



## **\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\***

### **More From Eastbourne Youth Radio**

The countdown has begun to the next broadcast by Eastbourne Youth Radio.

Run by young people from Eastbourne and the surrounding area, Eastbourne Youth Radio will deliver over 50 hours of high-energy entertainment from studios at Sussex Downs College in November. EYR is in its seventh year and will involve more than 1500 young people, aged from 4 –19.

EYR provides the opportunity for young people to prepare and present material in partnership with local business and community organisations – some of this may be for specific course work. The focus will be on more live programming, including drama, discussion and music.

EYR will provide a central element within the new Creative & Media Diploma from September 2009 and also support the functional skills elements for all diplomas.

Here's what participants had to say about last year's event. "A fantastic opportunity for young people to get involved in an exciting and challenging project with community partners – and great fun too", wrote one College Lecturer. "Wow, that was great, I didn't know I sounded like that", wrote a Primary Pupil. "I wish it had lasted longer, our programme hour just flew past ", wrote a Secondary pupil after EYR 2006!

'Answer Back', the new current affairs show, will be back again where the audience has the chance to ask questions and get answers back from an invited panel. The ever popular 'Meet the Media' will also welcome friends from radio, TV and Beckett Newspapers. Individual school programmes will include, live interviews with EYR sponsors and guests, phone-in competitions, live drama, singing and plenty of good music.

This year it is hoped that the output from EYR will be streamed on the world-wide-web for the first time to enable more listeners to tune in from outside of the immediate Eastbourne area.

Arrangements for 'Battle of the Bands' will be announced separately and may see the event moving to a different time slot to free up the very busy EYR school programme schedule.

EYR is co-ordinated by Eastbourne EBP whose manager, Tim Sorensen, said, "EYR has become part of the Eastbourne annual diary and goes from strength to strength. The project harnesses the power of radio to energise young people into being creative and enterprising. While they are planning, producing and presenting radio programmes, they are employing a wide range of skills useful in any line of work. This approach has enabled thousands of young people to benefit from the EYR experience since we launched in 2001 with some going on into careers in the industry".

The organisers are particularly grateful to the many sponsors that support EYR as the project moves toward self-financing. These include, Eastbourne Borough Council, The Weather Shop, Sussex Downs College and SEEDA. Additional sponsors will be sought over the coming months.

To find out more about how you, your community organisation or company can get involved or support EYR please contact Tim Sorensen at Sussex Careers Ltd on 01273 223076 for details.

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