

*Hugh O'Brian  
Youth Leadership*

*2000 California-Central  
Leadership Seminar*

*America's  
Incentive System*

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*June 2 - 4  
Pepperdine University*

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Hugh O'Brian  
Youth Leadership

## Welcome HOBY Ambassador, the future is yours!

June 2, 2000

CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING SELECTED TO REPRESENT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL AT THE California-Central Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) Seminar. You were chosen for the honor of representing your school because of the outstanding leadership potential that you have demonstrated. That's why we call you an "Ambassador." The purpose of this HOBY seminar is to teach you how to think -- not what to thin. You will get out of life what you put into it and that certainly applies to your HOBY experience, too. We want to awaken in you that magic genie of self-esteem so important to any success. You were selected to attend HOBY because you are special: Think special, my young friend, and you will be always be special.

As we celebrate our 42nd anniversary and I look back to remember the first HOBY Leadership Seminar that I led in California in 1958, I feel awed and grateful for our tremendous growth and outstanding accomplishments. My sincere thanks to all the super volunteers and contributors who have made it possible. HOBY has impacted more than 280,000 ambassadors at our Leadership Seminars and touched countless others through HOBY's "ripple effect."

You will make many new friends this weekend from all across the great state of California. Hang on tight to them -- you will have many, many years of meaningful futures to share. You will also realize that a great many volunteers gave many hours of their time and caring to make your HOBY seminar possible. These volunteer speakers, staff and committee member give their hours freely because they believe in the future of our democracy and recognize that you "outstanding" young people represent our future. All of us hope you will walk away from this HOBY experience with a better understanding and appreciation of the democratic process and the economic incentive system that proves the fuel.

I don't have any children of my own, but I've got a couple hundred thousand like you out there I'm very proud to call my family.

So shine bright, my young friend. You are all my tomorrows and the future is yours to live and to give back.

Please give back! I wish you love and Godspeed!

HOBY Hugs,

Hugh O'Brian

Founder, President, and Chairman of the Executive Committee

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 28, 2000

Warm greetings to the outstanding students participating in the 2000 Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminars. You can be proud to know that your efforts and achievements have earned you a place in this wonderful educational program.

Within a few short years, our nation and the world will look to young people like you for the ideas, creativity, and leadership we need to face the challenges of this new century. By taking part in this important program, you are demonstrating your willingness to meet those challenges.

Democracy is the best form of government we know. However, it can only work if individual citizens, young and old, take responsibility for their lives and for their communities. That is why I am pleased to know that you are participating in the HOBY Seminar, learning about how our democracy works, and developing the critical thinking and leadership skills that will help you to reach your full potential.

I commend each of you for your commitment to personal excellence, and I encourage you to make the most of this unique learning experience. Mrs. Clinton joins me in sending best wishes for a memorable experience and every future success.

*Bill Clinton*



June 2, 2000

IT IS MY PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU – THE HIGH SCHOOL class of 2002 – to beautiful Pepperdine University for the 2000 HOBY California - Central Leadership Seminar.

The three days we spend together will be filled with tremendous opportunities for you to sharpen the leadership ability you have already demonstrated at your school and at home.

During your brief stay at HOBY, you will become intimately acquainted with 150 other students from a total of nine counties – from the urban San Fernando Valley, to the scenic Central Coast, to the bountiful Central Valley, to the majestic Sierra Nevada. You'll take part in a meaningful volunteer activity, interact with more than 25 leaders from our great state who will share with you their views and experiences on a wide range of topics and let you know how and why America ticks the way it does. And you'll have some fun in between.

Seize the opportunity while at HOBY to forge a friendship that will endure a lifetime! Expand your horizons by striking up a meaningful conversation with one of our visitors! Learn how to use a Positive Mental Attitude (PMA) to your advantage! Many people have invested their time and talents to make this seminar possible. All we ask in return is that you leave us ready and willing to play a meaningful role in our society.

You represent the future leaders who will create the rewards and opportunities of a new and exciting era. Your HOBY lessons should serve you well as you go about achieving great things in your lifetime.

You are special ... and OUTSTANDING! All of us from HOBY congratulate and salute you.

HOBY Hugs,

Brad Kieffer  
aka Big Daddy

# Ambassadors

TARA ABERCROMBIE  
*Righetti High School*

DANNY AIJIAN  
*Bishop Garcia Diego High School*

MELISSA ARREGUIN  
*Farmersville Union High School*

RACHELLE AVERY  
*Adolfo Camarillo High School*

RICARDO AVITIA  
*Mendota High School*

KATE BASMAGIAN  
*Viewpoint School*

MEGAN BEARS  
*Garces Memorial High School*

KRISTINA BEDROSSIAN  
*Agbu Manoogian-Demirdjian School*

ANTHONY BERNARD  
*Desert High School*

Aaron Bernard  
*Bakersfield Christian High School*

ADAM BORELLI  
*Westlake High School*

PERRIE BRISKIN  
*Malibu High School*

MANUEL BUENROSTRO  
*Santa Barbara High School*

HELEN BUZZELL  
*Taft High School*

MARIA CARO  
*Lindsay High School*

CAROLINA CASTRO  
*Community Learning Center*

CARLOS CASTRO  
*Redwood High School*

STEPHEN CATHERS  
*Los Angeles Baptist High School*

JEANIE CHAPLEAU  
*Lancaster High School*

JON CHEATWOOD  
*Clovis West High School*

KATHARINE CHEN  
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JESSICA CHILDRESS  
*Woodlake High School*

DOMINIC CLARK  
*McFarland High School*

ALICIA COMPTON  
*Centennial High School*

FAUSTINO COVARRUBIAS  
*Rio Mesa High School*

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*Atascadero High School*

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*TCA Arshag Dickranian*

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BRYAN GALLAGHER  
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*Tehachapi High School*

**HOB Y CALIFORNIA-CENTRAL LEADERSHIP SEMINAR**

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CHRIS LYNWOOD <i>Valley Christian School</i>	GREGGORY MORRIS <i>Oak Meadow School</i>	KRISTEN RICHTER <i>Junipero Serra High School</i>	AUDREY VASQUEZ <i>West High School</i>
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ELIZABETH MADLEM <i>Villanova Preparatory School</i>	ERIN NELSON <i>Stockdale High School</i>	ANNA ROGERS <i>Santa Ynez Valley Union High School</i>	GONZALO VILLA, JR. <i>Foothill High School</i>
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JESSICA MAUSNER <i>Sherman Oaks Center for Enriched Studies</i>	ERIN PADE <i>Chaminade College Preparatory</i>	LIZZY SCHUH <i>St. Joseph High School</i>	ERIN WEESNER <i>Royal High School</i>
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JEN MCGINNIS <i>San Marcos High School</i>	ASHLEY PATTERSON <i>Thousand Oaks High School</i>	BRE SMITH <i>Simi Valley High School</i>	SHANEL WHITE <i>Paraclete High School</i>
KATIE MCMAHON <i>Ridgeview High School</i>	ANDREW PAULSON <i>Buena High School</i>	LUCYND A SOUZA <i>Frazier Mountain High School</i>	DEVON WILLIAMS <i>Rosamond High School</i>
JILL MCNEIL <i>Quartz Hill High School</i>	DAVID PEIXOTO <i>Calabasas High School</i>	ALYSSA SPLAWN <i>Kern River Valley Christian School</i>	JENNIE WILLIAMS <i>North High School</i>
CARL MILLER <i>Arroyo Grande High School</i>	MICHELLE PEREZ <i>Hueneme High School</i>	DEVIN STAFFORD <i>Tulare Western High School</i>	JEANETTE WOODBURN <i>St. Bonaventure High School</i>
STEPHANIE MILLER <i>Coalinga High School</i>	SARAH PICARD <i>San Joaquin Memorial High School</i>	OLIVIA STURM <i>Happy Valley School</i>	ALICIA WOOLSLAYER <i>Mission College Preparatory</i>
MICHELLE MILLER <i>Morro Bay High School</i>	SAM POGOSIAN <i>James Monroe High School</i>	CHRISTY SUE <i>Golden West High School</i>	STEPHEN WREESMEN <i>Grace Bretheren School</i>
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ELLEN MITCHELL <i>Porterville High School</i>	EVELYN PRUNEDA <i>Parlier High School</i>	TYLER TOWNSEND <i>San Luis Obispo High School</i>	CHRISTINA YOUNG <i>Central High School West Campus</i>
WILL MOND <i>North Hills Prep School</i>	EVE RAMIREZ <i>Kingsburg High School</i>	BAILEY TYRRELL <i>Monache High School</i>	TINNA YOONG <i>Temple City High School</i>
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# *The HOBY California-Central Leadership Seminar is made possible by a generous grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation*

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Earlyn Moser, Calabasas Kiwanas Club

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Pentel

The Rocketdyne Division of The Boeing Company

Shirley Scott, Simi Valley Women's Club

TeleTech Telecommunications

Darrin Wilstedt, HOBY International

### **In Memoriam**

*HOBY California-Central gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the David Gaines Memorial HOBY Scholarship. David, whose young life was cut short in a senseless act of violence, is the cousin of HOBY 1999 Ambassador Allyson Maddy.*

## Facilitators

Facilitators play a major role in the success of the HOBY seminar. They represent diverse careers and backgrounds, and serve as role models, counselors, and teachers.

**Crystal Brown**

*The Disney Channel*

**Pamela Brundell**

*TeleTech Communications*

**Michael Comstock**

*OFS, Inc.*

**Kevin Ditty**

*The Disney Channel*

**Lisa Greczmiel**

*TeleTech Telecommunications*

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**Brian Yee**

*U.S. Army*

**Joumana Youssef**

*TeamCom*

## Junior Staff

Members of the Junior Staff provide spirit and support the entire weekend. Each Junior Staff member is responsible for administrative duties and motivating ambassadors.

**Becca Boorsma**

*Centennial High School, 1999*

**Matthew Bunch**

*Avenal High School, 1999*

**Chris Cooper**

*Exeter High School, 1998*

**Drake Dixon**

*Immanuel High School, 1999*

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*Tehachapi High School, 1998*

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**Angela Jones**

*Newbury Park High School, 1998*

**Marissa Mercado**

*Ridgeview High School, 1998*

**Jennifer Ross**

*Highland High School, 1999*

**Kris Trujillo**

*Agoura High School, 1999*

**Andy Weber**

*Kern Valley High School, 1998*

**Patrick Wilcox**

*Corcoran High School, 1998*

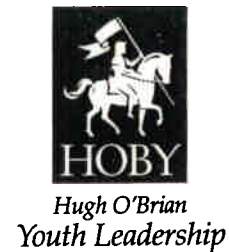
**Kirstin Woody**

*Bakersfield High School, 1999*

**Julia Wuerstle**

*Righetti High School, 1999*

# Seminar Program



*Friday, June 1*

- 8:30 a.m.** Registration @ Rho Parking Lot
- 9:45 a.m.** Ambassador Orientation @ Elkins Auditorium
- 10:45 a.m.** Group Photo and Ice Breakers @ Amphitheater
- 11:30 a.m.** Lunch and Individual Group Photos @ Cafeteria
- 12:45 p.m.** Keynote Speaker  
**Tim Leets, Leets International**
- 1:30 p.m.** Panel One – “How the Media Shape the Electoral Process” @ Elkins Auditorium  
**Richard Alarcon, California State Senate**  
**Michelle DeArmand, Associated Press**  
**Kenneth Reich, Los Angeles Times**  
**Daniel Stern, Actor**
- 3 p.m.** Spirit Showdown @ Amphitheater
- 3:30 p.m.** Essay Writing @ Elkins Auditorium
- 4:15 p.m.** Panel Two – “The California Education Climate”  
**Marqueece Harris Dawson, South Central Youth Empowered Through Action**  
**Jane Sweetland Edwards, Rio Mesa High School**  
**Lois Tinson, Past President, California Teachers Association**  
**Barbara Thorpe, California State University, Channel Islands**
- 5:45 p.m.** Dinner @ Cafeteria
- 7:15 p.m.** Leadership Game: “Operation Exerbia”
- 8:45 p.m.** Dorm Dash
- 9:15 p.m.** Dance/Service Project @ Tyler Campus Center Lounge
- 11 p.m.** Return to Dorms
- 11:45 p.m.** Bed Check

*Saturday, June 2*

- 6:15 a.m.** Wake Up Calls
- 6:45 a.m.** Breakfast @ Cafeteria
- 7:45 a.m.** Motivational Speaker @ Amphitheater  
**John Bryant, Operation HOPE**
- 8:30 a.m.** Load Buses @ Seaver Drive
- 8:45 a.m.** Volunteer Activity @ Veterans Administration Medical Center, Westwood
- 11:00 a.m.** Lunch @ Veterans Administration Medical Center
- Noon** Load Buses and Depart for Pepperdine University
- 1:30 p.m.** Panel Three – “Volunteerism: You Only Get What You Give” @ Elkins Auditorium  
**David Allen, Pepperdine Volunteer Center**  
**Kris Trujillo, Junior Staffer, Agoura High School**  
**Wesley Hyre, AmeriCorps**  
**Kim Rathman, HOBY International Development Director**
- 3 p.m.** Seventh Inning Stretch @ Jerry’s Tree
- 3:15 p.m.** Panel Four – “How Dot Coms are Shaping Commerce” @ Elkins Auditorium  
**Mark Bilinski, Cal Tech**  
**Michael Biswas, BigVine.com**  
**David Leung, High School Senior and Web site creator**  
**Kevin Reid, Kevin Reid Insurance Services**
- 5:15 p.m.** Dinner @ Cafeteria
- 6:30 p.m.** Panel Five – “In Search of Perfect Leaders” @ Elkins Auditorium  
**John Cully, Costco**  
**Mike Gin, Redondo Beach City Council**  
**Julia Justus McGinity, Former Appointment Secretary, Gov. Pete Wilson**  
**Craig Missakian, Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office**
- 8 p.m.** Dorm Dash
- 8:30 p.m.** Talent Show @ Elkins Auditorium
- 10:45 p.m.** Reflections @ Elkins Auditorium
- 11:30 p.m.** Transition to Dorms
- 12:30 a.m.** Bed Check

## *Sunday, June 3*

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>6:15 a.m.</b>  | Wake Up Calls  |
| <b>7:30 a.m.</b>  | Breakfast @ Cafeteria  |
| <b>8:15 a.m.</b>  | Non-Denominational Services / Study Hall @ Campus Chapel / Cafeteria |
| <b>9:30 a.m.</b>  | Thank-You Notes @ Cafeteria  |
| <b>11:00 a.m.</b> | Junior Staff Presentation: "Life After HOBY" @ Amphitheater          |
| <b>11:30 a.m.</b> | Lunch @ Cafeteria  |
| <b>1:15 p.m.</b>  | Closing Ceremonies @ Elkins Auditorium                               |
| <b>3:00 p.m.</b>  | Departure  |

## Panel 1

### *“How the Media Shape the Electoral Process”*



#### **Richard Alarcon**

Richard Alarcon was elected to the California State Senate in 1998, where he currently serves as Senate Majority Whip. Prior to his election to the Senate, he served for five years on the Los Angeles City Council. Alarcon believes in involving the community and building consensus in finding solutions to problems. Whether it's fighting for more police officers, creating new jobs or adding streetlights, Alarcon has become a champion for the San Fernando Valley. Sen. Alarcon is chair of the Senate Housing and Community Development Committee and the Subcommittee on Environmental Justice. He also serves on the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications, Education, Environmental Quality, and Industrial Relations Committees.

#### **Michelle DeArmond**

The Associated Press political reporter Michelle DeArmond got a close-up view of politics early in life and has been interested in it ever since. She attended the University of Missouri-Columbia's journalism school, interned with the "Lawrence Journal World" in Kansas, and later was a Pulliam Fellow at the "Indianapolis Star" while working for The Associated Press. The wire service transferred her to Las Vegas, where she covered the Tailhook trial, among other national stories, and she served as the poll writer for the state in the 1996 elections. She moved to Los Angeles and began covering California politics in 1997. She covered both the gubernatorial and Senate races in 1998, Indian gaming issues in the 1998 and 2000 elections, and other ballot initiatives and political issues.



#### **Kenneth Reich**



Kenneth Reich is consumer affairs columnist for the Los Angeles Times. He began his journalism career at United Press International's Sacramento bureau in 1962. After a brief stint at Life magazine, he joined the Times in 1965 as a general assignment writer. As a political reporter, he covered the presidential campaigns of Eugene McCarthy (1968), George Wallace (1972) and Jimmy Carter (1976). Among his other assignments, was the paper's lead Olympics writer from 1977 to 1982, and he covered the finances and politics of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games from 1982 to 1985. He received his bachelor's degree in government from Dartmouth University, spending his junior year at the Institut D'Etudes Politique in Paris. His master's degree in political science is from the University of California, Berkeley.

#### **Daniel Stern**

Daniel Stern is known by moviegoers all over the world for his roles in "Home Alone," "City Slickers," "Breaking Away," and "Diner." He is an active advocate for youth, serving in a national campaign teach media literacy. He is the honorary membership chair for the California State PTA for the year 2000. He has been a longtime sponsor of Teaching Tolerance, the Southern Poverty Law Center's nationwide effort to nurture tolerance and celebrate diversity in grades K-12. He is the proud father of three children Henry, 18 (HOBY California-Central alum, 1998), Sophie, 15, and Ella, 11. He has been happily married to his wife Laure for longer than either can remember.



## Panel 2

# “The California Education Climate”

### **Marqueece Harris-Dawson**

Marqueece Harris-Dawson is the director of Youth Programs for the Community Coalition in South Los Angeles, a non-profit organization committed to building a powerful voice for residents, students, and workers. He helps empower students from South Central Los Angeles' eight high schools to identify community problems and take action. Through the organization's efforts, students have photographed and exposed poor conditions at local schools and mobilized more than 6,000 fellow students to secure \$153 million in funding to improve school infrastructure, fix lockers and improve student bathrooms.

### **Jane Sweetland Edwards**

An English and journalism teacher at Rio Mesa High School in Oxnard, Jane Sweetland Edwards in 1996 was the first recipient of the Ventura County Ed Lyons Award for excellence in teaching. And in 1997 she was one of 20 teachers in California to receive the Johns Hopkins Award for Excellence in Gifted Education. Teaching is not her first career, however. For seven years after earning her degree from the University of California, she was a media and marketing manager in San Francisco, New York, and Vancouver. She also worked for television, magazines, and radio.



### **Barbara Thorpe**



Barbara Thorpe, Ed.D., is associate academic vice president of California State University, Channel Islands, the 23rd and newest campus in the CSU system. She chaired the largest distance undergraduate nursing program in the western United States, serving 2,500 students. She holds a master's degree in nursing from CSU, a master's degree in public health from the University of Tennessee and a doctorate in education from the University of San Francisco. She has conducted research around community needs assessment, planning and design of integrated K-12 health and community centers in under-served communities.

### **Lois Tinson**

Lois Tinson, past president of the California Teachers Association, teaches reading and English at North Park High School in Baldwin Park. When she was elected CTA president in 1995, she was the first ethnic minority to hold the position. She also served on the California State Commission on Teacher Credentialing and as the National Education Association's representative to the Educational Testing Service. She is listed in *Who's Who in Black America* and *Who's Who Among International Women*. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Arkansas, and her master's and doctorate degrees in institutional management from Pepperdine University, where she also is an instructor of grad school education.





## Panel 3

### “Volunteerism: You Only Get What You Can Give”

#### Wesley Hyre

For the last year, Wesley Hyre has worked with AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps, a 10-month residential program helping address the needs of underserved communities. During this stint, he did trail work in Monterey County, helped restore buildings in San Diego, built trails, bridges, and overlooks for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, educated elementary school students on conflict resolution and worked at a Boys and Girls Club in Alaska. He is currently with VISTA (Volunteers in Service To America).

#### Kim Alaine Rathman, Ph.D.

Kim Alaine Rathman, Ph.D., is associate director of development for Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership's international headquarters. Prior to this position, she was the director of development for the Charter School of Education at California State University, Los Angeles. She received an honors diploma in international law and policy from the University of Vienna, Austria, a master's degree in divinity from Union Theological Seminary in New York, and a doctorate in ethics and social policy from the cooperative program between the Graduate Theological Union and the University of California, Berkeley. She has been a volunteer, community organizer, strategic planner and fund raiser for several non-profit, anti-poverty organizations in Los Angeles, Berkeley, Oakland, San Francisco, New York, and Haiti.



#### Kris Trujillo



Kris Trujillo, a HOBY California-Central Leadership Seminar ambassador in 1999, is a member of this year's Junior Staff. As a senior this fall, he will serve as Commissioner of Alumni for the student body at Agoura High School. In addition to having been president of Agoura High's Interact Club, Kris has organized beach cleanups, Halloween candy collections, and volunteer groups at the yearly Rose Bowl Parade. Kris is also the cofounder of his school's Change Against Cancer program, which has collected over \$10,000 for children with cancer during the program's first two years. He hopes to attend either

Harvard University, where he will study this summer, Brown University, or Stanford University.

#### David Allen

David Allen is director of special events for the Pepperdine Volunteer Center (PVC). His first volunteer experience through the PVC was during his freshman year at Pepperdine, and he soon found himself devoting more and more time to various volunteer activities. He says volunteerism has become an integral part of his life and that the spirit of volunteerism is a "necessary characteristic to a well-rounded person." He graduated from Pepperdine last year with a bachelor's degree in history.

## Panel 4

### “How Dot Coms Are Shaping Commerce”

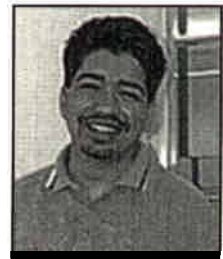


#### **Mark Bilinski**

A 1997 HOBY alum, Mark Bilinski is pursuing a degree in mathematics, chemistry, and/or economics at the California Institute of Technology. Recently, he accepted a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship at Cal Tech to investigate how to design better solar cells. Mark is also a cadet in the U.S. Air Force ROTC program at the University of Southern California. He expects to be commissioned into the military, and he hopes to serve in the U.S. Space Command.

#### **Michael Biswas**

Michael Biswas is director of Inside Sales and Member Relations for BigVine.com, an online exchange for businesses that use the barter process to help them grow. Previously, he was with TeleTech Telecommunications, which specializes in inbound telephone call center management. He received his bachelor's degree in English literature from California State University, Northridge. Among his hobbies are playing the guitar and piano, dancing, and computers.



#### **David Leung**

When David Leung was 10, his parents began a yearly tradition of rewarding his good grades with 100 shares of stock. Seven years later, his portfolio was worth about \$500,000. To help other teens learn how to invest and save their money, David founded two Web sites, [www.library.thinkquest.org/3096](http://www.library.thinkquest.org/3096), which he started at age 13, and [www.library.thinkquest.org/10326](http://www.library.thinkquest.org/10326), which carries an investment game used by more than 9,000 schools nationwide. He is a senior at Palos Verdes Peninsula High School and hopes to attend either Stanford University or Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the fall. A recent Los Angeles Times feature on him labeled him “Wall Street Kid.”

#### **Kevin Reid**

Kevin Reid has been in the insurance and financial services marketplace for more than 20 years. His company specializes in small and mid-size companies, with a recent emphasis on high-tech/new-media companies. As an employee benefits specialist, he has worked with many dot com startups, seeing firsthand the attempts, struggles, successes and failures of this new market phenomenon. As a licensed stockbroker and financial advisor, he advises clients on investing strategies in the general marketplace, including dot coms.



## Panel 5

### “In Search of Perfect Leaders”



#### **Mike Gin**

Redondo Beach City Councilmember Mike Gin is project leader for the production support staff at Infonet Services Corporation in El Segundo. Among his political posts, he has served on the Redondo Beach Planning Commission, the Redondo Beach Preservation Commission, the Los Angeles County Sanitation District and the South Bay Council of Governments. He was honored in 1993 as “Young Man of the Year” by the Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce. He is active in numerous civic organizations, including the Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce, the Redondo Beach Jaycees, the Chinese Americans United for Self Empowerment (CAUSE), and the Chinese Heart Council. He received his bachelor’s degree in computer science from the University of Southern California.

#### **Julia Justus McGinity**

Julia Justus McGinity of Berkhemer/Clayton, Inc, served as a chief advisor on the senior staff of former California Gov. Pete Wilson, where she identified, screened, and evaluated candidates for the governor’s executive and senior management appointments for the State of California. She got her start in the field of candidate development and evaluation with then-U.S. Sen. Wilson, who recommended numerous individuals for federal appointment by former President George Bush. Because of her successful track record, she continues serving Gov. Gray Davis as a member of an advisory committee on the selection of University of California regents. She earned her bachelor’s degrees in social ecology and political science from the University of California, Irvine, where she has been recognized as a Distinguished Alumna. She also is a member of the board of trustees for Ronald McDonald House of Los Angeles and a member of the HOBY California Corporate Board.



#### **Craig Missakian**

Craig Missakian, a criminal prosecutor for the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s office, is vying for the 43rd Assembly District, which covers Glendale, Burbank, Los Feliz, Toluca Lake, Atwater Village, and Silver Lake. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Southern California and his law degree from Georgetown University. In the district attorney’s office, he has prosecuted cases involving gang violence, drugs, child molestation, spousal abuse, and murder.



#### **John Cully**

John Cully is general manager of Costco Wholesale in Inglewood. He started with Costco Wholesale in 1979 and moved into its management leadership ranks in 1981. He currently oversees 200 employees and \$88 million annually in sales. At Costco Wholesale, he believes that opportunities are endless and everywhere -- especially for those who lead and know how to obtain favorable results.

## Guest Speakers



### **John Bryant**

John Bryant of Los Angeles is founder, chairman and chief executive officer of Operation HOPE, the United States' first non-profit investment banking organization. He also is chairman and chief executive officer of the growing network of Operation HOPE Banking Centers. Operation HOPE is committed to social and economic revitalization of urban, inner-city, and under-served communities. He was selected in 1994 by Time magazine as "one of America's most promising leaders of the future." Similar accolades have come from Black Enterprise magazine ("25 future leaders to watch"), Swing magazine ("one of the 30 most powerful twentysomethings in America"), the Los Angeles Business Journal ("distinguished 40 under 40"), and Town and Country magazine ("the new breed of philanthropic leaders").

### **Tim Leets**

Tim Leets is owner of Leets International, an Internet marketing business with operations throughout the United States and around the world. He also is a director and chief operating officer for InterNet Associates and INA books. Previously, he was a certified public accountant and business consultant. He has coached many individuals to greater levels of success, and he conducts numerous seminars on "Playing to Win in Business and in Life." He received his bachelor's degree (magna cum laude) from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. He has been married to his wife Lisa for 16 years and they have two daughters, Whitney, 7, and Tori, 3.



**HOBY Background**

In 1958, actor Hugh O'Brian was privileged to spend nine days in Africa with Dr. Albert Schweitzer, whose remarks and observations were both profound and stimulating. In reference to youth and education, Schweitzer told O'Brian: "The most important thing in education is to teach young people to think for themselves."

Dr. Schweitzer's words deeply moved O'Brian to explore the avenues through which he might influence the lives of our young people. Gradually, a concept evolved, and the Hugh O'Brian Youth Foundation (HOBY) was born.

The HOBY program is simple: Bring a select group of high school sophomores with demonstrated leadership qualities

together with a group of distinguished leaders in business, industry, education, government and the professions, and let the two interact. Using a seminar question-and-answer format, the young people get a realistic look at the workings of the American incentive system, which broadens their perspective and better enables them to think for themselves.

High school sophomores are chosen as the focal point for the HOBY program not only because their age is critical in focusing on future goals and forming opinions for adulthood, but also because they have the opportunity to create a "ripple effect" from their HOBY experience in their remaining high school years. At least 30 countries to attend this international seminar.

**Selection Process**

Nomination materials are sent in September of each year to the 22,000 public and private high schools in the United States. All sophomores are eligible to attend one of the three- to four-day seminars held in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Bahamas, Canada and Mexico. An outstanding sophomore leader is nominated by each school and is certified by its principal.

These expense-paid workshops focus on the theme "America's Incentive System," and encourage the young leaders toward responsible citizenship of community volunteerism and service. One young man or woman is selected to represent his or her site at a week-long World Leadership Congress held in late summer. In addition, HOBY invites young leaders from at least 30 countries to attend this international seminar.

**Results of HOBY Seminars**

The effectiveness of HOBY seminars is noted in the results of HOBY's most recent evaluation:

- 80 percent of ambassadors noted they had a better understanding of the free enterprise, economic and American political systems.
- 98 percent said they know what steps to take to be a better leader.
- 98 percent said they know volunteering is important.
- 99 percent said HOBY encourages them to think independently.
- The evaluation found that HOBY encourages Ambassadors to set goals and that the responsibility for personal growth and leadership development is placed squarely on them.

*HOBY Mission and Objectives*

To seek out, recognize and reward leadership potential in high school sophomores from throughout California, the United States and abroad.

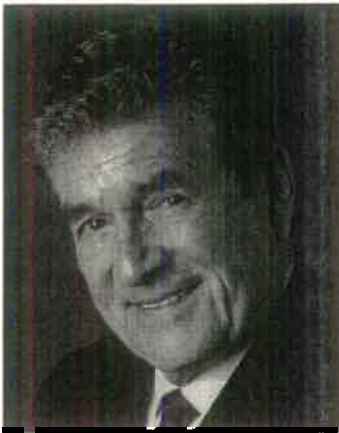
To encourage and assist members of this formative age group in their quest for self-identification and self-development.

To interface these potential idealers with recognized leaders in business, government, science, education and the professions through give-and-take sessions.

To motivate these young leaders to their responsibility and the importance of volunteerism.

To stimulate opportunities for these young people to demonstrate their leadership abilities when they return home for betterment of community and country.

## The Freedom to Choose



*I do not believe we are all created equal. Physical and emotional difference, parental guidance, varying environments or being in the right place at the right time all play a role in enhancing or limiting development. But I do believe every man or woman – if given the opportunity and encouragement to recognize their potential, regardless of background – has the freedom to choose in our world.*

*Will an individual be a taker or a giver in life? Or be satisfied merely to exist? Or will that person seek a meaningful purpose, daring to dream the impossible dream?*

*I believe each person is created as the steward of his or her own destiny, with great power for a specific purpose: to share with others, through service, a reverence for life in a spirit of love.*

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hugh O'Brian".

Hugh O'Brian

# Think Positive

From Positive Thinking Every Day  
by Norman Vincent Peale

**I**f you want to get somewhere, you have to know where you want to go and how to get there. Then never, never give up.

The secret of life isn't what happens to you, but what you do with what happens to you.

Help other people to cope with their problems and your own will be easier to deal with.

Never use the word "impossible" seriously again. Toss it into the verbal wastebasket.

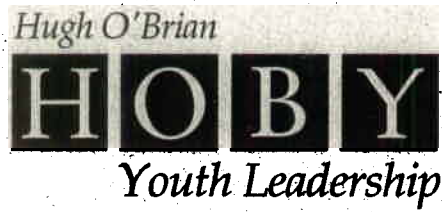
Self-trust is the first secret of success. So believe in and trust yourself.

Stand up to your obstacles and do something about them. You will find that they haven't half the strength you think they have.

Joy increases as you give it and diminishes as you try to keep it to yourself. In giving it, you will accumulate a deposit of joy greater than you ever believed possible.

How you think about a problem is more important than the problem itself -- so always think positively.

Go at life with abandon; give it all you've got. And life will give all it has for you.



*Congratulates and Salutes the  
Leaders of Tomorrow*