



New Award Honors Extraordinary Teens with \$36,000 Awards

San Francisco-based Helen Diller Family Foundation Awards Teens for Social Action Leadership

Five California teens have been selected to receive a very generous first-time-ever award for social action from the Helen Diller Family Foundation of the SF-Jewish Community Federation's Endowment.

The Diller Teen *Tikkun Olam* Award was created to recognize teens who have initiated an exceptional social action project that helps to repair the world (*tikkun olam*).

More than 75 teens competed for the five prizes, which were awarded by a team of judges composed of educators and community leaders from the San Francisco Bay Area, Fresno, San Jose, Los Angeles, San Diego and Orange County. Award money is to be used for college or to further implement the winner's vision of making the world a better place.

To be eligible, teens had to be nominated by an adult and then complete a detailed application describing their projects, its goals, their inspiration and challenges, fundraising tactics and more. Nominees had to be California residents, between 13 and 19 years old, and be self-identified as Jewish. While nominees had to be Jewish, their community service projects can benefit the general community.

Winning projects were:

Amanda Haworth - Holocaust Education/Tolerance Training

Amanda raised \$12,000 to pay for a field trip for 410 San Diego high school juniors to visit the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles after hearing anti-Semitic and simply ignorant remarks about Jews and the Holocaust. The trip, which had been part of the school curriculum in the past, had been discontinued because of costs. It is now a mandatory field trip in her high school.

Allison Hoffman - YADA (Youth Alliance for Darfur)

After initiating several social action programs at Castilleja School, her high school in Los Altos, Allison reached out to other Peninsula and San Francisco high schools to create a coalition of high school students working to end the genocide in Darfur, Sudan by raising awareness and fundraising to support humanitarian aid.

Justin Sachs - Social Action Youth Group of Temple Solel

Justin initiated Tikkun, a monthly social action program for teens at his synagogue in Carlsbad to inspire them to take an active role in their community and to develop leadership skills. Among the community services the group completed are putting together care package for troops in Iraq; preparing and distributing 1,000 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches plus canned food to the homeless; and a three-day house-building project in Tijuana, Mexico.

Shira Shane - TAG (Teens Against Genocide)

Shira organized 25 high schools (public and private) in Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley to take action against human rights atrocities in general and particularly the genocide in Darfur. They organized a rally, among other things, and raised \$10,000 to be used for the building of wells and medical clinics in Sudan.

Erich Sorger - Dollars for Dwaynes

Erich and several colleagues pick up furniture, appliances, clothes and other items left on the sidewalks in Westwood by students and destined to the city dump, and deliver them to National Council for Jewish Women's thrift shop where they are sold. As a result, he estimates \$16,700 has been raised and donated by NCJW to groups that help the needy.

The Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Award is one of a number of projects funded by the Helen Diller Family Foundation through the Jewish Community Endowment Fund to develop leadership in teens and enhance Jewish education.

For information on the Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Award, please visit www.sfjcf.org/diller or contact Robyn Carmel at RobynC@sfjcf.org