

# Power News



VOLUNTEER CE  
OF NORTH TE

March/April 2009

Dear Volunteer Center Staff,

Welcome to Volunteer PowerNews!...your source for youth volunteer information in North Texas. The newsletter is full of useful information for students, parents and educators. It contains youth volunteer opportunities, agency and student spotlights, upcoming special events, scholarships, grant information and much more! Stay connected to what is going on in your community and around the world!

Sincerely,

The Volunteer Center of North Texas

*servicing Collin, Dallas and Tarrant counties*



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## In the News

### President Obama Launches White House Internship Program

"This program will mentor and cultivate young leaders of today and tomorrow and I'm proud that they will have this opportunity to serve," said President Obama. "I look forward to working with those that are selected to participate and I want to commend all who apply for their desire to help through public service to forge a brighter future for our country."



### Agency Spotlight

River Legacy

In addition to normal office duties, interns will supplement their learning experience by attending a weekly lecture series hosted by senior White House staff, help at White House social events, and volunteer in community service projects.

The 2009 Summer Internship program runs from May 22 to August 14, and the submission deadline is **March 22, 2009**. More information on the White House Internship Program, including application instructions, can be found at:  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/internships>.

### **2009 Summer Internship at the Pew Hispanic Center**

The Pew Hispanic Center is offering a paid internship opportunity during the summer of 2009 in Washington, D.C. for undergraduate or graduate level students with an interest in studying Latinos in the United States. The summer intern will be expected to produce an original research project of his or her own, as well as assist Center researchers on a variety of projects. The internship begins in June and will last 8-10 weeks.

Applicants must have completed at least their sophomore year in college. Complete applications should be submitted by **April 3, 2009**. For more information about applying visit,  
<http://pewhispanic.org/about/careers>.

### **State Farm Youth Advisory Board**

Applications are now available for the State Farm Youth Advisory Board at <http://www.statefarmyab.com/apply.php> The State Farm Youth Advisory Board is one of the nations' most exciting opportunities for youth empowerment and development. The board is comprised of a diverse group of 30 young people, ages 17-20, chosen from each of 12 U.S. State Farm zones which cover all states within the United States, and one State Farm Canadian zone. Scholarships are provided to Youth Advisory Board members.

Members of this Board play an important leadership role in creating and overseeing a \$5 million a year signature service-learning initiative which addresses pressing issues of importance to youth, State Farm, and communities across North America. Applications must be postmarked by **March 31, 2009**. Learn more at  
<http://www.statefarmyab.com/apply.php>.



### **NEED FREE BOOKS FOR YOUR SCHOOL?**

**REGISTER NOW** at [www.firstbook.org/register](http://www.firstbook.org/register) to access free new books through the Book Donation

### **Living Science Center**

703 NW Green Oaks Blvd.  
Arlington, TX 76006  
817.860.6752  
[www.riverlegacy.org](http://www.riverlegacy.org)

River Legacy's mission is environmental education and conservation. Environmental education is needed in order for individuals to gain awareness and appreciation of the natural world, to preserve the rich biodiversity of our environment and to inspire the desire to preserve them for future generations.

River Legacy heightens awareness and appreciation of nature with school programs, environmental clubs for kids and free educational festivals. During those events we need the assistance of generous volunteers who can donate time, skills and energy. River Legacy volunteers are needed to facilitate activities related to nature, share their enthusiasm with our visitors, to spark curiosity, provoke thought, set up, concessions and /or cleanup. Every Saturday in March, join in a citywide litter challenge to keep our community healthy, safe and beautiful! Volunteers are needed to go in groups and clean up River Legacy Parks.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Alma Pohler at [alma@riverlegacy.org](mailto:alma@riverlegacy.org) or call

Campaign. The Campaign is a multi-year effort of the U.S. Department of Education, First Book and a host of major U.S. book publishing companies to promote literacy and supply books to children in need. In support of the Campaign, First Book secures publisher donations and identifies the recipient groups, while the U.S. Department of Education warehouses and ships books free-of-charge from its national distribution center.

### Exploring Engineering

E2@UMD is a one-week summer program at the University of Maryland for high school women (rising juniors or seniors) who are considering engineering as a possible major and career. Students will live on campus for one-week and explore the world of engineering through fun hands-on activities, laboratory experiments, informative workshops, team challenges, and seminars with professional engineers. The two sessions begin July 12-18 or July 19-25. Partial and full scholarships are available. For more information, go to [www.wie.umd.edu/precollege/e2umd.html](http://www.wie.umd.edu/precollege/e2umd.html) or call 301-405-3283. Application review begins **April 6, 2009**.

### Boys State Summer Leadership Program

The American Legion sponsors a week-long summer leadership program called Boys State. This year's program will be held at the University of Texas at Austin from June 6-12. If you are a junior interested in a leadership opportunity see your guidance counselor right away for more information. Applications are due by April 15. For more information, visit [www.txlegion.org/boys\\_state.htm](http://www.txlegion.org/boys_state.htm).

### Free CDC Disease Detective Camp

The National Center for Health Marketing Global Health Odyssey Museum is pleased to offer the 2009 CDC Disease Detective Camp (DDC).

DDC is an academic day camp for students who will be high school juniors and seniors during the 2009-2010 school year. Campers will take

on the roles of disease detectives and learn how CDC safeguards the

national health. The camp will be offered twice from June 22-26 and July 13-17. For more info and to apply, go to the website at [www.cdc.gov/gcc/exhibit/camp.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/gcc/exhibit/camp.htm). Deadline is **April 20, 2009**.

# Seasons of Service

817.860.6752.

For more opportunities to volunteer visit, [www.riverlegacy.org/volunteers.html](http://www.riverlegacy.org/volunteers.html).



### Global Youth Service Day

Global Youth Service Day (GYSD), April 24-26, 2009, is the largest service event in the world, involving millions of youth. The goals of Global Youth Service Day are to mobilize youth to identify and address the needs of their communities through service; to support youth on a life-long path of service and civic engagement; and to educate the public, the media and policymakers about the year-round contributions of young people as community leaders.

Join the millions of young people across the world performing volunteer projects in areas ranging from literacy and the environment to healthcare, hunger and help for the elderly. There are many other ways to get involved including:

- Help cook and/or serve



**American Red Cross** **March is Red Cross Month**  
**Change A Life Contest**

In just a few words tell us how a Red Cross experience changed your life or someone else's life. Submit your story before **March 16**, and you'll be entered for a chance to win great prizes generously donated by country music star Keith Urban and Philips Healthcare. For more information, visit <http://american.redcross.org/changealifecontest>.

Get involved! To find out how, go to [www.redcrossdallas.org](http://www.redcrossdallas.org).



**Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off**

The Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off is the single largest one day cleanup event in the state and serves as Texas' signature event for the Great American Cleanup, the nation's largest community improvement program, held annually from March 1 through May 31. In 2008, more than 57,000 volunteers picked up 5 million pounds of litter to help keep our state beautiful.

The Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off is part of the partnership between Keep Texas Beautiful and the Texas Department of Transportation. Participants can receive trash bags, volunteer giveaways, promotional items, and more.

Get involved now! For additional information, contact Anne Cunic at [anne@ktb.org](mailto:anne@ktb.org) or visit the website at <http://ktb.org/programs/great-american-cleanup.aspx>.

**National Women's History Month**

To address the absence of information about women in America's schools, the National Women's History Project (NWHHP) led a movement to have Congress designate a celebration to recognize women's historic achievements. Congress and the President followed by declaring March as National Women's History Month. For additional information or suggestions for promoting and celebrating National Women's History Month in your community, visit <http://www.nwhp.org>.



**New *The Secret Life of Bees* Curriculum Available from F.I.L.M.**

Based on the 2002 novel of the same by Sue Monk Kidd, *The Secret Life of Bees*, set in 1964, tells the touching story of Lily Owens as she leaves her troubled life in pursuit of her deceased mother's past.

a meal at a homeless shelter

- Organize a neighborhood group to plant, tend and harvest a vegetable garden
- Deliver meals to homebound individuals
- Hold a donation drive to collect new or used clothing for our families
- Host a party at a shelter for children one night (it can be themed for a holiday or general) or prepare a dinner as a group to be delivered to a shelter one night during the week

Global Youth Service Day is coordinated by Youth Service America, in association with the National Youth Leadership Council and in partnership with PARADE Magazine. For more information, toolkits and project ideas, visit [www.gysd.org](http://www.gysd.org).

For a list of volunteer opportunities in your area, visit [www.handsonnorthtexas.org](http://www.handsonnorthtexas.org).

Accompanied by her caretaker, Rosaleen, the two seek shelter in the Boatwright home, a family of three intelligent, talented African-American sisters who manage their own honey business.

The free, downloadable curriculum, *The Secret Life of Bees: Discussion and Activity Guide* includes interactive group, individual, and partner activities for youth ages 13-17. Themes in the guide include:

- The importance of love and home
- The consequences of secrets
- Finding courage
- Learning about the Civil Rights Movement
- Valuing empowered women

Download at: <http://www.youthfilmproject.org/thesecretlifeofbees.htm>.

# Volunteer Opportunities



## A TREEmendous Volunteer Event

Help plant 100 trees at Skyline High School, based on the Roadmap to Planning and Planting Trees. Skyline was chosen because it weaves together planting for energy efficiency, education, and a large project that will not only act as a "carbon sink" but it will decrease the ambient air temperatures.

Join other volunteers at Skyline High School, Saturday, **March 28, 2009** from 8:00 am to Noon. To register for this event or another tree planting project with the Texas Trees Foundation, please contact Amy James at 214-953-1184 or [amy@texastreesfoundation.org](mailto:amy@texastreesfoundation.org).



### Get Involved Now!

**Event:** Chocolate & Arts Festival - A festival to include chocolate tasting, art exhibit, and live music benefiting Travelers Aid DFW.

**Where:** 300 S. Main, Grapevine

**Contact:** Tammy Hingtgen, [tammy@travelersaidfw.org](mailto:tammy@travelersaidfw.org).

**Phone:** 972-574-4420

**Website:** [www.travelersaidfw.org](http://www.travelersaidfw.org)

**Needs:** Volunteers needed **March 13-14** to set up tables and chairs, hang/remove signage, install and remove temporary fencing/gates, load and unload supplies and equipment and general clean-up following events. There is nothing volunteers need to bring however volunteers should wear comfortable clothing and shoes.

**Minimum Age:** 16

**Event:** Discovery Saturday - An event to include the discovery of science and nature in everything along with fun activities for young and old alike hosted by the Museum of Nature and Science.

**Where:** 1318 So. 2nd, Dallas

**Contact:** Susan Meyer, [smeyer@natureandscience.org](mailto:smeyer@natureandscience.org).

**Phone:** 972-201-0552

**Website:** [www.natureandscience.org](http://www.natureandscience.org)

**Needs:** Volunteers needed Saturday, **March 14** to assist with crowd control and activities during the day. \*\*\*Location at Fair Park.

**Minimum Age:** 13

**Event:** Lone Star Vintage Tractor Show - An event to include the North Texas agricultural history and technology for over 100 years, from walk behind and mule drawn plows to the diesel powered four wheel drive tractors of today. There will be over a hundred fifty pieces of vintage farm equipment displayed and demonstrations of different farming techniques on over ten acres of land. This event will also feature blacksmiths crafting iron, hay wagon rides, cows being milked, handicrafts and more hosted by the North Texas History Center.

**Where:** 7117 County Road 166, McKinney

**Contact:** Natalie Rawlinson, [natalie@northtexashistorycenter.org](mailto:natalie@northtexashistorycenter.org).

**Phone:** 972-542-9457

**Website:** [www.collincountyhistory.org](http://www.collincountyhistory.org)

**Needs:** Volunteers needed **March 28 - 29** from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. to assist guests with loading and unloading from the hay wagon and ride in the wagon making sure guests are safe. Volunteers will also oversee the farm museum, answer questions and ensure the safety of guests and equipment. Volunteers should wear appropriate clothing for weather. \*\*\*Location at Myers Park and Event Center.

**Minimum Age: 16**

**Event:** Volunteer Day at the TXU Energy Urban Tree Farm - An event to include the opportunity to make an investment in "Greening North Central Texas" by helping the Texas Trees Foundation maintain over 70,000 trees at two Urban Tree Farms.

**Where:** 12800 Abrams Rd, Dallas

**Contact:** Amy James, [amy@texastreesfoundation.org](mailto:amy@texastreesfoundation.org).

**Phone:** 214-953-1184

**Website:** [www.texastreesfoundation.org](http://www.texastreesfoundation.org)

**Needs:** Volunteers needed Saturday, **March 28** from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. to plant and transplant seedlings, stake, weed, mulch and water trees. Volunteers should bring water bottle, sunscreen, hat and a pair of gardening gloves. Volunteers should also wear clothes and shoes you don't mind getting dirty and be prepared to have a TREEmendous good time! \*\*\*Location at Parking Lot "D" Richland College.

**Minimum Age: 8**

**Event:** Butterfly Boogie - An event to include a 5K and 10K race, 5K Competitive Walk and a 1Mile Buggy Boogie to benefit World Craniofacial Foundation.

**Where:** 3505 maple Ave, Dallas

**Contact:** Jen Griffin, [jen@worldcf.org](mailto:jen@worldcf.org).

**Phone:** 972-566-6669

**Website:** [www.worldcf.org](http://www.worldcf.org)

**Needs:** Volunteers needed on Saturday, **March 28** from 7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. to assist with set up, registration, water stations, food and clean up. Volunteers need to bring a smile, willing attitude and comfortable shoes.

**Minimum Age: 12**

**Event:** Movie Night - An event to include movie and a dinner for cancer patients and their families hosted by Cancer Care Services.

**Where:** 623 South Henderson, Fort Worth

**Contact:** Cindy Vasquez, [cindy@cancercareservices.org](mailto:cindy@cancercareservices.org).

**Phone:** 817-921-0653

**Website:** [www.cancercareservices.org](http://www.cancercareservices.org)

**Needs:** Volunteers needed Saturday, **March 21** at 3:30 p.m. to assist with set up, food preparation, serve, greet and clean up. Volunteers must be sensitive to the needs of cancer patients and be able to lift 15 pounds.

**Minimum Age: 14**

**Event:** My Possibilities: Field Trip - An event to include dinner at a restaurant and a movie for adult students with developmental disabilities hosted by My Possibilities

**Where:** 4800 W Park Blvd, Plano

**Contact:** Lateefah Shaheed, [Ishaheed@vcnt.org](mailto:Ishaheed@vcnt.org).

**Phone:** 214-826-6767

**Website:** [www.mypossibilities.org](http://www.mypossibilities.org)

**Needs:** Volunteers needed Friday, **March 20** from 11:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. to chaperone and interact with MY Possibilities' HIPsters (Hugely Important People) during a Friday afternoon fieldtrip to Chili's Restaurant and Cinemark West Plano Theater (formerly Tinseltown Plano). All volunteers are responsible for purchasing their own dinner and movie ticket. Volunteers will meet at the Chili's at Park and Preston in Plano.

**Minimum Age:** 16

### Stayin' Alive

Get involved globally and participate in the National Student Dance Initiative to eradicate malaria! Every day, 3,000 children die of malaria-but a simple \$10 bed net can help to protect them from mosquitoes that transmit the disease. Host a Malaria No More Stayin' Alive dance or make it part of the upcoming Valentine's Day, Spring Fling or Prom season. Donate a portion of the proceeds, raise awareness and save lives. To learn more, visit <http://www.MalariaNoMore.org/stayinalive>.

### Sweat for Nets

Every age can get involved in the fight against malaria! In response to the worldwide pandemic, Children for Children™ has developed Sweat for Nets™, a web-based and community-centered service-learning and fundraising program to involve school-aged children in an awareness network that enables them to learn and teach others about the urgency of the global fight against malaria. Through Sweat for Nets, children learn the importance of insecticide treated bed nets in preventing the spread of malaria, and methods of raising funds to purchase these nets for their at-risk peers around the world.

Children for Children is partnering with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Foundation on the Sweat for Nets Program, to engage young people from all around the world to get active in the fight against malaria. A program toolkit is available to help young people develop fun and meaningful service-learning programs at home, school or in the community. To learn more and download the toolkit, visit <http://www.childrenforchildren.org>.

# Scholarships

### Kohl's Kids Who Care Scholarship Program

Through the Kohl's Kids Who Care scholarship program, the Kohl's Corporation plans to award a total of over \$350,000 in scholarships and prizes this year to more than two thousand kids whose volunteer efforts have made a positive impact on their communities. The

program recognizes and rewards young volunteers (ages 6 to 18) who help make their communities a better place. To be eligible for an award, the young person's efforts should be above and beyond what is normally expected of a child his or her age. Volunteer efforts should have made a positive impact on others and occurred in the last twelve months. The deadline is **March 15, 2009**. For more information visit,

<http://www.kohlscorporation.com/communityrelations/scholarship/index.asp>



### "Will to Win" College Scholarship

Schering-Plough's "Will to Win" college scholarship demonstrates to young asthma sufferers that the condition, when properly treated and managed, need not affect their

ability to excel.

All high school seniors with asthma who will graduate in the 2009 school year and hold a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale are eligible. Scholarships of \$5,000 will be awarded to two deserving high school seniors in five categories, including:

- Performing arts (dance, music, theater)
- Visual arts (painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, film)
- Community Service
- Athletics
- Science

The deadline is **April 30, 2009**. For more information visit, <http://www.schering-ploughwilltowin.com>.

## Awards & Grants

### Do Something Awards Exceptional Youth

Do Something is accepting applications for the annual Do Something Awards. These awards recognize youth in the U.S. and Canada under the age of twenty-five whose self-initiated projects are tangibly improving their communities. Five winners will each receive a minimum of \$10,000 in community grants. From among these winners, one will be chosen as the grand prize winner and will receive a total of \$100,000 in community grants. Note: Winners who are eighteen years of age or younger are eligible for \$5,000 in community grants and a \$5,000 scholarship. For more information

visit, [www.dosomething.org/programs/awards](http://www.dosomething.org/programs/awards). Applications are due **March 16, 2009**.

### **SAALT ChangeMaker Awards**

**ChangeMaker Young Activist Award:** This award will recognize an emerging leader (under 25) who has created meaningful change in their campus and/or community through their leadership, vision, and passion. This can be demonstrated through paid/unpaid work for a community organization, community service, or a leadership position in a community or campus organization, etc.

**ChangeMaker Private Sector Award:** This award will recognize an individual who has leveraged the unique talents of the private sector to advance corporate citizenship, diversity, and partnerships with non-profit organizations. This individual has contributed to the community through their work and has inspired others in their sector to get involved. This can be demonstrated through pro bono work, affinity group involvement, volunteer work in the community, etc.

The deadline for these awards is **March 16, 2009**. For more information visit, <http://www.saalt.org/categories/Nominate-someone-for-a-ChangeMaker-Award-today>.

### **2009 Spirit of Service Awards**

The Corporation for National and Community Service is calling for nominations for the 2009 Spirit of Service Awards to pay tribute to the most outstanding participants in each of its programs. The Corporation will also take nominations for the best examples of private sector support of your programs.

Please nominate your best:

- Senior Corps volunteers from the RSVP, Foster Grandparent, and Senior Companion programs
- AmeriCorps members and Alumni from State and National, NCCC, and VISTA programs

The deadline is **March 30, 2009**. For more information visit, <http://www.NationalService.gov/spiritofservice>.

### **Dollar for Change Service-Learning Grants**

Youth Service America's (YSA), YSA's National Youth Council (NYC) and State Farm Companies Foundation will select the grantees (youth ages 12-25) who will collaborate with a teacher or service-learning coordinator. The awards are up to \$2,000, and will support high-impact, semester-long service-learning projects. Upon successful completion of projects and evaluations, grantees will

become eligible to compete for the prestigious Harris Wofford Youth Award in 2010, and be recognized as a YSA Service Star. To learn more, download an application and grant guidelines at <http://www.YSA.org/awards>. Accepting applications: **March - April 30**. Questions? Send inquiries to [dollarsforchange@ysa.org](mailto:dollarsforchange@ysa.org).



### Teens for Planet Earth Service Awards

Applications are now being accepted for the 2009 Teens for Planet Earth Service Awards. The TPE Service Awards recognize teens around the world for service-learning projects that demonstrate their commitment to the environment. TPE teams whose projects are deemed to be of exceptional quality will be awarded at three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold. Gold Award winning teams receive \$1,000 to further enhance their projects or education. Deadline is **April 15, 2009**. Learn more at <http://teens4planetearth.com/serviceawards>.

### Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes

The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes seeks nominations for its 2009 awards. The Barron Prize honors young people ages 8 to 18 who have made a significant positive difference to people and our planet. Each year, ten national winners each receive \$2,500 to support their service work or higher education. Nomination deadline is **April 30**. For more information and to nominate, visit <http://www.barronprize.org>. Questions? Send inquiries to [ba\\_richman@barronprize.org](mailto:ba_richman@barronprize.org).

### Habitat for Humanity Service-Learning Partnership Grants

The Service-Learning Partnership provides funds for teachers and schools to develop and implement service-learning projects in partnership with their local Habitat affiliate. For the 2009-2010 school year, teachers and their local Habitat affiliates can jointly apply for a one-year grant of up to \$7,000 to cover educational expenses associated with the service-learning project. Details available at <http://www.habitatyouthprograms.org>. Accepting applications: **March - May 15, 2009**. Questions? Send inquiries to [youthprograms@habitat.org](mailto:youthprograms@habitat.org).

The Volunteer Center of North Texas

*Making volunteerism a part of everyday life  
in Collin, Dallas and Tarrant counties.*

2800 Live Oak St.  
Dallas, TX 75204  
866-797-8268

-  
[vpc@powercrew.org](mailto:vpc@powercrew.org)

[www.powercrew.org](http://www.powercrew.org)

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