



**For Immediate Release**  
**Contact:** John Moss, Executive Director  
610 SW Broadway, Suite 407  
Portland, OR 97205  
(503) 248-9328 • action@ojcf.org • www.ojcf.org

## Oregon Jewish Community Foundation NEWS

### THE OREGON JEWISH COMMUNITY YOUTH FOUNDATION RETURNS FOR A SECOND YEAR

September 22, 2004, Portland, OR — Based on the glowing success of last year's pilot program, The Oregon Jewish Community Foundation is excited to announce the second annual season of the Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation. Last year, the program brought together 13 local students who, through an actual allocation process, ultimately awarded \$5,000, raised personally and through matching funds, to eight local Jewish and secular non-profit organizations.

"Ever since the pilot program began, we continue to receive calls from parents who are either grateful for their children's participation, or from parents who want to make certain their children are included during the next round", says OJCF Executive Director, John Moss.

We are now accepting nominations for a maximum of 21 new participants. Portland area synagogues and day schools are being asked to nominate 3 or 4 students to participate in this program. Those interested should contact their congregation's rabbi or educator. Members may also be self-nominated by visiting [www.ojcf.org](http://www.ojcf.org) where they will find application materials. All nominees will be required to submit a brief essay describing why they should be included on the OJCYF Board.

We are looking for mature, articulate, post-B'nai Mitzvah students (eighth, ninth and tenth grades) who have a knowledge of and appreciation for tzedakah demonstrated by active involvement in synagogue, youth group, or community-wide social action projects.

The OJCYF is a tzedakah program in which students have the opportunity to see how non-profits operate and the decision making process that takes place in a philanthropic foundation. They will experience first-hand the challenges, pressures, and rewards of sitting on the board of a non-profit foundation, and will learn how to make the difficult decisions of evaluating charities and allocating funds to local Jewish and general community organizations.

Students will attend 5 scheduled meetings, one per month beginning on November 14th, as well as conduct on-site visitations of local prospective recipient charities. Each participant will be required to raise a minimum of \$36.00 (from friends, family and other sources) which may be augmented with available matching grants. Students will make site visits, present their findings, and then as a group, decide which organizations they find the most worthy of a grant. They also should be willing to share their experiences with their classes, youth groups, congregations and the Jewish communities.

Applications must be received no later than October 25, 2004. Educators, parents and students may contact John Moss at (503) 248-3928 for more information or an application.

The Oregon Jewish Community Foundation is dedicated to creating, promoting, and facilitating a culture of giving, and serves as a permanent repository of funds available to safeguard the quality of Jewish communal life in Oregon and Southwest Washington. The Foundation invests its assets to foster strong support of the community's current needs while also providing resources for future generations.

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