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HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF GREATER LOS ANGELES IS EXTENDING THE DEADLINE FOR ITS ACT! SPEAK! BUILD! WEEK YOUTUBE VIDEO CONTEST

A Unique Lakers Experience to be Awarded to the Top Video

Los Angeles, CA – March 12, 2010: Youth ages 5-25 can still participate in Act! Speak! Build! Week by advocating for affordable housing in the greater Los Angeles region this weekend and by submitting a video to [Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles' YouTube video contest](#). The deadline for entries has been extended to Thursday, March 18th at 12:00 am and exciting prizes, including a unique Lakers experience with team memorabilia and apparel for the top video, have been added. Young people can enter by making a sixty-second video describing what they did to raise awareness for affordable housing and [Habitat for Humanity](#), posting the video on YouTube and then sending the link to youthprograms@habitatla.org. The top three videos will win from the following prizes: the unique Lakers experience, DVDs, video games and museum tickets. Prizes will be awarded at the Act! Speak! Build! Week event on March 20, 2010 at Long Beach City College from 2:00 – 3:30 pm.

Act! Speak! Build! Week is about L.A. youth joining youth around the world to call attention to issues of poverty housing and what better way to advocate than by making a YouTube video,” says Erin Rank, President/CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles. “We are thrilled that Lakers Coach Craig Hodges heard about the YouTube video contest and wanted to reward L.A. youth promoting affordable housing in our city with a unique Lakers experience.”

First, second and third place winners will be recognized at the Act! Speak! Build! Week event, which will also include a presentation on housing issues in Los Angeles and a panel of youth advocates, volunteers and residents of Habitat’s Homeownership Program. Distinguished event attendees include Long Beach City Councilmember, Gerrie Schipske; and panel members Lisa Payne, Policy Director, Southern California Association of Non-Profit Housing; and Grady Martine, Executive Director, Central City Outreach. The event offers students an opportunity to receive a first-hand perspective on the

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affordable housing problems in Los Angeles County by hearing from those who are closest to the issue and the youth in HFH GLA programs responding to the need.

Each year, young people around the globe participate in Habitat for Humanity's Act! Speak! Build! Week. It is a unique experience of student-initiated, student-led advocacy for affordable housing. Throughout the week, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles (HFH GLA) empowers local youth groups and individuals ages 5 to 25 to plan events in their own communities and on their campuses, targeting other youth and community members, to raise the social consciousness on issues of poverty housing and to affect change in housing policy.

For more information on Act! Speak! Build! Week, the YouTube contest and the event on March 20th visit www.habitatla.org/act_speak_build.asp. HFH GLA also offers opportunities for youth to get involved year-round with programs like Campus Chapters, the award-winning Nickels for Nails and Youth United. Information about these programs can be found at www.habitatla.org/youth_programs.asp, or by contacting the Youth Programs Department at 310.323.4663 or youthprograms@habitatla.org.

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