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**Presidential Volunteer Service Awards Presented to
More Than 1,200 Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership Alumni**

(LOS ANGELES, CA – November 16, 2009) — More than 1,200 Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership alumni are among this year’s recipients of the prestigious Presidential Volunteer Service Awards. With programs stretching nationally and internationally, HOBY is the nation’s premier not-for-profit youth leadership development organization.

The Presidential Volunteer Service Awards are presented annually to high school students who, over the prior 12 months, have each dedicated at least 100 hours to community service. Administered by the Points of Light Foundation & Volunteer Center National Network, it was created as a way to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service.

With volunteerism and service inherent in its mission, HOBY is an active participant in the program, engaging its alumni to action, providing opportunities to become involved and helping to honor their commitment and contribution. This year 1,223 HOBY alumni were awarded this high distinction.

“Each year we challenge all alumni to put their leadership skills into action through service in which they donate their time and energy to help make their communities a better place to live,” says HOBY President and CEO Javier LaFianza. “Every community needs young volunteers who pitch in and help out. It can be joining a graffiti paint-out in a neighborhood park, organizing a food drive in a high school gym or yard clean-up at a senior citizen’s home. All of these efforts help improve the lives of others and we are so proud to see our alumni once again honored with so many Presidential Volunteer Service Awards.”

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Since its inception, HOBY alumni have logged more than 1.5 million hours of service through approximately 10,000 unique service projects. “Volunteerism brings us closer together as families, as neighbors, as communities and as a nation,” says LaFianza. “The President’s Volunteer Service Award recognizes this, and we hope that through such recognition we can inspire others to make service a central part of their lives.”

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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