



10533 E. Lakeview Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85258
www.bgcs.org

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

Contact: Becky Hornack
Marketing & Public Relations Specialist
480-344-5683 (office) | 480-980-5301 (cell)
bhornack@bgcs.org

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale Announces 2010 Youth of the Year
Coronado High School Teen Advances to State Competition

SCOTTSDALE, AZ – March 23, 2010 - Christian Rodriguez, a junior at Coronado High School, was selected as the 2010 *Youth of the Year* for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale.

The *Youth of the Year* program has been an integral part of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America for more than 60 years and is the highest honor given to members of the organization. Finalists are chosen based on their dedication to the Club, community and family, academic performance, moral character, life goals, leadership, poise and public speaking ability.

As the 2010 *Youth of the Year* from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale, Rodriguez will represent the organization at the state competition held on Tuesday, April 13, at the Sheraton Downtown Phoenix. The state winner will advance to the Pacific Region competition. Then, five regional finalists will vie for the national title of Boys & Girls Clubs of America 2010 *Youth of the Year*.

Rodriguez has been a member of the Hartley & Ruth Barker Branch, located in Scottsdale, for the past four years. During that time, he has participated in Club programs like Passport to Manhood, Building Unique Development Skills (BUDS), a mentoring program where he is partnered with a youth and serves as a positive role model, and is the current vice president of his branch's Keystone Club. By participating in leadership programs like these, Rodriguez has learned to be accepting and grateful for what he has in his life and to be compassionate to others who are in need. His career goals including attending college and pursuing a career in the medical field.

-more-

2010 Youth of the Year – Page 2

The 2010 *Youth of the Year* announcement was made at the organization's annual Celebrate Youth Dinner & Auction held on Saturday, March 20, at the Scottsdale Resort & Conference Center Resort. Rodriguez will receive a \$5,000 scholarship and each of the seven runners-up will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from General Dynamics C4 Systems.

Other generous event sponsors included: Casino Arizona; General Dynamics C4 Systems; David Lorsch, Cindy Lubin & Family; Mutual of Omaha Bank; University of Phoenix; Jokake Construction; Salt River Materials Group; American Express; The Capital Group Companies; Cox Communications; First Western Trust Bank; Snell & Wilmer LLP; Valor IT; Advantec; Hartley & Ruth Barker; Dunlap & Magee Property Management Inc.; Mary Ellen & Robert McKee; and Maureen & Paul Rubeli.

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.

-BGCS-