



## Press Release

### For Immediate Release

#### Premier Youth Leadership Organization Elects Ron Gillet Chairman of Its Board of Trustees

February 7, 2007, Los Angeles, CA. -- The Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Board of Trustees has unanimously elected Ron Gillet as Chairman of its Board of Trustees. Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership ("HOBY") is a non-profit organization that seeks to motivate and empower young people throughout the world to make a positive difference through understanding and action based on effective and compassionate leadership. HOBY's mission is to provide lifelong leadership opportunities that empower individuals to achieve their highest potential.

Mr. Gillet has a deep commitment to developing leadership skills in young people. It is that dedication that has fueled his passion for the HOBY program since he began his volunteer work for the organization 20 years ago. His involvement with HOBY began in 1986 when he was invited to speak at a HOBY Leadership Seminar in Missoula, Montana. Since that time, Mr. Gillet has served as a key volunteer within the organization in a variety of capacities, including leadership seminar chair in Arizona, Corporate Board President of the Arizona HOBY affiliate, volunteer District Director of the Southwest District of HOBY and an International Board of Trustees member. Mr. Gillet was recognized by his fellow volunteers as HOBY's Volunteer of the Year and received an award at it's annual Albert Schweitzer Leadership Awards gala in New York November 13. Mr. Gillet is a former Kiwanian and is currently a member of the Sun Lakes Lions Club in Sun Lakes, Arizona.

HOBY was founded in 1958 by veteran actor Hugh O'Brian after an inspirational nine-day visit with Dr. Albert Schweitzer at his clinic in Africa. Motivated by Dr. Schweitzer's remark, "The most important thing in education is to teach young people to think for themselves," Mr. O'Brian established HOBY. Since its beginning, over 355,000 young people have participated in HOBY's programs throughout the world. Annually, over 20,000 public and private high schools are invited to select an outstanding tenth grader to attend HOBY leadership development seminars that are run principally by a dedicated group of over 4000 volunteers.

"I thank the board of trustees, our founder Hugh O'Brian, the HOBY staff, and our volunteers for the honor and privilege of serving as vice chair," Gillet said. "During no other time has the development of leadership skills within our young people been more critical. The young leaders that come through our programs will need to rise to the challenges and opportunities of the twenty-first century global community, and will play a vital role in shaping the world around us. Contributing to young people's development as leaders is a great opportunity, and has been a life long priority for me."

Mr. Gillet is First Vice President of NCA Central Operations Countrywide Home Loans, FSLD, the nation's largest originator of home mortgages, with offices in Chandler, Arizona. He has been in the financial services industry for 25 years, with emphasis on consumer and mortgage lending. Ron and his wife Jan make their home in Tempe, Arizona.

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