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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF SPOKANE COUNTY HONORS 2010
YOUTH OF THE YEAR WINNERS**

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON (Friday, February 11) – In front of an enthusiastic crowd comprised of family, friends and community members, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Spokane County celebrated the accomplishments of its members by announcing the 2010 Youth of the Year winners at its Annual Awards Night on Wednesday, February 9th. Representing a variety of categories that reflect programs and services offered at all three Clubs as well as Coach of the Year and Volunteer of the Year, the evening culminated with the prestigious Youth of the Year award.

Youth of the Year Winners (Boys & Girls)

Award/Category	Name	Club
Character & Leadership	Austin Dearing	Northtown
	Luisa Ramirez	Northtown
	Lakelynn McComas	Lisa Stiles-Gyllenhammer (Mead)
	River Takeshita	Lisa Stiles-Gyllenhammer (Mead)
Education & Career	Donovan Davila	Northtown
	Jordan Whitten	Northtown
	Sydney Nessian	Lisa Stiles-Gyllenhammer (Mead)
	Henry Jacobson	Lisa Stiles-Gyllenhammer (Mead)
Health & Life Skills	Khaleia Assih	Northtown
	Daryus Culbert	Northtown
	Destiny Scott	Lisa Stiles-Gyllenhammer (Mead)
	Kalani Salboro	Lisa Stiles-Gyllenhammer (Mead)

Sports & Fitness	Kamiah Young	Northtown
	Dawson Emery	Northtown
	Nick Young	Lisa Stiles-Gyllenhammer (Mead)
	Cierra Farnworth	Lisa Stiles-Gyllenhammer (Mead)
The Arts	Cheyenne Monks	Northtown
	Devin Ruby	Northtown
	Chris Smith	Lisa Stiles-Gyllenhammer (Mead)
	Harley Hatfield	Lisa Stiles-Gyllenhammer (Mead)
Teen of the Year	Raven Hobson	Northtown
	Cameron Sloan	Northtown
	Austin Thosath	Lisa Stiles-Gyllenhammer (Mead)
	Veronica Schaal	Lisa Stiles-Gyllenhammer (Mead)
Coach of the Year	Betty Crapo	
Volunteer of the Year	Mary Lou Dobler	
Boy of the Year	Fideli Nzahabonimana	
Girl of the Year	Shirley Chen	
Youth of the Year	Shaquille Card	

In partnership with Applebees Restaurants, youth and key volunteers are observed year-round and nominated by Boys & Girls Club staff. Each winner has achieved excellence in their award category and positively impacted the organization as well as the other members.

For Shaquille, being named Youth of the Year is the highest honor a Boys & Girls Club member can receive. The title recognizes outstanding contributions to a member's family, school, community and Boys & Girls Club, as well as personal challenges and obstacles overcome. He will be eligible to compete for the Boys & Girls Club's Youth of the Year award for Washington State which is held yearly in Olympia.

About The Boys & Girls Clubs of Spokane County

Since 2001, The Boys & Girls Clubs of Spokane County has been a part of a nationwide affiliation of local, autonomous organizations dedicated to helping young people of all backgrounds develop the qualities they need to become responsible citizens and leaders.

Founded in the philosophies of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Spokane County operates multiple Clubs in order to provide a broad range of programs in five Core Areas: Education and Career Development, Character and Leadership Development, Health and Life Skills, The Arts and Sports, Fitness and Recreation.

Currently serving more than 3,700 area youth between the ages of 6 - 18, The Boys & Girls Clubs of Spokane County operates three Clubs year-round from Friday through Monday. For a yearly membership fee of \$10, youth have access to all of the Clubs: Northtown Branch (Open 3pm – 7pm); the Libby Teen Center (Open 4pm – 8pm) and the Lisa Stiles-Gyllenhammer Mead Branch (Open 3pm – 7pm). For more information about the Boys & Girls Clubs of Spokane, visit www.bgcspokanecounty.org

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