

U.S. 2006 Coming Up Taller Recipients



[The Sheldon Museum's Tlingit Language and Culture Program, Haines, AK](#)

The Sheldon Museum's Tlingit Program offers students of Haines, Alaska the opportunity to explore the language, culture, art and history of the native people of the Chilkat Valley. Using language classes, guest speakers and a wide variety of hands-on experiences, children and teenagers work with community elders who serve as role models.

[Alameda County Library--Write to Read: Youth Literacy at Juvenal Hall, Fremont, CA](#)

A partnership between the Alameda County Library, the Department of Probation and the Alameda County Office of Education, the Write to Read: Youth Literacy at Juvenile Hall program has introduced the joy of reading to more than 4,000 incarcerated youth. Founded in 1999, Write to Read motivates young people housed in the Alameda County Juvenile Hall to strengthen their reading skills and make meaningful connections to authors and books that can positively influence the choices they make in their own lives.

[Birmingham Civil Rights Institute--Birmingham Cultural Alliance Partnership, Birmingham, AL](#)

Led by the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, B-CAP annually connects 200 inner-city youth and their families with the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute's community partners in a program that uses the arts and humanities to reinforce classroom learning, promote student achievement, nurture personal development and increase parental involvement in education.

[Shakespeare Theatre Company—ShakesPEERS, Washington, DC](#)

Based in Southeast Washington, D.C., ShakesPEERS enables 250 students in grades 4 through 12 to rehearse and perform the classic texts of William Shakespeare as a venue for creativity, critical thinking and forging connections to their community. The program is offered by the Shakespeare Theatre Company, which was founded in 1985 to present classical theatre in an accessible, skillful, imaginative and American style.

[Double Discovery Center of Columbia University--Upward Bound and Talent Search, New York, New York](#)

The Double Discovery Center at Columbia University is home to two programs funded by the U.S. Department of Education: Upward Bound and Talent Search. Upward Bound is a year-round college preparatory program that strengthens the academic and life skills of more than 165 high school students every year. Through Talent Search, more than 800 middle and high school students receive academic, college and career counseling every year.

YMCA of Greater Charlotte, North Carolina—[Starfish Academy](#)

Starfish Academy is a literacy program that builds important reading and writing skills among children who are at-risk of academic underachievement. Begun in 1999 and built on a strong, strategic partnership with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools as a summer literacy camp, it expanded in 2004 to include an after school component and now serves nearly 300 children at nine sites throughout the community.

[Greater New Orleans Youth Orchestra](#), New Orleans, LA

The Greater New Orleans Youth Orchestra was formed in 1994 by local professional musicians, area teachers, and parents to offer opportunities for young musicians to perform in one of the orchestra's many ensembles. The group subsidizes lessons, instruments and tuition for students in need of financial assistance. As a testament to the program's influence, 90 percent of the students progress to full participation in the orchestra and 90 percent pursue a college education.

[WNYC Radio--Radio Rookies](#), New York, New York

Radio Rookies enables young people from some of New York City's most under-resourced neighborhoods to write and produce compelling radio documentaries that reach 1 million listeners in the New York area. These stories are also picked up by national and international radio networks.

[Shakespeare & Company--Shakespeare in the Courts](#), Lenox, MA

Shakespeare in the Courts is a collaboration between Shakespeare & Company and the Berkshire Juvenile Court in Pittsfield, MA. Over 100 juveniles, who participate in the performance program as part of their community service, have successfully completed the Project since its inception. The participants rehearse three times a week and perform one of Shakespeare's plays, which is presented at the end of the project to families, friends and the media.

Southwest Arkansas Art Council--[Art at the Heart and Intervention Hope](#)

In a largely rural area with high rates of poverty, Art at the Heart and Intervention Hope offers students ages 6-18 the opportunity to participate in a wide range of artistic pursuits and community activities that provide a sense of place and possibility. Local teaching artists provide instruction in all the classes, culminating in a public performance or exhibition showcasing the student's achievements.

[Snow City Arts Foundation](#)

Snow City Arts Foundation was founded in 1998 to provide arts education and foster cultural enrichment for the benefit of hospitalized children in Chicago. The program has served more than 7,500 children who would otherwise experience a serious gap in educational access due to illness. Past projects of Snow City Arts include published anthologies of children's poetry, films created for local and international film festivals, compilations of original music and numerous art

exhibits. This year, Snow City Arts will bring educational programs to thousands of hospitalized children at Children's Memorial Hospital, Rush University Children's Hospital and John H. Stroger Hospital of Cook County.

[Baltimore Urban Debate League \(BUDL\), Baltimore, MD](#)

The Baltimore Urban Debate League enables young people to engage in public policy debate as a venue for developing skills in communication and critical thinking. Beginning in 1999 with 90 students from eight schools, BUDL has evolved into a nationally recognized program that transforms the lives of over 1000 students from more than 60 middle and high schools throughout the city each year.

[Latin Arts Association of Fort Worth--Teatro De La Rosa Youth Program \(1440 Experience\)](#)

Created through a partnership between the Latin Arts Association and local community organizations, Teatro de la Rosa enables young people aged eight-to-18 from Fort Worth, Texas to learn all aspects of theater operations, from playwriting to production to performance. Students receive free, on-site classes at the Rose Marine Theater three days a week for 12 weeks in both the fall and spring sessions, and four weeks of instruction during the summer.

[University of California, Berkeley--Young Musicians Program](#)

The University of California, Berkeley's Young Musicians Program (YMP) enables as many as 90 young people each year to receive intensive personal musical training as a means for influencing academic achievement and personal growth. While the majority of the students are from low-income communities and the program is undeniably rigorous, YMP has a zero dropout rate, and 100 percent of its graduates enter college.

[Communities in Schools of New Jersey for Studioworks, Newark, NJ](#)

Studioworks offers training and employment in the visual and performing arts to keep young adults safe, productive and engaged in their community. Studioworks' year-round workshops are taught by seasoned professional artists specializing in a range of disciplines that include photography, mural painting and vocal training. At the conclusion of each session, Studioworks hosts a performance, public exhibition, and a sale of the students' work. Students also produced commissioned artwork, greeting cards, murals and other marketable products.

Award Recipients from Mexico

In addition to the awards presented to U.S. organizations, the program has been expanded under Chairman Adair Margo's leadership to honor similar programs in Mexico. During the awards Margo said, "These awards reflect our two countries' common interest in children, our shared heritage, and mutual belief in the power of the arts and the humanities to transform young lives."

The U.S.-Mexico Foundation for Culture helped the President's Committee identify leading arts programs for young people and is supporting these awards and to help present the awards with Mrs. Bush was Gilberto Palmerín, Director of the Foundation.

Instituto de Cultura de Campeche--La Chacara Children's Cultural Center

Located on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula, the Chacara Children's Cultural Center provides a variety of programs that teaches young people about the rich indigenous cultural traditions of the region while they express their creativity through music, folkloric dance, visual arts, crafts, and theater. The cultural center also organizes two statewide children's congresses each year so that children can further their artistic abilities by working on projects.

Children's Cultural Center "La Vecindad" of Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico

The children's center offers a broad array of exhibitions, performances, fairs, festivals, radio and school programs to some 55,000 children throughout the region. As a result, local children and adults are increasingly interested in reading, art and science and have a growing appreciation for their cultural heritage