Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Maryland's Sophomore Student Leaders Attend Youth Leadership Seminar

More than 200 diverse sophomore student leaders representing all Maryland counties will attend the 41st Annual Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) Maryland Leadership Seminar on June 19-21st, 2020. This 3-day virtual seminar brings together a select group of students (HOBY Ambassadors) to interact with distinguished leaders in the business, governmental, and educational arenas to discuss relevant present and future issues.

Student Tobey Ellis from Linganore High School is attending.

Major sponsors include The Greater Federation of Women's Clubs, Jaycees, Optimists, and Kiwanis. This annual event is organized solely by volunteers, three-quarters of which are HOBY alumni who are committed to "giving back" by offering leadership training, one-on-one mentoring, and financial sponsorship.

The goal is to provide a stimulating forum for HOBY Ambassadors to learn more about the American incentive system and the democratic process, while gaining a broader understanding of their leadership potential and quest for self-development. Topics for discussion include: global education, volunteerism, media literacy, entrepreneurship, gratitude, and leadership & motivation.

Following the seminar, HOBY Ambassadors are challenged to return to their respective cities and participate in community service projects where they are to perform at least 100 hours of community service within the year. HOBY Ambassadors have stated, "The HOBY seminar challenged me to think about the many issues affecting the world around me and helped me understand that as a leader, I have the power to make a positive impact in business, government and society."

Sophomores are nominated to the HOBY program by their high school principal or advisor. These students must be seen as leaders within their high school and in the community. Only one student per school is nominated, so it is quite an honor to become a HOBY Ambassador.

About HOBY: HOBY was established by veteran actor Hugh O'Brian following a visit to Africa where he was inspired by a meeting with Dr. Albert Schweitzer in 1958. "One of the things Schweitzer said to me was the most important thing in education was to teach young people to think for themselves," O'Brian said. "From that inspiration, and with the support of others who believe in youth and the American dream, I started HOBY to seek out, recognize, and develop outstanding leadership potential among our nation's youth."

Further information about HOBY activities and sponsorship opportunities is available at the HOBY Maryland

website www.hobymd.org or by calling the International Office of Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership at 818-851-3980 or visiting www.hoby.org.

Please note that HOBY Maryland is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization and all donations are tax-deductible.