our goal is to nurture spiritual, critical thinking, and communication skills among young people," said Miss Olivea Ohonmele, Programme Youth Coordinator believe that by empowering them with these-



-tools, we can foster a more informed and engaged spiritual community."

As a young Catholic journalist, you have a unique perspective that can be incredibly valuable for promoting interfaith understanding strengthening community bonds. Your background in the Catholic faith can help you approach stories and discussions with empathy, respect, and a understanding of deep religious traditions. By sharing stories that highlight the common values and experiences shared across different faiths, you can help bridge divides and foster dialogue between people of diverse backgrounds. Your role as a journalist also gives you a platform to amplify voices that are often marginalized or underrepresented in mainstream media, contributing to a more inclusive and interconnected community. Ultimately, your work can play a vital role in promoting mutual respect, cooperation, and unity among people of all faiths.

Participants in the programme will be paired with Dr. Sophie Bankes, who will guide them through their journalistic journey, offering feedback and support. Dr. Bankes brings over 10 years of teaching experience and holds an English degree from Cambridge, as well as a PhD and Masters from the Open University. She has accumulated over 1000 hours of teaching, ranging from different levels: KS2 to undergraduates. The curriculum also includes and focuses on real-world reporting assign-

Written by Tyrese, 18



June 2024

Newham Deanery Youth

ooliveaohonmele@brcdt.org









Catholic local events, conduct interviews, and highlight important local stories that might produce content for publication.

Becoming a young Catholic journalist can be a awareness. rewarding experience for several reasons. Firstly, it allows you to use your writing and The project is designed to produce the communication skills to spread messages of Deanery with a robust skill set ready for faith, hope, and positivity within the Catholic careers in journalism and related fields. community. By sharing stories, news, and Participants will build a portfolio of work insights from a Catholic perspective, you can that help inspire and educate others in their faith providing a strong foundation for future journey. Furthermore, being a young Catholic opportunities. Many participants have journalist gives you the opportunity to connect already found value in their studies and with and engage the youth community in a deepened their faith in the Catholic meaningful way. You can address issues that community programme's effectiveness. are relevant to young people, provide them with a platform to share their voices, and "The Young Journalist Project has been create a sense of unity and belonging among instrumental in building my confidence," Catholic youth.

A unique aspect of the Young Journalist outlet. "The hands-on experience Project is its emphasis on Catholic community mentorship I received were invaluable." engagement. By focusing on local issues, they are also able to develop a deeper connection to Encouraged by its success, the Newham De-

-ments, giving the youth the chance to cover their community. This approach aims to otherwise go unnoticed, enriching both the participants' experience and the community's

> their demonstrates capabilities,

> said Shanika, a programme mentor now working as a reporter for a major news and

-anery & Partnerships plan to expand the programme. Future enhancements include extending the reach to more participants from diverse backgrounds, introducing advanced training modules, and forming partnerships with media organisations to provide internship opportunities.

"We are committed to supporting the journalists of tomorrow," added Dr. Sophie Bankes. "Our expansion plans aim to offer even more young people the chance to develop their skills and make a meaningful impact through journalism."

The Newham Deanery & Partnerships Young Journalist Project represents a significant investment in the future of journalism. By providing young people with the tools and knowledge they need, the project is shaping a new generation of journalists who are ready to tackle the challenges and opportunities of the modern media landscape. This initiative not only prepares participants for successful careers but also fosters a more informed and engaged society.

Overall, being a young Catholic journalist can benefit both participants and the youth community by fostering a sense of community, promoting dialogue and understanding, and ultimately helping to strengthen and grow the Catholic faith among the younger generation.

'Heavenly Father,

We thank You for the Young Journalist Project and ask Your blessings on all participants. Grant them wisdom, integrity, and courage as they seek and share the truth with compassion and fairness.

Bless their mentors, especially Dr. Sophie Bankes and Miss Olivea Ohonmele, with strength and insight.

May their guidance nurture these young minds and help them grow in faith and community connection.

May this initiative inspire hope, spread positivity, and foster unity, preparing participants for successful careers and building a more informed and engaged society.

In Jesus' name, we pray.

Amen.'

Written by Tyrese, 18