

## 2013 Spirit of Youth Nominees

Name	Hometown	School District	Category
<p><b>Abram Leigh</b> is an Eagle Scout and an active leader in his church's youth group. For his Eagle project he organized, implemented and led the painting of a mural at his former elementary school with a group of 25 youth. He is a den leader at his local Boy Scouts Camp and is a role model for the younger scouts.</p>	Juneau	Juneau School District	Service to Community
<p><b>Alaska Geographic Youth Leadership Team</b> is a newly formed group of students that is passionate about public lands outreach. The group seeks to increase the number of youth utilizing public lands and to nurture lifelong relationships between Alaska's youth and the wilderness.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Science and the Environment
<p><b>Alexis Mattson</b> is determined to make her middle school bully free. She goes above and beyond to be kind, welcome new students, and to suggest ways of creating a safe, healthy and stress-free environment at school.</p>	Wasilla	Mat-Su Borough School District	Service to Community
<p><b>Alexis Wells</b> competed in SkillsUSA for Culinary Arts at Nationals in June 2013. This is a student-led organization that promotes individual growth and professionalism.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Fine Arts
<p><b>Alicia Muller</b> is a member of the Youth Alliance for a Healthier Alaska and the Alaska Tobacco Control Alliance where she creates awareness about teen drug and alcohol prevention. Her confidence and determination makes her a role model to her peers.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<p><b>Alyssa Madrid</b> volunteers at the Alaska Tobacco Control Alliance and is devoted to educating her peers about tobacco prevention. Her goal is for Alaska to be smoke free.</p>	Kodiak	Kodiak Island Borough School District	Service to Peers
<p><b>Amanda Homekingkeo</b> is a member of the Alaska Association of Student Government and is on her student council at Mt. Edgecumbe High School. In addition to being active in sports, she also lets her voice be heard and assists regularly in school activities.</p>	Sitka	Mount Edgecumbe High School	Business and Government
<p><b>Amanda Youngers</b> volunteers with Equine Assisted Therapy Alaska, an organization dedicated to improving the health and quality of life for children and adults with disabilities through horsemanship. Amanda is a positive and cheerful leader and is passionate about helping children.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Young Children

<p><b>Anchorage School District Student Advisory Board</b> successfully engaged their peers in the district-wide "Strength of Our Youth" campaign to dispel commonly held myths that teens are engaged in negative or risky behaviors. They created campaign posters, screen savers, morning announcements and events at their schools. They worked hard to create awareness throughout the community about the strength of Anchorage's teens.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<p><b>Anders Ogawa</b> has volunteered more than 100 hours of community service with JROTC, Boy Scouts and the Anchorage Fire Department Explorer's Program. As a JROTC senior ranking cadet, he is constantly demonstrating strong work ethic, leadership and responsibility.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<p><b>Bethel Regional High School Student Council</b> led a peer-to-peer advocacy and outreach effort to increase college access in their schools as part of the national Get Schooled Future Forward Challenge. The Student Council helped the student body engage in a variety of activities dealing with college exploration. By the end of the year, more than 80 percent of the graduating class had applied to college or vocational school and had completed the FAFSA.</p>	Bethel	Lower Kuskokwim School District	Service to Peers
<p><b>Bradley Holyfield</b> has overcome personal obstacles as a young adult and has helped his peers in a bullying prevention program called Chain Reaction. He also is a trainer for the Be The Change peer interaction program.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Overcoming Challenges
<p><b>Brooke McPheters</b> was passionate about children and science. She volunteered for six years at the STARBASE Program, which helps at-risk youth with science, technology, engineering and math. She also volunteered more than 400 hours at the Children's Lunchbox. She is responsible for helping students recognize the value of volunteerism.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<p><b>Calvyn Ambrose</b> is a member of the Young Native Fiddlers in Fairbanks where in addition to teaching fiddling classes to younger students, he initiates, plans and organizes performances at Veteran of Foreign Wars and American Legion events. He is also a volunteer for Stand Down, a program that provides services to homeless veterans.</p>	Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star Borough	Service to Community
<p><b>Camilla Grace Atti's</b> family has fostered more than 50 children in their home and she has been a positive role model for them. Her recent experience of moving from Bethel to Eagle River has challenged</p>	Eagle River	Anchorage School District	Overcoming Challenges

her to become a confident young woman.			
<b>Carmen Landers</b> is devoted to creating equality among her peers. She is active in student council and works closely with special needs students to ensure they are welcomed in the community.	Thorne Bay	Southeast Island School District	Service to Peers
<b>Casey Little</b> volunteers at the Eagle River Boys & Girls Club as an art instructor. She works with not only the younger children, but also gets teens involved in projects that include painting, drawing and mixed media.	Eagle River	Anchorage School District	Fine Arts
In addition to her countless volunteer hours with Girl Scouts, Ma-Su Animal Shelter, and Wasilla Food Bank, <b>Cassandra Alexander</b> also organized and implemented an anti-bullying spirit week at Cottonwood Creek Elementary School.	Wasilla	Mat-Su Borough School District	Service to Community
<b>Chan Mi Joo</b> is dedicated to becoming a health care provider in medically under-served countries. She was the president of the Alaska State Health Occupation Students of America and an active member of her school's Biomedical Career Academy. She was awarded a full scholarship to spend eight months in Ecuador as a medical apprentice before she attends college.	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Science and the Environment
<b>Christian Escalante</b> was an active member of an anti-bullying and substance abuse group and encourages her peers to refrain from risky behaviors. She was a youth representative at the Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence's "Make a Difference" dinner for suicide prevention. Christian's activities help improve the quality of life in her community.	Dutch Harbor	Unalaska City School District	Service to Community
<b>Christian Hartwell</b> is a film maker in Anchorage. Recently he produced a short film called "Skateboarding in Alaska," which was featured at the "After School Special " youth film screening put on by the Bear Tooth Theater and Alaska Teen Media Institute. His films provide an opportunity for young Alaska skaters to have a voice and showcase their talents.	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Technology and Media
<b>Christian Tacci</b> assisted at Equine Assisted Therapy Alaska as a side walker or horse leader during horseback riding lessons. He also spent many hours taking care of the horses. He encourages clients during their sessions with his calm presence and horse handling capabilities.	Anchorage		Service to Community
The <b>Chugiak High School FCCLA</b> organized a	Chugiak	Anchorage	Lifesaver and

<p>project called "Yes We Can!" which focused on the safety and well-being of teens in their community. They educated their peers about distracted driving, seat belt safety and driving under the influence. The group also volunteered at Covenant House's Candlelight Vigil to support homeless teens.</p>		School District	Prevention
<p><b>Colors of Homer</b> is a student-led organization that creates opportunities for teens to express creative passions in a supportive environment. They organize coffee house -style open-mics and give teens a safe place to express themselves.</p>	Homer	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District	Fine Arts
<p><b>Dao Her</b> was born in Thailand and spent her early childhood in a refugee camp before moving to the United States when she was 10. She spoke no English but has come a long way since then. She volunteers for Muldoon Elementary School where she helps students with their homework and spelling. She is committed to her education and family.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Overcoming Challenges
<p><b>David Miller</b> assists at Juneau Alaska Music Matters - an elementary school program that teaches children to construct and play papier mache violins. He started off as an inspiring volunteer and ultimately got a job as a classroom assistant.</p>	Juneau	Juneau Douglas	Fine Arts
<p><b>David Vang</b> is the first in his family to pursue a college career. He participates in the Educational Talent Search Ambassadors program and the ELECT Experiential Leadership Program at UAA where he recruits his peers to become interested in post-secondary education.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Peers
<p><b>Diana Reyes'</b> family immigrated from El Salvador and she has dedicated her young adult life to education and family. Succeeding in school is her No. 1 priority and has participated in UAA's ETS program for five years. She would like to be a pediatrician.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Overcoming Challenges
<p><b>Diane Murph</b> has done numerous hours of volunteer service for her community. She has led a Girl Scout camp that she developed on her own. She is a role model with her award-winning artwork and distance running abilities. One of her art pieces was selected to be the cover for the Federal Subsistence Management Program's management regulation book in use from 2013-2015.</p>	Petersburg	Petersburg City School District	Fine Arts
<p><b>Donald Auliye</b> is an experienced fisherman. On two occasions he has responded to distress calls from other boats, once instructing the passengers to put</p>	Shaktoolik	Bering Strait School District	Lifesaver and Prevention

<p>on life vests before their vessel capsized where he later pulled them to shore. His keen observation skills, clear thinking and spirit of helpfulness proves he is a strong young man willing to risk his own life to save other families from the heartache of loss.</p>			
<p><b>Eagle River High School Choir</b> created an impactful peer-to-peer message about the dangers of texting and driving. Their 90-second video was powerful and the group reported 78 percent of their target teen audience said they would tell others about their message.</p>	Eagle River	Anchorage School District	Technology and Media
<p><b>Elitnarvik Within East (EWE) Youth Leaders</b> group is open to Alaska Native students from all regions and as a place to lead as well as come together in tradition and solidarity. The regalia they presented this year was a huge success and they did a wonderful job at sharing Alaska Native culture with the entire school body.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Cultural Pursuits
<p><b>Elizabeth Willis</b> is one of the students at Gusty Michael School that opened a grocery store in her small village of Stony River. She volunteered to be the spokesperson for the store and spoke at the Elders and Youth Conference and the Calista annual meeting. Her efforts have kept her school going and her culture alive.</p>	Stony River	Kuspuk School District	Service to Peers
<p><b>Emilie Wasson</b> volunteers for AWAIC and started her own organization called Birthday Wishes for Homeless Children in Alaska to benefit children at the AWAIC shelter. She puts together birthday boxes for the children that contain everything they need to celebrate their special day.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<p><b>Emily Brown</b> has been bravely fighting diabetes and raising money and awareness for the disease since she was four years old. She has raised more than \$7,000 during the American Diabetes Association's Tour de Cure cycling fundraiser since 2003.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Lifesaver and Prevention
<p><b>Erica Loughrey</b> is passionate about the issues facing homeless teens in Anchorage. She works with the youth at Covenant House and performed at their Night of Broadway Stars fundraiser. She also performs at their open houses and private benefit concerts.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Fine Arts
<p><b>Faamaneene Logotala</b> actively participates in community service projects with the Boys &amp; Girls Club. She helped raise money for the Providence Children's Hospital and Leed2Feed, a project that raises money and food for Children's Meal Mission.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community

<p><b>Fairbanks Youth for Habitat</b> designed and built a natural playscape for children that incorporates natural materials, native plants, rolling hills and trees with as few man-made components as possible. The playscape was built in a community center that was in dire need of an outdoor play space for children. It has since become a meeting place for families and has generated increased pride and ownership in the neighborhood.</p>	<p>Fairbanks</p>	<p>Fairbanks Northstar Borough</p>	<p>Service to Community</p>
<p><b>Freddy Reyes-Vazquez</b> spent a summer cleaning up the parks and trails with Anchorage Municipality's Youth Employment Program and has volunteered with the 50 Bikes for 50 Kids program two years in a row. He's a black belt in karate and would like to become a nurse and dedicate his life to serving his community.</p>	<p>Anchorage</p>	<p>Anchorage School District</p>	<p>Service to Community</p>
<p><b>Gabriella Gisler</b> serves on the Spirit of Youth Teen Advisory Council. She is an active member of her church and has volunteered at St. Francis House, Clare House and Beans Café. She is empowered to make a difference in her community through volunteering.</p>	<p>Anchorage</p>	<p>Anchorage School District</p>	<p>Faith-based Service</p>
<p><b>Gabrielle Gregg</b> has helped organize and participated in several church-sponsored youth group activities such as weekly services, discipleship classes, fundraisers and youth trips. She is an excellent role model for other girls her age who feel lost and inspires them to be successful and passionate individuals.</p>	<p>Kotzebue</p>	<p>Northwest Arctic Borough School District</p>	<p>Faith-based Service</p>
<p><b>Gabrielle Zaleski</b> is committed to serving her community. She volunteers for several local causes and spends time with young children at her church and a local elementary school. She created the Miss Snowflake Pageant, specifically designed to spotlight girls with special needs and their abilities.</p>	<p>Wasilla</p>	<p>Mat-Su Borough School District</p>	<p>Service to Young Children</p>
<p><b>Giselle Auguiste</b> is a peer outreach worker for Covenant House of Alaska. She has experienced hardships as a young adult and uses her life experiences to motivate other youth to succeed.</p>	<p>Anchorage</p>	<p>Anchorage School District</p>	<p>Service to Peers</p>
<p><b>Grayson Davey</b> is an avid outdoorsman and used his experiences and innovation to design a paracord survival bracelet that incorporates everything you need to start a fire called the Alaska Survival Bracelet. He sells them locally and teaches young children how to make a simple survival bracelet that can be used for repairing a shoelace, making a snare or creating a shelter.</p>	<p>Anchorage</p>	<p>Anchorage School District</p>	<p>Business and Government</p>

<p><b>Hailey Hughes</b> is committed to teaching her peers about making healthy life choices. As a Peer Educator for Promoting Health Among Teens and a peer mentor at Homer High School, she makes a positive impact in her community by being non-judgmental, honest and fair. Hailey has helped pave the way for youth to practice positive negotiation skills in everyday life.</p>	<p>Homer</p>	<p>Kenai Peninsula Borough School District</p>	<p>Service to Community</p>
<p><b>Heather Johnson</b> published a book called "Hidden Voice: A Story of Discovering Strengths," about helping youth build self esteem and deal with bullies and negative comments. She is a delegate to the People to People Ambassador Program, member of the National Association of Professional Women and an instructor at this year's Alaska Young Writers Conference. She has been a driving force of inspiration and encouragement to her peers.</p>	<p>Mat-Su Central School</p>	<p>Mat-Su Borough School District</p>	<p>Business and Government</p>
<p><b>Iditarod School District students</b> created sets for, wrote and performed a musical based on the first sighting of an airplane in the Upper Kuskokwim Region. The students are from four widely separated communities -- Holy Cross, Takotna, McGrath and Nikolai.</p>	<p>Upper Kuskokwim Region</p>	<p>Iditarod School District</p>	<p>Cultural Pursuits</p>
<p><b>Ieshia Searle</b> is the current leader of the Thorne Bay Youth Responders EMS group, which provides health aid at community events throughout the year. Ieshia actively recruits youth to participate in the EMS program and is a role model to her peers.</p>	<p>Thorne Bay</p>	<p>Southeast Island School District</p>	<p>Lifesaver and Prevention</p>
<p><b>Isaac Logo</b> volunteers with his church and community events year round. He is a mentor to young people among the Polynesian community and teaches them about safety and respect. He also volunteers at the Fire Department's youth program.</p>	<p>Anchorage</p>	<p>Anchorage School District</p>	<p>Service to Peers</p>
<p><b>Isabella Weiss</b> is committed to her community and volunteers with her church and local senior center. She is a natural leader and regularly assists other students in need.</p>	<p>Palmer</p>	<p>Mat-Su Borough School District</p>	<p>Service to Community</p>
<p><b>Isaiah McKenzie</b> is involved in a Native dance group as a drummer and singer. Recently he led a group of students in practicing Native dance during an overnight activity so they would be prepared to greet a visiting group of youth to their school. His leadership skills are an inspiration to his peers as they prepare to move on to high school.</p>	<p>Anchorage</p>	<p>Anchorage School District</p>	<p>Cultural Pursuits</p>
<p><b>Isiah Simeonoff</b> is devoted to helping elders in his small Kodiak village of Akhiok. In addition to hunting for the elders, he also acts as their personal</p>	<p>Akhiok</p>	<p>Kodiak Island Borough School District</p>	<p>Service to Community</p>

refuse worker. Last May he facilitated a cultural mask dance for the passing of his grandmother.			
<b>Ivana Ash</b> aims to raise awareness to the importance of maintaining the Sugpiaq culture in her home town of Nanwalek. She has devoted herself to her community through science, education and her love for the world around her.	Nanwalek	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District	Science and the Environment
<b>Jerry Vongkoth</b> volunteered more than 100 hours in 2012 to The First Tee of Alaska, a program that provides education and character development to youth through the game of golf. He helped with every class at Russian Jack Spring Golf Course and is a positive role model to the youth in the program.	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Young Children
<b>Jesse Bartelds</b> has a natural ability and a passion for photography. She developed her skills and created Jessie Barteld's Photography where she provides photography services including senior portraits, family portraits and weddings.	Sitka	Sitka School District	Business and Government
<b>Jezzroy Gordon-Wolfe</b> is active in the North Star Youth Court and as a prosecuting attorney he influences his peers to make positive life choices. He also tutors for the Literacy Council of Alaska and volunteers with the Food Bank and the local library.	Fairbanks		Service to Peers
<b>Joyell Acuna &amp; Vanessa Muhlenbruch</b> are committed to helping the YWCA fulfill the mission of eliminating racism and empowering women. They hosted a round table discussion with a group of middle school girls during the Multicultural Female Leadership Conference. They were integral in organizing the conference and inspired hundreds of young women to become more confident in themselves.	Anchorage		Service to Young Children
<b>Julia Hinkle</b> is a volunteer at Equine Assisted Therapy Alaska where she helps disabled children and adults improve their quality of life through horsemanship. She also volunteers with Hope World Wide Alaska and is a member of the Partners Club at school, which helps students with special needs and disabilities.	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<b>Julia Underwood</b> is dedicated to making her world a better place. She is the leader of Bible Club at her high school and heads her church's early learning center. She has completed seven mission trips, and helps care for her seven siblings, some with special needs.	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<b>Juneau's Youth Action Committee</b> is a student-	Juneau	Juneau School	Service to

<p>driven effort to help effect positive change in the community. Each year the teens raise funds for organizations and projects that better teen issues in Juneau. Last year the group focused on promoting success in high school and creating awareness of post secondary education.</p>		District	Peers
<p><b>Kanoë Maalona</b> volunteers with Polynesian community events all around Anchorage. She was active in the Polynesian Culture Awareness Day last summer and helped several youth at a vision screening booth at the Alaska State Fair.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<p><b>Karen Edmund</b> has volunteered with numerous groups in the small village of Alakanuk and has received an Emergency Trauma Technology certificate. She works with a youth employment program at Kwikpak Fisheries to help her mother pay the bills. She helps care for her 79-year-old grandfather who suffered a major stroke. She is an inspiration to her peers and her siblings.</p>	Alakanuk	Lower Yukon School District	Service to Community
<p><b>Karly Klein-McMahon</b> has raised \$12,000 for the Big Brothers Big Sisters "Bowl for Kids' Sake" program during the past four years. She is dedicated to fundraising and works hard to help her community provide a positive program for kids.</p>	Ketchikan	Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District	Service to Community
<p>Despite her own life-threatening health issues, <b>Karly Norton</b> has been able to remain an honor student, captain of her cheerleading squad, peer supporter and mentor to other students in her school who are facing serious illness. She has been described as a perfect example of what personal strength, a positive outlook and determination can do to set the tone for one's life course.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Overcoming Challenges
<p><b>Kharyan Coleman-Lockett</b> has volunteered at schools in Anchorage as part of the 21st Century Afterschool Program, where he feeds students and helps them with their homework.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<p><b>Kimberly Diamond</b> answers the call for help in her community in myriad ways. She works with the Kids' Corps Head Start program, is active in her school's Adopt-a-Trail program, contributed to the United Way Food Drive, the Somali Literary Program, and several other community events. Whether she is helping immigrants learn to read or making pillows for foster children, Kimberly leads by example.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<p><b>Kyla Villaroya</b> is passionate about her Filipino culture in Kodiak. She made five films about different Filipino organizations and volunteered at</p>	Kodiak	Kodiak Island Borough School District	Cultural Pursuits

<p>the Baranov Museum to create a film about a Filipino immigrant, which was highlighted at a local film festival. Kyla's research and film making have brought Filipino community stories into the public eye like never before.</p>			
<p><b>Lanette Adams, Miranda Henry, Raymond Hawley, and Eli Koenig</b> assisted in their school's student medical screenings where they comforted the students and talked them through the procedures. They also teach anti-bullying, tobacco prevention and healthy relationships to all the students in their school.</p>	Kivalina	Northwest Arctic Borough School District	Service to Young Children
<p><b>Leila Pyle</b> is an active member of Alaska Youth for Environmental Action. She is a leader in the Kodiak Youth Conservation Corps and is dedicated to educating youth about recycling, climate change, marine debris and other conservation topics.</p>	Kodiak		Science and the Environment
<p><b>Lillian Borromeo</b> is an active member of her community. She encourages her peers to be healthy by joining the Hydaburg Dance Group and she uses her personal experiences about bullying to help other youth understand the impact it can have on people.</p>	Hydaburg	Hydaburg City School District	Service to Community
<p><b>Lohali Bamba-Jordan</b> volunteers at the Mountain View Community Center twice a week teaching free hula lessons to local youth. Hula is her passion and she is proud of her culture.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Fine Arts
<p><b>Luke Cooley</b> has been actively involved in the Alaska Greek Festival for 13 years, performing with the youth dance group and volunteering on the management team. He has invested countless hours preparing the grounds, raising tents, assisting the dancers, preparing food and cleaning up after the festival, which raises money for the construction of the Byzantine-style Greek Orthodox Church.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Faith-based Service
<p><b>Maggie Avila</b> strives to keep her Haida language and culture alive through sewing regalia, working with community elders and teaching other youth. She teaches a Haida word a day at school and helps other students with pronunciation. With only three native Haida speakers left in her hometown, she understands how important it is for youth to carry on the language.</p>	Kasaan	Southeast Island School District	Cultural Pursuits
<p><b>Maia Wen</b> has volunteered with Providence Hospital, American Cancer Society, Food Bank of Alaska, Boys and Girls Club and Salvation Army. She is a dedicated student and plans to be a psychiatrist</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community

so she can further her desire to help people in need.			
<b>Máire New</b> was selected to join an elite group of 15 students from across the United States to travel to Moscow and train at the Bolshoi Ballet Academy. After the six-week study she was invited to stay for the entire year as a trainee. Her hard work, determination and positive attitude have enabled her to succeed in such a competitive and difficult field.	Juneau		Fine Arts
<b>Makayla Wilson</b> participated in an eight-day marine expedition with the Chugach National Forest where she explored the ecosystems of Prince William Sound. She created a short film about her experience and the effects of marine debris on our oceans.	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Science and the Environment
To earn her Girl Scouts Gold Award <b>Margaret Wallace</b> created a sustainable, annual clothing and electronics drive through her community church and high school to address the needs of teens at Covenant House Alaska.	Chugiak	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<b>Marques Robinson</b> is a leader with the Athletic Mentors program. He uses his life experiences to help other youth overcome challenges.	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Overcoming Challenges
<b>Mason Hoppe</b> is president of the Youth Council at the Klawock Boys and Girls Club and is actively involved in village cultural events. He strives for excellence in everything he does, from volunteering in the community to sports and school. He is a natural leader and an asset to his peers and elders.	Klawock	Klawock School District	Service to Peers
<b>Math Science Expedition Leadership Team of Aniak</b> are key organizers in a 10-day wilderness trip for local youth. The team heads the expedition and teaches most of the math, fish biology and leadership activities to the younger students.	Aniak	Kuspuk School District	Service to Young Children
<b>Matthew Covalt and Tyler Eagle</b> organized and ran a region-wide Drama, Debate and Forensics tournament in Wrangell where they helped with travel arrangements, judging and timing training and performance space organization. They ensured the tournament could be brought to their hometown and that it involved elements from the whole community.	Wrangell	Wrangell Public School District	Fine Arts
<b>Mia Ruffin</b> is an altar server at her church's Sunday services. She assists the priest and trains new servers by helping them gain confidence at the altar. She also participates in the church's Hospitality Hour	Juneau	Juneau School District	Faith-based Service

as a way to further connect to other parishioners.			
<b>Michael Anahonak</b> is the ultimate community helper. If there's an event at school or in his village he's the first to make himself available. His respect for elders and determination to accept challenges makes him a role model and mentor for younger people in his community.	Port Graham	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District	Overcoming Challenges
<b>Michael Bialy, Emily Berryman, Tony Boyer and Tandy Vangtan</b> created the Bethel PRIDE dance group last summer after the AK PRIDE troupe from Anchorage performed in Bethel. The group is dedicated to bringing their community together through artistic expression. This team of self-motivated teens spent a summer fundraising, recruiting and defining what Bethel PRIDE is all about so their new tradition can spread to other rural parts of Alaska.	Bethel	Lower Kuskokwim School District	Fine Arts
<b>Michael Day</b> has been a member of the Boys & Girls Club for nearly 10 years. He is part of the Junior Staff, a youth-led group that helps out the club. He is a natural leader and a role model to the younger members of the club.	Fairbanks	Fairbanks Northstar Borough	Service to Peers
<b>Michael Tappel</b> is a fantastic classical and musical theater singer and piano player who has won many local and national competitions. He gives back to his community by volunteering to direct and lead the youth choir at his school and schedule performances.	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Fine Arts
<b>Michele Alexander</b> volunteers at a camp for foster children. Through her experiences in foster care she has learned to become a leader and to help others with her positive attitude.	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Overcoming Challenges
<b>Moira Pyhala</b> is the youngest volunteer in The Kenai Watershed Forum's Stream Watch program, which helps create a more sustainable fishery in the waters of the Kenai Peninsula. She also started an InterAct club at her high school, which is dedicated to community service.	Soldotna	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District	Service to Community
<b>Moriah Mabry</b> is a member of the Challenge Alaska ski team and is a mentor and role model to other young skiers with disabilities. Her positive attitude, tenacity and love for sports help spread disability awareness throughout the community.	Anchorage	Grace Christian School	Overcoming Challenges
<b>Naomi Hess</b> is a Project GRAD scholar and a member of the Native Youth Leadership team in Ninilchik. She is a role model to the middle school	Ninilchik	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District	Service to Peers

students and addresses social issues by making younger students feel welcomed and included in Ninilchik school life.			
<b>Nelson Korshin</b> has become a dynamic figure skater during his young-adult life. His energy and <i>joie de vivre</i> are wonderful to see for those watching on the sidelines. He adds to the art of figure skating by being one of the relatively few boys to participate.	Anchorage	Homeschool	Fine Arts
<b>Noelani Tuga</b> is dedicated to supporting her Polynesian community in Anchorage. She volunteers for cultural events and uses her artistic talent to raise money for the Lion's Club. Her drawing was selected to be the official logo for the new Anchorage Polynesian Lions Club International organization. She is recognized by the Polynesian Association of Alaska as committed to her culture and community.	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<b>Nomalani Tuga</b> is passionate about her Polynesian culture. She expresses herself through traditional dance, her artwork and singing at Polynesian cultural events in Anchorage. She inspires her community to be healthy and to embrace the Polynesian culture.	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Cultural Pursuits
The <b>North Pole High School Key Club</b> is a self-governing, student-led organization that aims to make their community a better place. Each year they fundraise and assist with the March For Babies walk. Recently they led a "Pledge to Show Respect" campaign in their community by making a commercial for their school about respecting people with disabilities.	North Pole	Fairbanks Northstar Borough	Service to Community
The <b>North Slope Borough Mayors Arctic Youth Advisory Council</b> are trained to identify and council suicidal youth in one of the largest area school districts in the nation. They are active in local government. In addition to monthly volunteer work, the group of teens created a newsletter to inform their community about alcohol, drug and suicide awareness.	Barrow	North Slope Borough School District	Business and Government
The <b>Ocean Sciences Club</b> is passionate about the importance of the ocean's health. This group of enthusiastic students is dedicated to learning and educating others about marine science through hands-on exploration, volunteering, writing news articles and creating videos.	Seward	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District	Science and the Environment
<b>Ohna Korshin</b> is an accomplished figure skater. She has trained since the age of four and has competed	Anchorage	Homeschool	Service to Young

<p>both nationally and internationally. At home rinks she has taken personal interest in younger skaters and helped them to improve.</p>			Children
<p><b>Pang Thao</b> immigrated to the U.S. from Thailand when she was 10 years old and has since dedicated herself to her studies and family. She is married with two young children and her responsibilities at home have not hindered her from getting an education. She received a scholarship to UAA for her good grades. She would like to work in the healthcare field in order to help her Hmong community by being a bridge between two vastly different cultures.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Overcoming Challenges
<p><b>Pippin Hum</b> uses his technological skills to empower and engage young people in Alaska. He has worked on creating educational computer games that meet science standards in an effort to get young people interested in science.</p>	Fairbanks	Chugach School District	Technology and Media
<p><b>Project GRAD Leadership Boat Builders</b> constructed three ocean kayaks from scratch. They were given no instructions, but with teamwork and cooperation, they were able to appreciate the work and pride it took their ancestors to make such boats. When the boats were finished the teens painted them and presented them to their elders.</p>	Kenai Peninsula area	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District	Cultural Pursuits
<p><b>Quace Wright</b> is dedicated to helping students with special needs at Wasilla High School and was recognized last year in the Mat-su Valley by the Champions for Children organization. He acts as a role model by encouraging his peers to make positive choices.</p>	Wasilla	Mat-Su Borough School District	Service to Peers
<p><b>Rae C. Stedman Elementary's 2012 Fifth Grade Class</b> led the school in a fundraiser to build a kindergarten in Wendo Genet, Ethiopia. They raised more than \$7,000 and motivated other students to read as a challenge to raise money.</p>	Petersburg	Petersburg City School District	Service to Young Children
<p><b>Raihana Hansen</b> believes in helping others. She is committed to volunteer services from cultural dances to cleaning parks to walking for a good cause. She is a leader among her Polynesian peers and teaches young people about her culture.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Cultural Pursuits
<p><b>Raymond Atos</b> is part of a whaling crew in Barrow. He hunts for his family and community year round and is part of the young generation that wants to keep the Inupiaq tradition alive. He takes younger children camping, boating, whaling and hunting to</p>	Barrow	North Slope Borough School District	Cultural Pursuits

<p>teach them to be safe and to survive. Raymond improves the quality of life by showing everyone in the community that it is still possible to live off the land.</p>			
<p><b>Robert Shedlosky</b> has initiated service to homeless communities for several years. Whenever he travels, he purchases food and delivers it to people in need. He is pursuing a degree in culinary arts and hopes to open a food kitchen for the homeless.</p>	Ketchikan	Southeast Island School District	Service to Community
<p><b>Robert Stanley</b> started a project called "Eat More Salad" where he encourages people to make healthy eating choices. His project became a small business venture where he spreads the good word about salad and provides salad merchandise for anyone interested in joining the movement. He is an inspiration to youth who have creative ideas for art and business ventures.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Business and Government
<p><b>Royal Henderson</b> ran to fill a vacant seat on the Haines Borough School District School Board, won, and now is both the Student Body President AND a bona fide, full-fledged adult member of the school board.</p>	Haines	Haines School District	Business and Government
<p><b>Ryan Casey</b> is committed to community service. He assists with the Eagle River Boys &amp; Girls Club's mentorship program, the Chugiak-Eagle River Food Pantry and Anchorage Youth Court. Through his volunteerism he has become a dependable, positive role model for youth.</p>	Eagle River	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<p><b>Ryan Gale</b> has consistently demonstrated excellent scholarship, consistent effort and outstanding character. His study of Latin shows a dedicated work ethic and he has made excellent progress in mastering the Latin language.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Fine Arts
<p>The <b>Salmon Blitz Students</b> of Cordova assessed streams in their community and shared their coho salmon findings with the Alaska Department of Fish &amp; Game. Their efforts resulted in more fish habitat data listed in the Anadromous Waters Catalog.</p>	Cordova	Cordova School District	Science and the Environment
<p><b>Sammie Shephard</b> is the youth board representative for the Anchorage Waterways Council. She assists in managing creek cleanups and motivates other teens to participate in AWC events.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Science and the Environment
<p><b>Samuel Allred</b> has battled a rare kidney disease since he was a toddler and created the non-profit organization Project Comfort that makes travel-sized pillows and distributes them to hospitalized</p>	Wasilla	n/a	Overcoming Challenges

<p>children all over the United States. During the past three years he and his community have made more than 3,000 pillows. He is also the author of "Opening Hearts," a book that aims to provide hope and encouragement for kids who are chronically ill.</p>			
<p><b>Samuel Gebert</b> has helped with several community service projects including designing and managing the construction and installation of new ski racks for Challenge Alaska, testifying and advocating on behalf of individuals with disabilities and fundraising for the American Cancer Society. He is dedicated to empowering and inspiring people and breaking down barriers that may exist for people with disabilities.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<p><b>Sarah Bates</b> has volunteered at the Mat-Su Youth Court and Special Santa and is an active member of her school's Peer Relations group. Through her personal struggles she is able to help others reach their full potential.</p>	Wasilla	Mat-Su Borough School District	Service to Peers
<p><b>Sarah Ihde</b> is passionate about basketball and helping others. She volunteers with her church's vacation Bible camp educating youth about horses. She has undergone personal struggles and uses these experiences to teach others.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Overcoming Challenges
<p><b>Sarah Redmon</b> is on the board of directors at Facing Foster Care in Alaska. Having been in 14 foster care placements in her youth, she strives to help improve the foster care system in Alaska and to help foster teens be successful.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Peers
<p><b>Scott Parmelee</b> was the only teen to participate in Anchorage's first Maker Faire in the summer of 2013. He has several original creations, from a giant needle screen toy to a wooden three-ring binder. His creative instincts and dedication make him a role model for his peers.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Technology and Media
<p><b>Shanelle Afcan</b> began an initiative at Mount Edgcumbe High School to get local seafood into the school meal program. She created an outreach campaign to educate students on the importance of local eating. Once local food was secured in her own school she took her campaign to the 2013 legislative session to further educate Alaskans about food security and preserving culture.</p>	Sitka		Science and the Environment
<p><b>Shannyn Bird</b> has served as both a youth delegate and a youth organizer with Alaska Youth for Environmental Action. She has organized and facilitated meetings of the Fairbanks chapter of</p>	Fairbanks		Science and the Environment

<p>AYEA and has led projects ranging from jam-making classes to fighting for wild salmon. Shannyn will do what it takes to fight for Alaska's environmental health.</p>			
<p><b>Solomon Shindler</b> participates in church-sponsored youth group events, discipleship programming, and helps coordinate drama, worship and prayer nights. He is a positive influence on people in his community, especially youth who are struggling.</p>	Kotzebue		Faith-based Service
<p><b>Sophie Harris</b> spent 10 weeks with the Student Conservation Association alumni crew building bridges and maintaining park trails in Anchorage and around Spencer Glacier. She demonstrated particular leadership by using media and technology to tell her story about her service and to get other team members involved.</p>	Wasilla	n/a	Science and the Environment
<p><b>Summer Anderson</b> started a club to help new students transition to Soldotna High School. She organizes activities and actively recruits new members. As a transfer student, she understands the difficulty of assimilating to a new place. She makes new students feel welcome and encourages them to excel.</p>	Soldotna	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District	Service to Peers
<p><b>Taylee Nyquest</b> traveled to Slovakia this summer to work at an English camp where she developed lesson plans about mentorship, team building, mission work and oral English skills.</p>	Thorne Bay	Southeast Island School District	Faith-based Service
<p><b>Taylor Holshouser, Aaron Hurd &amp; Theodore Walters</b> became an Eagle Scouts in 2013 and decided to stay with their troop as Assistant Scout Masters and Merit Badge Counselors. They assist the troop with projects, camp outs, ceremonies, weekly meetings and merit badge requirements so younger scouts can advance.</p>	Eagle River	Anchorage School District	Service to Peers
<p><b>Taylor Tuttle</b> has overcome great personal sorrow by becoming a mentor with the Girl Scouts. She is a positive role model to girls age 9-14 and helps them see that their futures are bright and full of possibilities.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Peers
<p><b>Te'shawn Anderson-Johnson</b> is a member of the Muldoon Boys &amp; Girls Club where she serves food for the Children's Lunchbox and helps youth with their homework after school. She volunteers with the Food Bank of Alaska, AWAIC and Muldoon Elementary School. She also tutors her peers in math, English and science and helps them improve their grade point averages.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community

<p><b>Teck John Baker Youth Leaders</b> prevent suicide and promote well-being through interventions, role modeling, classroom presentations, and sponsoring healthy activities. This student-led and directed program teaches students in their small community about suicide, bullying, sexual assault, domestic violence and substance abuse prevention.</p>	Kotzebue	Northwest Arctic Borough School District	Lifesaver and Prevention
<p>Community leadership and public speaking are top priorities for <b>Terek Rutherford</b>. As a Cub Scout he helped design and implement a local playground. He has attended leadership conferences to learn how he can be an active member of his community.</p>	Girdwood	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<p><b>The Anchorage Youth Development Coalition LGBTQ Youth Leadership Interns Liza McGownd, Rechelle Houston, Hannah Gershel &amp; Troy Walters</b> engaged in youth-led community assessments and developed an interactive training for adults to support the equality of LGBTQ teen experiences in youth-serving agencies. They surveyed queer and allied youth at Anchorage's Pride Prom and the Alaska Pride Festival and used the information gathered to host LGBTQ youth speak-outs and talking circles.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Service to Community
<p><b>The Colony High School drama students</b> performed a live radio show of "A Christmas Carol," which aired on Radio Free Palmer, 89.5 FM. The show was student directed and performed with a strong leadership from the Drama Club executive board of students.</p>	Palmer	Mat-Su Borough School District	Fine Arts
<p><b>The Orca Excavators</b> of St. Paul Island uncovered the skeleton of a baby killer whale during the annual Bering Sea Days event. They endured the cold and wind for nearly three days assisting a zooarchaeologist in removing the bones. Their dedication to a community project is an inspiration to their peers and younger students.</p>	St. Paul Island	Pribilof Island School District	Science and the Environment
<p><b>The Waves Radio Team</b> worked with Alaska Teen Media Institute last summer to produce an hour-long radio program. The show aired on KNBA 90.3 FM and featured public service announcements, Elder oral history interviews and radio features. The group worked hard to gain digital media and interviewing skills.</p>	Anchorage	Anchorage School District	Technology and Media
<p><b>The Youth in the Frank Attla Youth &amp; Sled Dog Care and Mushing Program</b> learn about dog care, mushing skills and how to survive in the outdoors. Last spring the middle and high school youth organized and hosted a special Youth Sled Dog Race day for all ages and a three-day Sled Dog Mushing</p>	Huslia	Yukon-Koyukuk School District	Cultural Pursuits

Camp for elementary school students. This year they formed their own Junior Dog Mushing Club where they actively recruit new members.			
<b>Timothy Ukatish</b> is dedicated to his Sugpiaq culture and community. Through his volunteer time with the local Tribal Council and several village activities, he sets a high standard for his Nanwalek peers and encourages them to care for their village and elders.	Nanwalek	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District	Service to Community
<b>TJ Cox</b> volunteers with his local Middle School wrestling team, where he teaches, encourages and supports younger students. He also participates in Nikiski's roadside clean up and assists elders by mowing lawns and cleaning yards.	Nikiski	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District	Service to Community
<b>Togiak School Upward Bound Group</b> created a powerful peer-to-peer message promoting helmet use while on snow machines and ATVs. This group of rural Alaskans had the challenge of working remotely, yet they were able to submit drafts, conduct surveys and gather data.	Togiak	Togiak Southwest Region School District	Technology and Media
<b>Trinity Atanauraq Viveiros</b> is active in the traditional way of life. She hunts and prepares the meat, renders oil and shares her catch with other people in her community. She participates in monthly community potlucks where she helps elders enjoy traditional foods. She is passionate about passing on her cultural skills.	Kotzebue	Northwest Arctic Borough School District	Cultural Pursuits
<b>Trinity Standifer</b> is dedicated to helping young people in her small community of Tyonek. She is a member of Native Youth Leadership and represented her village at Juneau Close Up 2013. Whether she's babysitting, helping kids with their homework, or teaching respect in school, Trinity is a positive role model and leader.	Tyonek	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District	Service to Young Children
<b>Tyrel and Eric Gusty</b> are active community members in the small town of Stony River. They deliver lunches every school day to the town elders and plan community parties during the holidays. They also assist in the town's student-run grocery store.	Stony River	Kuspuk School District	Service to Community
<b>William Peele</b> is a natural leader. He helps out at school whenever needed. He assists with wrestling and basketball practices and is a role model to the younger students.	Hydaburg	Hydaburg City School District	Service to Young Children
<b>Youth Alliance for Healthier Alaska</b> comprises 10 teens from across Alaska who help shape the state's response to youth health issues. The group advises	Anchorage, Barrow, McGrath,	Anchorage, Unalaska City, Iditarod Area,	Service to Community

<p>organizations all over Alaska so their information is relevant to youth, from creating presentations about relationship violence to giving feedback on grant applications.</p>	<p>Unalaska and Wasilla</p>	<p>Barrow and Mat-Su school districts</p>	
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