

The Spirit of Anne Frank Awards 2001 winners

THE ROBERT GIPSON

2001 Outstanding Youth Award

STEPHANIE MORALES is a peer trainer for the Anti-Defamation League's A World of Difference program at her high school, having interned for the program's national assistant director. She is also one of her high school's four representatives to the Queens' Student Advisory Council and she helps run her school's Team Up to Clean Up program. President of her junior and senior classes, Stephanie has won the Kodak Youth Leader Award. She was her school's sophomore representative to the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Conference.

THE JUDY M. VALE

2001 Outstanding Youth Award

ABIGAIL-LEIGH COLLAZO co-founded the Scarsdale chapter of (Kids Can) Free the Children, an international network of young people devoted to fighting child exploitation. The chapter now has 15 members. Her chapter has organized petitions to the U.S. government in support of ratifying the U.N. Convention on the Rights of a Child, collected money and supplies for school and health kits for needy children, raised funds for the building of schools and for teacher salaries, and spread awareness about child exploitation through presentations to local youth. Last summer, she attended the Free the Children Leaders of Today Academy to further develop her skills as a youth leader.

EMILY ULLMAN

2001 Outstanding Educator Award

BETH QUINN has been a special education teacher in the Yonkers School District since 1973, having taught earth science, chemistry and math to learning disabled students at Gorton High School for the past 12 years. Eight years ago, she developed A Celebration of Excellence, an academic incentive award program for her students. Mrs. Quinn created the Meeting Hate with Humanity program for tenth graders at her school after a bias incident. She is a member of the Westchester Holocaust Commission's educators planning committee and has served on the Board of Directors of the Ossining Children's Center for over 10 years.

JACK AND INA POLAK

2001 Outstanding Citizen Award

KIM BIRBROWER taught high school English in New York City for six years before leaving the classroom to join the Anti-Defamation League, to serve as the Assistant Director of Educational Policy and Programs on the national staff. In her work for the ADL, Ms. Birbrower focuses on the traditional ADL educational agenda, including Holocaust education, church/state issues, curriculum development and textbook review.

2001 Outstanding Business Leader

COLIN CALLENDER is the president of HBO Films. Under Callender's direction, HBO NYC produced 13 distinguished films bringing together a remarkable mix of major Hollywood names. The film projects that Mr. Callender has championed at HBO consistently stress the themes that are central to the AFC's mission. While dramatically engaging and entertaining, these films make the public aware of social injustice, the dangers of discrimination, and the innate ability of the individual to make a difference, to resist dangerous peer pressures and to change history.

THE JONATHAN ROTHSCHILD

2001 Outstanding Youth Award

CHARMAINE COHEN has served as a peer mediator since she was in the sixth grade. Over the past six years, she has participated in numerous workshops concerning discrimination, violence and peer pressure. According to her teachers, she has shown "absolute brilliance" when it comes to speaking with fellow students on these topics as a member of the Council for Unity. Charmaine has a special gift for connecting with teens in trouble and has been instrumental in helping others to avoid confrontation and to come to sound decisions about their lives. She has participated in class-to-class presentations about the Holocaust, about gun violence and peer pressure, and she has also worked in a summer program with students to help improve their leadership skills.

THE MR. AND MRS. EDMOND FARBER

2001 Outstanding Citizen Award

KARUNA HEISLER has dedicated the last 10 years of her career developing programs for people with developmental and learning disabilities for YAI/National Institute for People with Disabilities. In collaboration with students from Berkeley Carroll School, the YAI Players are helping to eliminate discrimination by promoting public awareness of the abilities of people with disabilities. Ms. Heisler also serves as chairperson of the Brooklyn Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities Family Support Committee.

THE PETER AND HANNI KAUFMANN

2001 Outstanding Educator Award

JULIE MANN has organized and led numerous groups addressing issues of tolerance at her Queens high school, which serves newly arrived immigrants from many different parts of the world. She has coordinated Newcomers High School's A World of Difference program since founding it in 1996. She also founded the Council for Unity Chapter at the school and brought Facing History and Ourselves to the school in 1999. She runs school-wide workshops on subjects such as homophobia and appreciating diversity. She gives workshops to fellow teachers on techniques for teaching tolerance.