

The Young Foundation

About the Young Foundation

50 year track record of successfully starting up organisations to tackle social problems - from **Open University** to **Which?**, **Summer Universities** – now known as **Futureversity** to **Languageline** and **Healthline** – the pre-cursor to NHS Direct.

Current projects range from **Studio Schools** (new small schools integrating work and learning for 14-19 year olds) to **UpRising** (patrons include David Cameron, Nick Clegg and Gordon Brown) training a new generation of 19-25 year old public leaders, with mentors from across business, politics, media &c, to global **Social Innovation Exchange** (with annual summer schools – in Spain, Portugal and Singapore).



The Open University





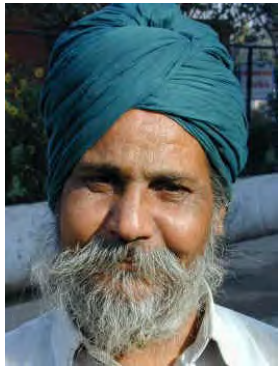
Language Line

Set up to provide telephone interpreting services for hospitals, police and other public services for very diverse area of London.

Started on a shoestring as a charity – quickly grew to providing over 100 languages



Doctor



Patient



Call Centre operator



Interpreter



Lãnguagê Liñè



Experimented, adapted and improved

Built up an industry serving 750,000

Sold in 2000 and again in 2006 for £25m to venture capital

FUTURE UNIVERSITY

WHERE THINGS
CAN HAPPEN

FUTURE VERSITY

WHERE THINGS
CAN HAPPEN

THE YOUNG  FOUNDATION



**Tower Hamlets Summer University (THSU) founded in 1995 in the East end of London.
Recently rebranded and re-named Futureversity.**

FUTURE VERSITY

WHERE THINGS
CAN HAPPEN

- Established in the East end of London
- A response to a new set of needs and against a backdrop of ethnic conflict among young people
- Combining research and everyday encounters and observation
- Established to respond to concerns about young people:
 - Not having enough to do, boredom
 - Low aspirations
 - Response to conflict and segregation
 - Failure of youth services and schools to provide additional
 - activities over school holidays

2009 8,600 applications for 2,000 course places. Ethos of fun, free activities that are developed with young people, empowering them to make their own choices.

FUTURE UNIVERSITY

WHERE THINGS
CAN HAPPEN

Since 1995 the project has cut:

- Juvenile nuisance by 17%
- Drug offences by 25%
- Youth crime by 8%
- And won a clutch of awards – from film-making to music
- Produced stars – like Dizzee Rascal

FUTURE VERSITY

WHERE THINGS
CAN HAPPEN

Successfully replicated around London as Summer Uni London, and the UK – and growing interest around the world.

A locally grounded innovation, clear need, but scaleable and replicable and with the scope for influencing older institutions.

‘All because of these three weeks I have changed totally the way I think. I have found something I am good at, something I enjoy. As a result I want more’

Pani, 23 (1999)

FUTURE VERSITY

WHERE THINGS
CAN HAPPEN

Courses in:

Arts & Fashion; Digital Media - Film & Photography; Music & Performing Arts ; Business & Careers; Skills for Life; Sports, Fitness & Wellbeing

Other courses all year round:

Peer Motivator Scheme ; Youth Ambassadors ;Job Ready;
Nang! Magazine – interviewing high profile figures in media, arts, politics – including interviews with current British Prime Minister

Benefits to Young People

“It is much better for the youth to get off the streets and do something creative and constructive. Everyone has the potential and the talent, you just have to find it.”



Case Studies

❖ The Investment Banker

❖ The Urban Musician

❖ The Teacher

❖ The Journalist



The Fastlaners

Programme designed to help unemployed graduates get into work

The Problem: UK youth unemployment now over a million. East London has one of the highest graduate unemployment rates in the country.

Proximity to City of London and Canary Wharf.

Systems in place are not working: Employers concerned that too many lack basic everyday skills.



The Young Foundation

The Problem:

Thousands of graduates with good degrees found it hard to get a job even before the recession.

In Oct 2009 Canary Wharf hosted a jobs fair expecting 1,500 people to attend, by the time the doors opened at 10am – thousands of people were queuing around the Canary Wharf estate to get in.

An estimated 10,000 people turned up. Most had to be turned away – thereby fueling further anger and disappointment.



The barriers:

Misconceptions of the labour market

Limited access to networks (social capital)

living in areas of deprivation – workless households

discrimination

In some cases - lack of social intelligence; emotional resilience; enterprising behaviour; inner disciplines.

Fastlaners

Intensive two week **‘finishing school’** that helps graduates to help each other in navigating the labour market.

Fastlaners raises their confidence, widens their networks and awareness of the labour market, empowering them to take charge of their own career paths.

A crash course on everything from voice training, dress, to team working and workplace etiquette.

Helps build their soft skills in order to maximise chances of getting into work.



Fastlaners: The Vision

In 2010: to run Fastlaner programmes across London with high levels of engagement from employees in key sectors (media, finance, public and third sector etc), based in Canary Wharf making use of a prestigious office building that has been donated for two years. The aim is to turn this space into an employment centre to support unemployed graduates.

Course launched this week and a further two course to run in September and December.

2011 and beyond: establishing programmes across the UK working with local employers, universities, and public agencies.