

The Washington Hospital Teen Outreach 2010 Award Ceremony  
Thursday, May 20, 2010 at 7 PM  
Trinity High School Auditorium  
Please call Mary Jo Podgurski at 412 877 4906 with questions

The Washington Hospital Teen Outreach will hold its eighth annual Awards Night on Thursday, May 20, 2010 at 7 PM at the Trinity High School. The public is invited. The event recognizes individuals, community agencies and businesses that have provided extraordinary support in the past year to the Teen Outreach mission to young people. Senior Peer Educators are also recognized. All of the awardees demonstrate exceptional commitment to youth.

The theme for the Awards Night is Self-Respect. The Outreach sponsored its third county wide effort to encourage and model respectful behavior during the week of October 12, 2009. Over 20,000 students from all 14 Washington County school districts participated in a 'pass it on' activity that encouraged recognition of respectful behavior during that week. Peer Ambassadors in the schools modeled respect and discussions revolved around peer respect with a focus on self-respect. 54,000 Respect Cards were distributed to students to promote respect in a 'pay it forward' response. The 2011 Ambassador for Respect Program will focus on Self-respect in Cyberspace. Over 2000 essays focusing on respect for people of all races were submitted and read by Teen Outreach volunteers and staff; the winners will receive a \$100 prize and will be honored at the Awards Night. The winning essays will be published in the Observer Reporter newspaper. The essay winners are:

Winner, Grades 10 – 12: Devyn Breese, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade, Chartiers Houston School District.  
Winner, Grades 7 – 9: Michaela Gerace, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, Burgettstown School District  
Winner, Grades 4 – 6: Kaci Hott, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, Trinity School District

Peer Educator members from the Real Talk Performers will perform an original educational drama entitled *Diary of a Teen Label* to open the Awards Night. Peer Educator alumnus and Duquesne University student Hilary E. Patterson will perform Christina Arguilera's Beautiful at the end of the play.

A special life-time achievement award will be presented to The Washington Hospital CEO and President Telford W. Thomas. Mr. Thomas was the recipient of the Outreach's first Community Award in 2003. The partnership between the Academy for Adolescent Health Teen Outreach and The Washington Hospital would not have been possible without Mr. Thomas' leadership, vision, and exemplary support.

The 2010 Awards focus on the Outreach's first fund-raiser, Washington's Got Talent, held on January 30, 2010.

**2010 awardees are:**

Business Award: Range Resources and Matt Pitzarella, for providing outstanding

support for our first fund-raiser as our Diamond Sponsor.

Community Award: Donna Murphy, Executive Director, Washington Drug and Alcohol Commission, and Janice Taper, Washington Communities MH/MR, for outstanding commitment to health and wellness of youth through support of the Common Ground Teen Center.

Educator Award: Marie Montecalvo, Guidance Counselor, Washington High School, for long term support for the Outreach's educational mission to youth.

Fellowship Award: Joshua Finney and Christopher Piatt, Trinity High School and Kevin Jacobs, California University, for providing excellent support during Washington's Got Talent.

Pioneer Award: Dee Delaney, Director, FISA Foundation, for on-going support to the Teen Outreach ECHO Program.

President's Award: Sara Schumacher, The Washington Hospital Foundation, for support during the transfer of SHO (Students Helping Others) to the Outreach.

School Administrator Award: Deborah Jackson, Superintendent, Burgettstown School District, for on-going support of Teen Outreach in-school programming.

Sprit Award: Yvonne Weaver, Assistant Superintendent, Trinity School District, for service above and beyond to young people and to the community.

Social Justice Award: Women and Girls Foundation, for their commitment to Washington County through the Regional Change Agents Program.

Youth Advocate Award: Joseph Orr, Assistant Principal, Trinity High School, for his outstanding commitment to the needs and well-being of young people.

Volunteer Award: Michel Anderson, Accountant, Houston and Walker Associates, for serving as the Washington's Got Talent statistician, and the SHO Committee (Christine Bitz, Julia Calder, Jessica Ott, Sandra Deems, Lindsay Greer, Suzanne Arms, Ben Maxin, and Kristi Scott) for outstanding support through the year.

Please contact Mary Jo Podgurski with questions at 412 877 4906 or by email at [podmj@healthyteens.com](mailto:podmj@healthyteens.com).