

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #262 (2007-2008)

April 14, 2008

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF 2008 SPIRIT OF YOUTH NOMINEES AND WINNERS

ASD Goal: *Increase student academic achievement; and establish and maintain a supportive and effective learning environment by offering reinforcing extracurricular activities.*

PERTINENT FACTS:

Students who give back to their communities are celebrated by the Spirit of Youth Program, which presented its annual awards last month. This year's nominees included these students and groups from the Anchorage School District:

SOY Nominees

Kelly Braudis – Wendler
David Chapa – Eagle River High
Tabbitha Cobb – East
Bobbi Demeris – Dimond
Kelsey Fall – Service
Evan Fried – West
Arianna Gould – East
Bart Grabman – Steller
Olin Huffman – South
Eric Keller – Family Partnership

Sarah Keller – KCC/AVAIL
Brittany Kunz – Dimond
Elaine Leibert – West
Kayla McDowell – West
Lauren Rom – Dimond
Kristian Singleton – Highland Tech
Thomas Snider – Chugiak
Christopher Thompson – West
Summer Troxel – KCC
Lorenzo Tulia - Bartlett

East High School "Change of Heart" trainers – Mary Ziemba

Hiland Tech High School Video Outreach Players – Mark Standley

MediAK – Chris Joy

SOY 2008 Winners:

Celina Brown of **Family Partnership Charter School** created "Praise 3" with her two sisters, a gospel singing trio that entertains patients, the elderly and others going through tough times.

Matt Cook of **Chugiak High School** leads RSVP training sessions to empower youth to educate adults and convince them that they really need to listen to what teens are saying about change and improvement in their community.

Melissa Harken & Kathleen Kingsely of **Chugiak High School** learned of the need for shoes and clothing for children in Africa; then took the leadership role in creating, designing and implementing a fundraising plan to meet these needs.

George Yang of **East High School** is an outstanding musician and composer who volunteers every week to work with elementary students and helps them develop their musical skills. In addition, he has taken on the responsibility of caring for his younger siblings and keeping his household running.

This is a request to commend the 2008 Spirit of Youth Award winners for their creativity, compassion and dedication to community service.

CC/ME/TW

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