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Because there are three separate Boys & Girls Clubs organizations serving the Valley, **please refer to us as the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale.** Thank you.



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER SCOTTSDALE TO “CELEBRATE YOUTH”  
AT ANNUAL FUNDRAISING GALA**  
*Celebration Showcases Club Programs and Announces 2010 Youth of the Year*

**SCOTTSDALE, AZ – February 12, 2010** - The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale will honor its 2010 Youth of the Year candidates at its annual Celebrate Youth Dinner & Auction on Saturday, March 20, 2010, at the Scottsdale Resort & Conference Center. The annual gala includes a dinner, silent and live auction, paddler raiser, and live entertainment by Club members. The highlight of the evening will be the naming of the 2010 *Youth of the Year* – the highest honor given to members of the organization.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of America’s *Youth of the Year* program is a premier character and leadership initiative which has been in existence for more than 60 years. Recipients of the award are chosen based on each candidate’s demonstration of moral character, life goals, leadership, poise, public speaking ability and service to the Club, community and family. This year, eight Club members will vie for the distinction of being named *Youth of the Year*. This year’s candidates are:

- **Jonathan Curry**, senior at the Alternative Learning Academy and member of the Red Mountain Branch located on the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.
- **Kenneth Fitzgerald**, senior at Horizon High School and member of the Vestar Branch located in northeast Phoenix.
- **Jackson Fogerty**, sophomore at Desert Mountain High School and member of the Virginia G. Piper Branch located in Scottsdale.
- **Stephanie Gillooly**, junior at Saguaro High School and member of the Thunderbirds Branch located in Scottsdale.

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- **James Grubb**, senior at Fountain Hills High School and member of the Mary Ellen & Robert McKee Branch located in Fountain Hills.
- **Elaine Johnson**, senior at Westwood High School and member of the Lehi Branch located on the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.
- **Christian Rodriguez**, junior at Coronado High School and member of the Hartley & Ruth Barker Branch located in Scottsdale.
- **Erin Weber**, a senior at Saguaro High School and member of the Rose Lane Branch located in Scottsdale.

Emcee for this year's event will be the 2009 Youth of the Year Peter Anderelli, from the Mary Ellen & Robert McKee Branch located in Fountain Hills. Anderelli was a member of the Club for three years where he assisted younger members in the homework room and was a member of the Keystone Club, a small group leadership development program for youth ages 14 to 18. He was student body president during his senior year at Fountain Hills High School, where he maintained a 4.0 GPA. He is currently a freshman at Arizona State University and plans to pursue a career as a middle school math teacher.

The 2010 Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale Youth of the Year will continue on to the state-level competition with other organizations from across Arizona. The state finalist will be announced during the Arizona State Youth of the Year Legislative Breakfast to be held on April 13, 2010, at the Sheraton Downtown. The winner of the state competition advances to the Pacific Region Youth of the Year competition held later this year, with the opportunity to continue to the national event.

Individual tickets for Celebrate Youth Dinner & Auction start at \$75/per person. Tables and event sponsorships are also available. For more information please visit [www.bgcs.org](http://www.bgcs.org) or call 480.860.5520.

**About The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale**

Since 1954, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale has provided more than 100,000 Northeast Valley youth with a positive, supervised environment to explore the power of their potential. Today we serve 16,000 children and teen through the organization's nine branches and 12 outreach sites located in Scottsdale, Fountain Hills, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Hualapai Indian Community and other Northeast Valley neighborhoods. The Club offers more than 100 youth development programs emphasizing five core areas: the arts; character & leadership development; education & career development; health & life skills; and sports, fitness & recreation. For more information please visit [www.bgcs.org](http://www.bgcs.org).