



The HOBY Outstanding Young Alumni Award was created to recognize and honor HOBY alumni, ages 25 and under, for their accomplishments and service. The winners of the award have distinguished themselves as leaders among their peers and in their communities. They have served in their schools, neighborhoods, and communities and have made a significant difference in the lives of others.

JUAN DAVID ARISTIZABAL

Columbia University, New York City
Bogota, Colombia
HOBY 2005 World Leadership Congress
Founder of Buena Nota

“HOBY was a window to a world of opportunities. When I arrived in Washington, DC for the World Leadership Congress, I didn’t know that my life was going to change. I was exposed to a new country, new ideas, and most importantly, to HOBY’s mission that everyone has the ability to be a changemaker.”

Upon his return to Colombia, Juan created a nonprofit social entrepreneurship organization, Buena Nota, dedicated to promoting and supporting Entrepreneurs with Social Impact (ESI) initiatives. Buena Nota supports entrepreneurs by connecting them with volunteer consulting and mentoring services. Volunteers provide entrepreneurs with valuable financial, technical, and human resources, contributing to their success and growth. As of 2015, Buena Nota has supported 25 projects, provided 40,000 hours of advising and mentoring, and impacted the lives of over 10,000 people.

Juan is currently studying for his MBA at Columbia University and was recently named by Forbes Magazine one of the top 30 entrepreneurs under 30 who are changing the world.

SONYA STANCZYK

Boston University
Sandy Hook, CT
HOBY 2012 Connecticut Leadership Seminar and
HOBY 2013 Advanced Leadership Academy
Founder of Feeding the Need

“HOBY made me aware of a problem in my community and the Advanced Leadership Academy gave me the tools to fix it. I am proud to say that HOBY has changed my life.”

After attending her HOBY Seminar in 2012, Sonya founded a sustainable non-profit program at Newtown High School called Feeding the Need. Sonya’s vision was to build a three-way partnership among the high school’s culinary department, the local food bank, and the area homeless shelters. The food bank sends food to the school, the school’s culinary department turns it into prepared meals, and the homeless shelters serve it. As of 2015, Feeding the Need has prepared, frozen, and delivered over 22,000 meals.

Sonya has also written Hunger 101 course curriculum for 9th and 11th grade health classes, which is now being implemented at 5 high schools throughout Connecticut.

