



Chad B. Saunders

with founder Hugh O'Brian



What is HOBY?

An annual three day leadership conference for sophomores from high schools throughout the state. Our focus is to help students learn personal, group, and society leadership skills that can be utilized toward their endeavor to be an influence for good in their community.

Hugh O'Brian was inspired to create the seminar when he spent nine days with Nobel Peace Prize winner, Dr. Albert Schweitzer in Africa. Schweitzer felt that "the most important thing in education is to teach young people to think for themselves."

Student Outcomes

15 and 16 year olds are at an important stage of life. Experiences they are having at these ages contribute to their self discovery. Students that capture the spirit of HOBY go home believing that they are unstoppable. They have heard from entrepreneurs, volunteers, representatives from universities and colleges, leaders from various religious and political groups, being able to ask them questions and receive individual answers. Where else can sophomores have that type of one-on-one time with that wide range of specialists? It really can be a life changing experience for them. HOBY alumni have created successful non-profit organizations that aide men, women, and children worldwide.

Looking Forward

We had 139 student ambassadors attend the 2012 seminar compared to the 99 in 2011. With this growth, more students may catch glimpses of their potential as influences for good. As motivation to get involved in the community, ambassadors may apply for service-based HOBY scholarships. In 2012, 30 scholarships totaling over \$251,000 were offered from nine difference universities and colleges throughout the state. Since its inception, the HOBY Utah Scholarship program has awarded over \$1.5 million to our outstanding alumni!

My Role At HOBY

I was an ambassador at the 2004 seminar and I've been involved ever since. I've been a junior facilitator, staff, group facilitator and director of programs in the past nine years. I am currently fulfilling the responsibilities for Leadership Seminar Chair. I have met amazing people from whom I've learned a lot. I give of my time because I know this program has a great potential to help others.



My Personal Outcomes

I learned that I find great joy in helping others. HOBY challenged me to find ways to make a difference in my part of the world. I gained a life motto from one of the panelists from 2005: "Make Life Better." I strive to make that happen in the lives of those around me.

I am impressed with the ambassadors each and every year. They're desire to be a positive influence in their community makes me want to be a better person.

HOBY has taught me how to manage my time in order to achieve goals that I set for myself. To learn the power of setting goals and making plans to achieve them as a high school sophomore has been a great skill that has been extremely beneficial in the years since the seminar. My academic performance has also been improved.

I applied for the HOBY scholarship at the end of my junior year of high school and received a 4-year tuition scholarship to Weber State University. I will be graduating this April with a Bachelor's in Spanish and a minor in Psychology. Receiving the HOBY scholarship allowed me to graduate without debt.

I have been able to network with many of the speakers, panelists, facilitators, and students that have participated in the seminar. I have thoroughly enjoyed the friendships that I have made.

