Written by Karah Van Kammen

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale is pleased to announce its 2014 Branch Youths of the Year, each of whom will be honored at Celebrate Youth onSaturday, March 22 at the Fairmont Scottsdale Princess Resort. The ten teens include Melissa Ervin, Dani Haboush, Alexa Jenouri, Dalia Jimenez, Alaza Loring, Marissa Masters, Leonel Reyes, Ashley Thompson, Kristofferson Walker, and Lane Yazzie.



Presented by Tiffany & Bosco and Great American Title, more than 600 civic and community leaders are expected at Celebrate Youth, which includes a silent and live auction, dinner and live entertainment and performances from the Club youth. At the close of the evening, one of the 10 branch Youths of the Year will be named as the overall Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale Youth of the Year, taking home a \$5,000 scholarship, and all others will earn a \$1,000 scholarship.

"The Youth of the Year program is a premier character and leadership initiative which has been in existence for more than 60 years," said Janet Caldarelli, co-chair of Celebrate Youth. "Recipients of the award are chosen based on each finalist's demonstration of moral character, life goals, leadership, poise, public speaking ability and service to the Club, community and family."

The overall 2014 Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale Youth of the Year will continue on to the state-level competition with other organizations from across Arizona. The winner of the state competition advances to the Pacific Region Youth of the Year competition held later this year, with the opportunity to continue to the national event.

Tickets for Celebrate Youth start at \$175/per person. Tables and event sponsorships are available at <u>www.celebrateyouthgala.org</u>or by calling <u>480-344-5682</u>. Some other corporate sponsors joining Tiffany & Bosco and Great American Title are General Dynamics C4 Systems, Republic Services, UMB Bank, Chasse Building Team, First Bank and First Western Trust.