Arapahoe County celebrates youth with annual ceremony

Teens honored for serving as positive role models in the community

Littleton, Colo. - Arapahoe County Commissioners and local elected officials recently honored 42 teenagers who have overcome personal adversity during Arapahoe County’s Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award recognition ceremony.

Commissioners Susan Beckman, Nancy Sharpe, Rod Bockenfeld, Nancy Jackson and Bill Holen were joined by City of Englewood Mayor Randy Penn and Mayor Pro Tem Jim Woodward, City of Cherry Hills Village Doug Tisdale, and Littleton City Council Member Jim Taylor to recognize and honor this inspirational group of young adults who have overcome difficult situations in their lives by exhibiting strength and determination in the face of adversity.

The program provides businesses, community and civic leaders the opportunity to nominate youth in the community who might not otherwise be recognized. Nomination forms are distributed to Arapahoe County junior high and high schools each year.

“These kids should be very proud of themselves,” said Commissioner Nancy Jackson, who is a former college professor. “Each of them have a story to tell and are an inspiration to others. It is truly an honor to recognize these remarkable young men and women.”

Each year, the Colorado Community College System Financial Aid Council awards one $500 scholarship per County. This year, the Board of County Commissioners solicited donations to increase the number of scholarships, and were able to award seven $500 scholarships to deserving Arapahoe County seniors.

The following students and scholarship recipients were recognized during the ceremony:

- Adrian Alvarado-Daigle, Sheridan High School
- Lizarlette Alvarez, Overland High School
- Nate Andrews, Englewood Middle School
- Marilyn Arroyo (scholarship recipient), Colorado's Finest Alternative High School
- Aye Mimi Aung, Hinkley High School
- Jakob Austin (scholarship recipient), Options High School
- Mariah Bacca, Englewood Middle School
To learn about the Arapahoe County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Awards program, contact Carol Dosmann in the Commissioners’ Office at 303-795-4630.

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To download photos click on the link: ftp://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Pub/CM/MMCYA

TGP5991 - Jakob Austin of Options High School was one of seven seniors who received a $500 scholarship during Arapahoe County’s Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award recognition ceremony.

TGP6116 - Dystanie Guttierrez, Hinkley High School was one of 42 youth recognized at Arapahoe County’s Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award recognition ceremony.