



OFFICE OF THE 2001-02 PRESIDENT

January 24, 2005

Dear Kiwanis Leader

Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) is all about "Serving the Children of the World." For the past 47 years, HOBY programs have benefited more than 335,000 high school sophomores from around the world. HOBY is the nations' leading youth leadership organization, founded by veteran actor Hugh O'Brian known to many of you as "Wyatt Earp." Thousands of students have benefited from HOBY's leadership seminars and have gone on to join Key Club and then become HOBY volunteers, Kiwanis members and club, division, state and national officers. *I am writing to encourage you to contact your local high school, if you have not done so already, and sponsor your school's representative to attend this spring's HOBY "outstanding" three- and four-day Leadership Seminar in your state!* As of today, more than 6,800 schools have registered their selected sophomore. The good news is that HOBY seminars across the country are still accepting students.

I can personally share that HOBY is an excellent project to consider for your club's participation. My daughter attended HOBY and had the opportunity to work through problem solving and role playing with young people of her own age and learned how important her role was in society. Less than three weeks after participating in the HOBY program, my daughter made the decision to run for Lt. Governor in Key Club. She also became involved in the Junior Statesmen of America. She became high school yearbook editor and the list continues. Attending the HOBY seminar gave my daughter the confidence and tools necessary to not just exist in a society but to lead in a society. I am very proud to support HOBY's programs.

What Does HOBY Offer Kiwanis?

HOBY offers an opportunity for you to work together with other key leaders in your community. HOBY provides an excellent opportunity to meet school contacts in your state as there will be over 10,000 public and private high schools sending their selected 10th grade leaders to the HOBY programs this spring. HOBY also publicizes Kiwanis opportunities and "How to get involved with Key Club" during the seminars.



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What Can You Do to Register Your Sophomore TODAY to Attend HOBY?

First, as soon as possible, contact every club in your district and ask them to contact the high schools in their area. Each school's 10th grade counselor was mailed a "registration packet" in September from HOBY and the National Association of Secondary School Principals asking the schools to select one outstanding sophomore to attend a HOBY leadership seminar to be held in their state this spring. Let the school know Kiwanis is ready to serve the needs of the school and urge the school to select its outstanding sophomore. *If the school has not selected a student, there is still time to nominate a sophomore to attend the HOBY leadership seminar in your state.* Each school is responsible for a \$150 registration fee, so consider underwriting that fee if the school cannot provide it. In addition, room, board and seminar materials total \$175 per student for this outstanding HOBY weekend experience. This cost is low because all HOBY seminars are organized and run entirely by local volunteers. The total cost of \$325 is a small price to pay for the development of future Kiwanis leaders in your state and in the nation. Ask the clubs to invite the HOBY "Ambassadors" they sponsor to come to a club meeting a few weeks after they attend. Give them the opportunity to tell your members about their HOBY learning experience and to thank your members for their sponsorship. Encourage them to bring their parents and classmates, too. Finally, become involved with the HOBY volunteer committee in your state. Kiwanians who have participated in HOBY leadership seminars have returned from the events more invigorated about Kiwanis, Key Club and the future of the Kiwanis than many other functions attended.

For more information on how you can sponsor a high school sophomore in your area, contact Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership at 10880 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 410, Los Angeles, CA 90024, telephone 310-474-4370 x249, email hoby@hoby.org or fax 310-475-5426. A great overview of the HOBY program is provided on their website www.hoby.org.

You and HOBY can truly make a difference for the next generation!

Thank you for your consideration,

Brian G. Cunat
Kiwanis International Past President