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THE SECOND ANNUAL PETER CHORTEK LEADERSHIP AWARD RECOGNIZES THREE TEENS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY

SAN DIEGO - February 24, 2013 - The Jewish Community Foundation held its second annual Peter Chortek Leadership Award Ceremony today to honor three extraordinary young individuals' service and leadership contributions to the community. Jenna Arocha, Jonathan Feldman and Sasha Pines were each awarded \$3,600 and each received an additional \$1,800 in a donor advised fund at the Jewish Community Foundation to promote ongoing philanthropy. Peter (of blessed memory) and Elaine Chortek created the Award to foster Jewish communal involvement by rewarding Jewish high school students who are practicing the value of *Tikkun Olam*, repairing the world. Below is information about each recipient's service project.



Jenna Arocha, Grade 12, Rancho Bernardo High School: Upon learning about peoples' great toll on the environment, Jenna Arocha knew that she could make a major difference beyond just recycling at home. She launched the Temple Adat Shalom Recycle Project, a comprehensive program that educates other students, raises money to benefit the synagogue's school and improves the wider synagogue community. The recycling system inspires other young leaders within the synagogue and encourages students to recycle through classroom competitions.



Jonathan Feldman, Grade 10, High Tech High: Jonathan Feldman organized the first 5K race to raise money for Folds of Honor, which provides support to the spouses and children of U.S. soldiers killed or disabled in military service. Jonathan discovered Folds of Honor while preparing for his bar mitzvah and wanted to support their work on a larger scale through this race to make a noticeable and lasting community impact. He plans to hold the race annually to spread awareness about military families' needs.



Sasha Pines, Grade 11, San Diego Jewish Academy: Sasha Pines created and volunteers at Camp Let Loose, a summer camp aimed at serving children, teens and young adults with special needs that is administered through the Friendship Circle. Because camp was one of her favorite experiences, she wanted to share the opportunity to go to camp with those who otherwise could not. Beyond providing a summer to remember, Sasha engages other teen volunteers to guide the camp and become leaders, too.

About the Jewish Community Foundation

The Jewish Community Foundation partners with individuals, families and community organizations to help them achieve their philanthropic goals. During fiscal year 2011-12, the Foundation awarded and facilitated \$87 million in 5,000 grants to more than 1,300 Jewish and general organizations in San Diego, Israel and around the world. Visit the Jewish Community Foundation at www.jcfsandiego.org or call 858-279-2740.

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