



Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership
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For Immediate Release

**Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Announces Javier La Fianza As
New President/CEO**

La Fianza to Lead Youth Leadership Organization Into 50th Anniversary.

March 23, 2007, Los Angeles – Following an exhaustive national search of more than 250 candidates, the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) Board of Trustees announce Javier La Fianza as their new President and Chief Executive Officer. Actor and founder Hugh O'Brian remains the Chair of the Executive Committee. In 2008, HOBY will celebrate its 50 years of youth leadership programs.

"I think we have found a great leader for HOBY in Javier La Fianza," Board Chair Ron Gillet said. "His passion for youth leadership and extensive non-profit management experience is the perfect recipe for continued success for HOBY."

La Fianza brings more than 15 years of public sector management experience with organizations like the Corporation for National Service (CNS). La Fianza leaves Crystal Stairs, Inc., California's largest child development non-profit as Vice-President of Programs and Chief Operating Officer to join HOBY.

"I am honored the HOBY Board has placed their trust in me," Mr. La Fianza said. "To be selected to lead an organization with as rich a history of success as HOBY is truly humbling. With the continued support of the Board, more than 4000 dedicated volunteers and the outstanding HOBY staff, I know HOBY will continue to grow and thrive. I am really looking forward to these new opportunities."

La Fianza began his career managing youth service programs in Los Angeles area high schools for the Constitutional Rights Foundation. After earning his Master's Degree in Public Affairs from the University of Minnesota, he moved to Washington DC in 1995 to help start AmeriCorps, President Clinton's signature National Service Initiative with the Corporation for National Service (CNS). La Fianza culminated his tenure at the CNS by serving as the Pacific Area Manager and California State Director. In 2001, La Fianza moved to Crystal Stairs, Inc. La Fianza has served on several youth and family-oriented Board of Directors, most notably as treasurer for the Jubilee Consortium, a coalition of



Page 2

La Fianza Selected President

March 23, 2007

several urban Episcopal churches, and on the Los Angeles Child Care Alliance. As part of his commitment to his family and community, La Fianza coaches youth baseball, basketball and volleyball.

La Fianza lives in Westlake Village with his wife of 13 years, Anne and his two children Mariana, 12 and Joshua, 10. He graduated from Agoura High School, in Agoura Hills, Cali. in 1982. He earned his B.A. in English for the University of California, at Santa Barbara, UCSB in 1989 and his M.A. in Public Affairs from the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota in 1994.

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.

HOBY was founded in 1958 by veteran actor Hugh O'Brian after a visit with Dr. Albert Schweitzer at his clinic in Africa. Motivated by Dr. Schweitzer 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.

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