

## *The Freedom To Choose, by Hugh O'Brian*

Unfortunately, a very small number of our young people seem to attract the most news. They are in the public eye because they have stolen cars, vandalized schools, created disturbances - in some way rebelled against society. It is a fact that 98.7% of our young people are law-abiding constructive citizens. There is too much focus on the negative. It is time we accent the positive - pat the good guys and gals on the back- let them know there are rewards for being responsible members of the community.



I do NOT believe we are all born equal. Physical and emotional differences, parental guidance, varying environments, being in the right place at the right time, all play a role in enhancing or limiting an individual's development. But I DO believe every man and woman, if given the opportunity and encouragement to recognize their potential, regardless of background, has the freedom to choose in our world. Will an individual be a taker or a giver in life? Be satisfied merely to exist or seek a meaningful purpose? Will he or she dare to dream the impossible dream?

I believe every person is created as the steward of his or her own destiny with great power for a specific purpose: to share with others, through service, a reverence for life in a spirit of love.

*Hugh O'Brian*



# HOBY

## Facts & Figures



### Our Mission:

*To inspire and develop our global community of youth and volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership, service and innovation*

### We carry out our mission by:

- Providing interactive opportunities for critical thinking.
- Developing leadership knowledge and competence.
- Encouraging social responsibility among the individuals and corporations.

### We challenge our Ambassadors to:

- Think for themselves and to become critical thinkers.
- Examine their personal leadership, practice group leadership and pledge leadership in society.
- Enhance their leadership skills through active involvement in the community.

### Results from a survey of HOBY alumni and volunteers:

- 99% believed they could make a difference in their communities.
- 99.7% felt that volunteering with HOBY was a positive experience.
- 99% stated they would recommend HOBY to a friend.
- 98% reported that as a result of HOBY, they know what steps to take to be a better leader.



### Historical figures:

- 425,000 HOBY participants since 1958
- Nearly 10,000 students instructed annually
- 4,000 volunteers at the local and national level
- Over 70 leadership seminars each year
- 20+ countries represented at WLC annually
- 70+ countries represented at WLC since 1976

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