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**Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership Announces the Election of
Four New Members to its Board of Governors**

(LOS ANGELES, CA – February 8, 2011) —[Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership](#), the nation’s top not-for-profit youth leadership development organization, announced today the election of four new members to its board of governors. Elected to this new position are Kim Carasso, Michael Specht, Trevor Stoffer and Rhett Wilson.

The board of governors, made up of business and community leaders from throughout the United States, serves as an advisory board to HOBY in helping the organization fulfill its mission of inspiring and developing a “global community of youth and volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership, service and innovation.”

“Each of these new board of governor members will bring their own brand of enthusiasm, dedication and thinking to our organization,” said Javier LaFianza, president and CEO of HOBY. “Both our organization as a whole as well as the more than 10,000 high school students we touch each year will benefit greatly from the engagement and energy these four amazing individuals will bring to our board.”

Carasso is an experienced civil litigator with Callahan & Blaine in Orange County, California. She has an extensive range of experience in business, employment, professional liability, catastrophic personal injury, real estate and other types of complex litigation. Recently *OC Metro Magazine* named Carasso a “Mover and Shaker Under 40” in Orange County, and she has also been named a Rising Star (attorneys under 40) in Southern California by Superlawyers for 2009 and 2010. In 2005, the Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership organization elected Carasso to a two-year term as a board of trustee and appointed her as its general counsel.

Specht is a director in the electronics group of the Washington, DC, law firm of Stern, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox, PLLC. He has a unique combination of more than 20 years of

(More)

HOBY/Board of Governors

Page 2

telecommunications and Internet-related technical, legal and business development experience. Prior to joining his current firm, Specht co-founded and served as president and general counsel of a company that provided high-speed Internet services and e-services through a private label Internet portal to apartment communities. He has also served as senior engineer in the Common Carrier Bureau at the Federal Communications Commission, was formerly on the technical advisory board of a major venture capital group, and has previously served on HOBY's board of trustees, including as chair of the board of trustees, ending in 2007.

Stoffer is currently president and chief executive officer of Timios Inc. A national title insurance and settlement services company servicing national and regional lenders, Timios is based in Southern California with offices in Texas, Virginia and Pennsylvania. Prior to joining Timios, Stoffer served as executive vice president of corporate development of Linders First Choice and before that as vice president of corporate development for Bridgespan Title Company. He is a graduate of California State University-Chico.

Wilson currently serves as director of development for George Mason University's School of Management, managing a team responsible for fundraising, alumni relations and corporate relations for the business school at George Mason. He is also an experienced career coach, with past career service roles at Mesa Community College, Arizona State University's W. P. Carey School of Business, and Georgetown University Law Center. Wilson formerly served as president of Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership – Arizona and is a former city councilman of Kearny, Arizona. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in justice studies from Arizona State University.

For more than 50 years, Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership has helped to cultivate tomorrow's leaders by inspiring a global community of youth and volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership, service and innovation. HOBY programs annually provide nearly 10,000 local and international high school students the opportunity to participate in unique leadership training, service learning and motivation-building experiences. HOBY also provides adults the opportunity to make a significant impact on the lives of youth by volunteering, and today more than 4,000 volunteers and over 365,000 alumni proudly make up the HOBY family. Further information may be obtained at www.hoby.org.

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