

## **THE THIRD ANNUAL PETER CHORTEK LEADERSHIP AWARD RECOGNIZES THREE TEENS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY**

**SAN DIEGO** - February 12, 2014 - The Jewish Community Foundation of San Diego selected three teens from numerous applications to receive the Peter Chortek Leadership Award for their extraordinary service, philanthropy and leadership. Jacob Gardenswartz, Ari Krasner and Jenna Lizerbram will each receive \$3,600 and an additional \$1,800 in a donor advised fund at the Jewish Community Foundation to promote ongoing philanthropy. The Award is supported by the Peter Chortek Youth Philanthropy Leadership Fund at the Foundation, established by Peter (of blessed memory) and Elaine Chortek to foster Jewish communal involvement by recognizing Jewish high school students who are practicing the value of *Tikkun Olam*, repairing the world. Below is information about each recipient's service project. High resolution photos are available upon request.



**Jacob Gardenswartz**, Grade 12, Francis Parker School: Jacob helped to launch "Theater of Peace," a program that uses short skits to educate elementary, middle and high school students about **bullying**. Pursuing tolerance and acceptance motivated Jacob to educate students to treat others with respect and kindness. Even going as far as sharing personal experiences, Jacob and his peer student performers explain bullying and provide tips for intervening in negative situations. In only two years, Theater of Peace has performed at over 200 assemblies and reached over 2,000 students across San Diego. Project video: [j.mp/jacobpeace](http://j.mp/jacobpeace)



**Ari Krasner**, Grade 12, University City High School: Ari founded a campus club affiliate of Jewish Family Service's Hand Up Youth Food Pantry to promote awareness about hunger and collect food and donations for the Pantry. Ari set out to educate his peers about **food insecurity**, but went above and beyond to revolutionize how the Pantry engages teens. Between recruiting students, teaching about hunger and event planning, Ari dedicates dozens of hours a month, leading to 450 community service hours between all participants, plus 1,500 pounds of food and hundreds of dollars collected for the Pantry. Project video: [j.mp/arihandup](http://j.mp/arihandup)



**Jenna Lizerbram**, Grade 12, La Costa Canyon High School: Since music had always been very important to her, Jenna united her passions of philanthropy and music to create YouthJamz when she was 13 years old. Her organization holds annual benefit concerts to raise funds to start **music programs for underprivileged children** around the world who do not have access to music education. Since 2010, YouthJamz has hosted four concerts and established and funded music programs for 800 children in San Diego, India and the Congo. Project video: [j.mp/jennajamz](http://j.mp/jennajamz)

### **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 2012-13, the Foundation awarded and facilitated \$98 million in 5,600 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](http://www.jcfsandiego.org) or call 858-279-2740.*