

Young people's environmental project helps student festival to go citywide

'Sprout', an environmental project for 16-25 year olds launched by Hyson Green charity, the Partnership Council, has been approached by students from the University of Nottingham to help them raise awareness of their annual 'Sounds on the Downs' festival – to people across the city.

The greenfields style environmental festival, which takes place this Thursday, 5th June at the Nottingham University Downs, asked for Sprout's help to promote the festival to people citywide, as the festival wants to attract families and young people from all walks of life, not just students.

In addition, Sprout has also helped to attract environmental organisations and groups along to the event as well as by giving the student organisers advice and support.

The Sounds on the Downs festival is an annual event that aims to raise awareness of environmental and social justice issues, whilst promoting sustainable environmental practices such as the use of renewable energy. In fact, the whole festival is going to be powered by renewable energy.

This year's festival will include music from local Nottingham bands and DJs, an acoustic music tent, workshops, an eco cinema, stalls, summer fete style activities, locally sourced food and capoeira demonstrations. Capoeira originates from Brazil and is a mix of martial arts, dance and a game.

Since its launch at the beginning of the year, Sprout has helped numerous young people to set up their own environmental projects, including a community forest garden in St Anns and an i-pod recycling project in Sneinton. In addition, Sprout also held a free event for young people at the Art Organisation on Station Street in March, to encourage young people to become more environmentally aware and get involved in environmental projects.

Sprout is one of 152 similar projects across the country, which are being funded by vinolved, a programme backed by £75 million worth of funding, with the aim of inspiring half a million more young people to volunteer in England.

To find out more about 'Sprout' please - visit - <http://sproutnottingham.org.uk>

Alternatively, please contact Rachel, Matt or Aran at the Partnership Council on **0115 970 8200** or email rachel@partnershipcouncil.co.uk

For more information about Sounds on the Downs please contact festival organiser **Chloe Cheeseman on 07834 208389**

Notes to Editors

The Partnership Council is a charity based in Hyson Green Nottingham that works to improve the lives of people living in some of Nottingham's most disadvantaged communities. The Partnership Council runs many innovative environmental projects including an ongoing programme of environmental education aimed at getting children and young people involved in caring for the environment. The charity won two prestigious 'Green Guardians' awards in November 2007, presented by the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust in recognition of the Partnership Council's contribution to the environment in Nottingham.

To find out more about vinolved please visit - <http://www.wearev.com>

Partnership Council • 47 Gregory Boulevard • Hyson Green • Nottingham • NG7 5JA
Telephone 0115 970 8200 • Fax: 0115 970 8200 • Email mail@partnershipcouncil.co.uk