



**‘International  
Citizenship in Action -  
A legacy of opportunity  
in the social  
cultural and human  
development of  
young people and  
communities...’**



**Youth Charter  
Muhammad Ali Scholars Tour  
Report 2010**



Sports, culture and arts...  
Social and human legacy  
development for life



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## Youth Charter Muhammad Ali Scholars Tour Report 2010

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### Foreword



As part of a collaboration between two urban communities on opposite sides of the Atlantic, between 15 – 18 May 2010, two groups of young people were brought together to debate the issues they face – parallel and opposite – and how they are responding to them. Part of a wider objective was to bring peace and tolerance to young people and their communities around the world. This four-day tour took place in communities and institutions from across the UK, culminating in a major conference.

Coordinated by the Youth Charter, young people from communities across North West England, supported by the British Council, welcomed the Muhammad Ali Scholars, a group of students from the Muhammad Ali Institute for Peace and Justice, at the University of Louisville, Kentucky.

The UK tour was intended to facilitate debate, learning and interaction between international contemporaries. The central theme – Olympism Legacy and the power of the 2012 London Games with a central social and human theme reflected all the elements of the tour.

The 2010 Muhammad Ali Scholars Tour reflects the Youth Charter's continued international programme of work and the role of sport in its social and human development potential.

Dr Mordean Taylor Archer  
Vice Provost for Diversity and International Affairs, University of  
Louisville

## Background and Introduction

The firmly established relationship with the Muhammad Ali Institute consolidates a seventeen-year international programme of campaigning, advocacy and policy development along with project and programme delivery on all five continents. The Anglo-American Youth Culture Initiative, inspired by the Spirit of Hulme and Moss Side Tour of Los Angeles in 1993, and the Anglo South African initiative, inspired by the Vision for Sport Conference in Johannesburg in 1993, reflect the two longest contributions of sustained effort in the Youth Charter's international programme of work and the contribution to the role that major games play in the social and human legacy potential of young people and communities.

*Members of the Amateur Athletic Foundation and Youth Charter's Spirit of Hulme and Moss Side Tour Group receiving the Anglo American Youth Culture Initiative Scroll - 1994*



The Youth Charter co-hosted a workshop seminar at the 56th DPI-NGO Conference in 2003, which highlighted the need for a more integrated strategic approach in the role that soccer can play in social and human development.

That conference saw the Youth Charter support 'The Day of the African Child' as part of the New York 2012 Olympic Bid, that also marked the June 16th Youth Day which commemorates the Soweto uprising in South Africa in 1976.

*Muhammad Ali Tour  
Group 2006 outside  
Youth Charter HQ,  
Salford Quays,  
Manchester*



With the support of the British Council, the Youth Charter established a unique programme in providing social and human development, sporting activity in support of three UK trade missions in Cote D'Ivoire, Zambia and South Africa. In Manchester, the British Council hosted the teleconference "The Day of the African Child". This saw a unique bringing together of people from three continents to discuss the social, cultural and economic challenges faced by young people in the African Diaspora. In 2006 the Youth Charter's relationship developed further with the hosting of the Muhammad Ali Scholars in the North West of England. In 2006 the Youth Charter's relationship developed further with the hosting of the Muhammad Ali Scholars in the North West of England where they also contributed to the National Race Hate Crime Conference in Liverpool. The following year, the Youth Charter was invited to the Muhammad Ali Institute's "Ali in Focus" week where stronger ties were established between the two agencies.

Read the Youth Charter Manchester '12' Report on Yudu here:  
<http://bit.ly/AiOrVv>



*"The youth of today and tomorrow need to understand each other and the wider world to influence their future. Young people are faced with many cultural, social and economic challenges, and are standing up to facilitate change for themselves. I was delighted to bring these groups together, to discuss the burning issues facing our societies, to learn from one another and understand how cultural activity can help address these problems."*

Geoff Thompson, Executive Chairman of the Youth Charter.

The Scholars gained a unique insight in the social and cultural challenges facing young people and communities across the world.

The Muhammad Ali Scholars are all students at the University of Louisville, Kentucky, who have secured scholarship places at the Muhammad Ali Institute, which is a department of the University and partners with the Muhammad Ali Center. Young people from communities in Salford, Leasowe and Toxteth were brought to the Tour as part of the Youth Charter's ongoing Citizenship in Action International programme of work. The Youth Charter hosted these two groups with support from some of its many partners, which included the University of Salford and the University of Roehampton.

## Huggy's Gym, Bradford



Set up in 2006, the Manchester Road gym is run by volunteers, predominantly ex-professional boxers who have come back into the sport to give something back to the community. The project is supported by Basic Human Rights and is located in the heart of a socially deprived area of Bradford that attracts users from all backgrounds in a community that has been dogged by riots and ongoing social, cultural and religious tensions.

Local Parish Council Bradford Trident initially funded the gym. However this funding expired more than six months ago and the gym is totally funded by donations.

Huggy's Gym is aimed at young men with little education or employment prospects, and is successful in providing discipline and confidence. There is space upstairs where women "are welcome", but they are not actively encouraged. This made many of our Scholars, and their supporters, uncomfortable. As activists for social justice and inclusion, this discrimination seemed at odds with the rest of mission.



## **American Embassy**

With security at its highest level, the Ali Scholars were now on American soil and once through the elaborate security, were met by officials from the American Cultural desk. A dialogue of great value was exchanged with Dr Mordean Taylor Archer and Stacy Bailey Ndiaye outlining the international programmes and projects of potential future development and the role cultural activity can play in building a more tolerant, just and fair global community. The Cultural Attaché offered a revealing insight into American policy and the important and growing role that sport was playing in promoting American interests at home and abroad. The visit concluded with the Scholars again experiencing London sites from a Taxi and lunch at Waterloo Station with a Tube journey on to Roehampton where they walked the short distance to their home for the next 24 hours.

After only hours of settling in, the Scholars were met by Roehampton University Sports Director, Ian Pickup who escorted them to the main campus for the free legacy conference plenary.

## **Pre-Olympic/Paralympic Legacy Debate**

Scholars from the Ali Institute, the British Council and Roehampton University gathered on the eve of the Games Legacy Conference to consider the issues that would be debated on the following day. The Youth Charter presented the background and social and cultural legacy benefits of major games, and posed some thought-provoking questions. The debate was interesting, with differing views coming from each of the three diverse groups of young people.

## Day 4 – The Olympic/ Paralympic Legacy Conference – Roehampton University, London

The tour culminated in a major conference, hosted by the University of Roehampton, to debate some big questions: what do we want from society, and how can we make it happen? Debate centred around the impact of major sporting events (for example, the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics), the legacy expectations of the communities where they take place, and the role of the public and private sectors, as well as private citizens, in bringing about that legacy.

*Youth Charter  
Executive Chair  
Geoff Thompson  
gives the opening  
address at the 2010  
Legacy Youth Summit  
at Roehampton  
University, while Ian  
Pickup, Director of  
Sport & Wellbeing at  
the University listens  
to the debate*



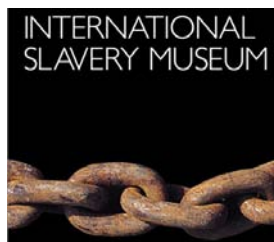
As well as those involved in the Scholars Tour, attendees included a large audience made up of private / public / community volunteer charity sectors as well as key policy makers and activists in the area of sport and social and human development. 150+ delegates were represented and included Malbank Sixth Form College, the Metropolitan Police, The Football Association, Planet Sport and the London Coaching Foundation.

Watch a video from the conference here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CcQqqZNhBck>

## Support Agencies

The Muhammad Ali Scholars Tour happened as a result of a number of organisations coming together with a set of common goals. The Youth Charter lies at the heart of it, having worked with all the organisations in question in different ways over the last few years.





## Muhammad Ali Scholars Tour Group 2010

**Dr. Mordean Taylor-Archer** – Vice Provost for Diversity and International Affairs, University of Louisville

**Stacy Bailey-Ndiaye** – Director, Muhammad Ali Institute for Peace and Justice

**Dwain Archer** - Coordinator of Emergency Preparedness and Safety Compliance, University of Louisville

**Dr. Anita Harris** – Assistant Professor, Anthropology, University of Louisville

**Brodrick Clarke** – Deputy Director of Programs, Muhammad Ali Center

### **Amanda Simmons (21)**

Amanda is a double major in English and Psychology with Spanish and Race and Gender Studies. She plans to get her PhD so that she can improve the lives of others within the United States and beyond.

### **Bristol Mann (22)**

Bristol is interested in human and environmental geography and the vast inequalities in access to fresh food in urban areas. She helped establish a non-profit organization called New Roots.

### **Gwen Rucker (19)**

Gwen is studying Chemistry and plans to become a Doctor. She is on the University basketball and volleyball teams.

### **Mohamad Ndiaye (20)**

Mohamad was born in New York but spent his early years in Senegal. He is studying Psychology.

### **Janessa Siegel (20)**

Janessa has always been involved within her community: she is a CONNECT mentor, a supernova mentor, and an Everyone Reads Volunteer

**Jonathan Krigger (20)**

Jonathan is studying philosophy and political science. He is interested in the visual arts, dance, writing, computer programming and music.

**Kathriena Greenwell (20)**

Kathriena is one of eleven children and enjoys learning about new people and cultures. She loves to be outdoors.

**Whitney Newell (20)**

Whitney is studying social work with a minor in Pan-African Studies. She is involved in many extracurricular activities and is Membership Chair for the Association of Black Students

**British Council Scholars**

**Head of Delegation: Mrs Lynne Wilson**

**Kayleigh Barnes (18)**

Kayleigh's interests are music and dancing. She dreams of being a vet or a youth worker, and wants to put some good into her community and help other young people.

**Alex Martin (18)**

Alex loves football, both playing and watching. He likes to keep fit and is interested in history. He has a place at Chester University and wants to be a psychiatric nurse.

**Jaclyn Parsons (18)**

Jaclyn used to swim competitively and still holds the local record for her distance. She is currently studying childcare and would like to be a children's nurse.

### **Aiden Ryan ( 24)**

Aiden likes playing and watching football, as well as running and table tennis. His ambition is to be a youth worker.

### **Craig Ward (18)**

Craig holds no special ambition yet; he will try anything that comes along and see if he can do it. His interests are TV, Xbox and going out.

### **Ben Osu (17)**

Ben is interested in youth, community, arts and culture, media and business. He would like to own his own social enterprise or business.

### **Host Team:**

**Geoff Thompson MBE**, Executive Chair, Youth Charter

**Janice Argyle**, Administrator, Youth Charter

**Lucy Lomas**, Social Professional, Youth Charter

**Peter Rayment**, Volunteer, Youth Charter

**Julia Spencer**, Salford University

**James Spencer**, Trafford Council

## Support Agencies

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### **The Muhammad Ali Institute**

(<http://louisville.edu/aliinstitute>)

The Muhammad Ali Institute for Peace and Justice at the University of Louisville advances the study and practice of peace building, social justice and violence prevention through the development of innovative training, service and research.

The Ali Scholars Program, offered by the Muhammad Ali Institute to full-time undergraduate University of Louisville students, is a unique 2-year experience combining training, research and service in the areas of social justice, violence prevention and peace building. A special feature of the Ali Scholars' experience is international travel to explore peace building and social justice in a different cultural, political, and economic reality. The students develop particular expertise in an area of the work that best connects to their skills, interests and abilities and conduct a research project in this "expert area." Equipped with a solid knowledge base and organizing skills, the Ali Scholars provide service hosting on-campus events, furthering the work of the Ali Institute and Ali Center, and designing and implementing social change projects. Program students are expected to emerge with a values-based model of leadership, impacting their home communities, and ultimately their nations and the world.

### **The Muhammad Ali Center** (<http://www.alicenter.org/>)

The Muhammad Ali Center, based in Louisville, Kentucky, serves as both a cultural attraction and educational center that is inspired by ideals of its founder, Muhammad Ali. The Ali Center's immersive visitor experience, public and educational programming, and global initiatives carry on Muhammad's legacy and continue his life's work. It introduces Ali's six core values: respect, dedication, confidence, conviction, spirituality, and giving.

### **The Youth Charter** (<http://www.youthcharter.co.uk>)

The Youth Charter is a UK registered charity and UN accredited non-governmental organisation. Launched in 1993 as part of the Manchester 2000 Olympic Bid and 2002 Commonwealth Games, the Youth Charter has campaigned and promoted the role and value of sport, arts and cultural activity in the lives of disaffected young people from disadvantaged communities nationally and internationally. The Youth Charter has a proven track record in the creation and delivery of social and human development programmes with the overall aim of providing young people with an opportunity through sport, arts and cultural activity to develop in life. Specifically, the Youth Charter tackles educational non-attainment, health inequality, anti-social behavior and the negative effects of crime, drugs, gang related activity and racism by applying the ethics of sporting and artistic excellence to which young people can relate - namely discipline, fair play, team work and healthy competition. These can then be translated to provide social and economic benefits of citizenship, rights, and responsibilities, with improved education, health, social order and environment.

### **University of Salford** (<http://www.salford.ac.uk>)

The University of Salford is a public university in Salford, UK with nearly 20,000 students, in four faculties and 12 schools. Salford takes pride in striving to be a vibrant and dynamic force in both its community and global society, focussing on educating students and staff about social responsibility. Salford looks to civic engagement to develop the relevance of its resources to the needs of the local community and extends this to global communities.

Salford University is located in one of the UK's most disadvantaged communities, and works hard to ensure an integrated student body. This gives the institution a unique valid view of the issues we hope to debate.



### **Voluntary work experience at Salford**

Helping students and staff get involved in their local community is at the heart of what Salford wants to be known for. The Student Life Directorate helps students at the university find opportunities to serve the community, from local organizations to global volunteering opportunities. These opportunities cover a wide range of interests and skills, from drama and music, mentoring and sports through to business and finance or media.

### **University of Roehampton** (<http://www.roehampton.ac.uk>)

Roehampton is one of the newest universities in the UK, established in 2004. Through its four Colleges, however, its history dates back to the 1840s, particularly in the field of Childhood Studies and Education. It was one of the first higher education colleges in the country to admit women.

Today, Roehampton has one of the most diverse communities of students in the UK, on a beautiful campus in southwest London.

The Sport and Wellbeing Department was established in 2007. The department has developed innovative partnerships and programmes, with the Youth Charter for example, which benefit students, staff and the local community. It works towards:

- Increasing lifelong participation and learning in sport, physical activity and healthy lifestyles amongst students, staff and the local community
- Creating a strong sporting identity for Roehampton University and improving our facilities for sport and physical activity
- Achieving positive and relevant engagement with the Olympic and Paralympic Games and other major sporting events

**British Council Programme** (<http://www.britishcouncil.org>)

The programme has been offered to young people who want to bring about change, in their own lives and in their community.

The members of the group are being given the opportunity to reflect on themselves and their communities, what needs to change and how to work to bring that change about. The programme includes opportunities to meet with politicians, both national and local, and with officials from key agencies. These meetings provide the necessary understanding of how the British political and economic system works.

There are opportunities to visit and meet with young people from other communities, nationally and internationally, to develop a wider view of citizenship and what it can mean to others from different cultures. These opportunities are supported by visits to art galleries where discussions can take place about works of art that have political context.

The programme aims to build on the knowledge and personal and social skills of those who will become the future leaders for their community. The programme is part of a strategy being developed locally that is inter-generational and connects different communities addressing common issues.

## The University of Louisville (<http://louisville.edu/>)

The University of Louisville is a state-supported research university located in Kentucky's largest metropolitan area. The University has approximately 22,000 students on three campuses. The 287-acre Belknap Campus is three miles from downtown Louisville and houses seven of the university's 11 colleges and schools. The Health Sciences Center is situated in downtown Louisville's medical complex and houses the university's health related programs and the University of Louisville Hospital. The 243-acre Shelby Campus is located in eastern Jefferson County.





'Sport, arts and cultural activity -  
social and human development for life...



# Sporting



Signatories to the Youth Charter include:

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England Soccer Squad  
Ghanaian Under 17 Soccer Squad  
South African Soccer Squad  
South African Rugby Squad  
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Manchester United Football Club

*Ambassadors' honours correct at date of publishing.*

*Other international signatories available on request.*

Ambassadors



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