

The Three Rs Recycle, Restore, Revamp

Out of the Dark
Press Release
January 2012

'Waste' is a term that could be applied to discarded furniture found in skips and roadsides up and down the country. One social enterprise is working hard not only to transform these unwanted items in to desirable design conscious 'must haves', but also helping disadvantaged youth gain life and work skills.

Out of the Dark, based in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, recycles, restores and revamps antique/retro furniture as a means to train, educate and employ young people from disadvantaged



Recycle

Out of the Dark is the brainchild of Jay and Jade Blades, who are also the founders of an award winning youth charity Street Dreams. The social enterprise, while only been operating for 18 months, has already been recognised as a creative initiative that can make a positive impact on the environment, society and eco friendly design. Jade says, 'We are really proud of what we have achieved in the short period we have been going; our great team of 20 young people are now even taking on interior design jobs, and coming up with fresh ideas on how to use old unwanted items.'



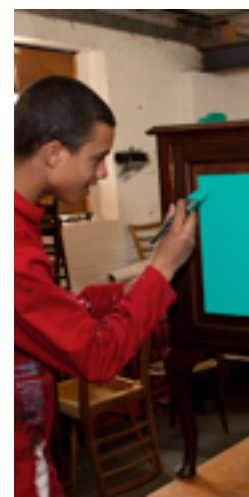
Restore

Travis, who has been involved since the start, has been learning all sorts of skills and has been also taking part in design seminars delivered by local designers. 'I love creating something beautiful out of nothing' he says, and adds that all that he has experienced at Out of the Dark has made him more confident about his own future and what he can achieve.

Young people come are given an opportunity on this project if they have already taken part in the charity's intensive self development programme. 'We need young people to prove to us they are committed, and reliable, because this is a business and we have to uphold a quality of service and finish' says co founder Jay, who comes from a similar background to the young people he trains.

Apart from a series of events and workshops happening at their workshop, Out of the Dark will be showcasing their unique pieces at national events such as Hemingway's Vintage Festival and The London Design Festival.

Their next local event is being held in the Marlow Christ Church Hall, 3-10 March 2012; please see the website for further information www.outofthedark.org.uk



Revamp

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Editors' Notes:

Out of the Dark recycles, repurposes and revamps salvaged furniture as a means to train, educate and employ young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Out of the Dark is the brainchild of Jay and Jade Blades who have been operating a charity called Street Dreams for the past 12 years helping disadvantaged young people do better in life through coaching, sports, arts and media in the Thames Valley area. Street Dreams, John Lewis Local Charity of the year 2010, is proud to be an innovative organisation that is using cutting edge methods to engage with some of the most troubled youth in our society.

For more information, images, and interviews contact

Jade Blades

jade@outofthedark.org.uk

01494 550286

07730 605564

Or visit www.outofthedark.org.uk