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University Of Delaware Lead Council Teams Up With the Jefferson Awards

WILMINGTON, DE –The Jefferson Awards-Deloitte Youth Service Initiative (YSI) is honored to partner with the University of Delaware Lead Council to create a Jefferson Awards Youth Leadership Team in Delaware high schools to help implement the Jefferson Awards recognition system and provide hands-on coaching. We want to pass the tradition of volunteer service on to the next generation.

Lead Council president Liz Blaylock has allocated 15 of her club members, including herself, to act as Leadership Coaches in 17 high schools around New Castle County. They have assisted the student leaders to identify, select and honor outstanding Student Service Stars in their schools. They seek out those “Unsung Heroes”; ordinary people doing extraordinary things. Next semester the club will continue to focus their efforts on honoring a student each month but will also begin to fundraise for a Jefferson Awards Service Scholarship for a graduating senior. In addition the group will recruit 1-2 new schools to form the YSI and prepare for the Delaware spring competition to select the high school that will represent Delaware schools at the 2009 Jefferson Awards National Ceremony in Washington, DC in June.

Liz and her team of dedicated volunteer coaches have seen a challenge and met it head on. They have stepped up to share their time and leadership talents with high school students of Delaware.

About the Jefferson Awards

The Jefferson Awards for Public Service was founded in 1972 by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Senator Robert Taft, Jr. and Sam Beard to create a Noble Prize for public and community service. The mission of the Jefferson Awards is to encourage and honor individuals for their achievements and contributions through public and community service.

About YSI

The Jefferson Awards Youth Service Initiative was created in partnership with Deloitte in order to encourage high school students to get involved in volunteering and community service. The YSI is currently operating in over 100 high schools across the country: Central Florida, Chicago, Delaware, the San Francisco Bay Area, Savannah, and Charleston.

The Jefferson Awards-Deloitte Youth Service Initiative thanks the University of Delaware and our media partner, The News Journal, for their ongoing support and generosity.

For more information about the Jefferson Awards and the Youth Service Initiative, visit our web site at www.jeffersonawards.org .

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