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**YANKTON, SOUTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT AWARDED COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FROM HUGH O'BRIAN YOUTH LEADERSHIP**

LOS ANGELES (Feb. 24, 2015) – Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) announced today that South Dakota high school student Allie Thiesse has been selected to receive a college scholarship from the organization.

Each year, HOBY selects three exemplary high school students from across the country who are making a positive impact in their community based on what they learned from a HOBY leadership seminar and awards them with college scholarships to continue their education.

“I am ecstatic to receive this scholarship as HOBY has had an unbelievable impact on my life,” said Thiesse. “I am extremely grateful to be blessed with this opportunity.”

Allie, a senior at Yankton High School, attended HOBY’s South Dakota State Leadership Seminar in 2013. Motivated and equipped with the proper tools to make a positive impact on her community from her experience at HOBY, Allie founded Walter’s Warriors to raise awareness and money for a friend who is undergoing chemotherapy. To date, Allie’s initiative has raised over \$7,000 and is continuing to grow.

“We’re extremely proud to announce Allie as a recipient of our college scholarship award,” said HOBY President and CEO Javier La Fianza. “At HOBY we aim to inspire our students to a life of leadership, service, and innovation and Allie exemplifies such a life.”

To learn more about HOBY or to register for an upcoming leadership seminar in your location, please visit [www.hoby.org](http://www.hoby.org).

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For 56 years, **Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY)** has helped to cultivate tomorrow’s leaders by inspiring a global community of youth and volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership, service, and innovation. HOBY programs annually provide more than 12,000 local and international high school students the opportunity to participate in unique leadership training, service learning, and motivation-building experiences. HOBY also provides adults the opportunity to make a significant impact on the lives of youth by volunteering, and today more than 4,000 volunteers annually and over 435,000 alumni proudly make up the HOBY family. For further information on HOBY, visit [www.hoby.org](http://www.hoby.org). “Like” Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/HOBY> and follow the organization on Twitter via @HOBY.