



HOBY LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

Student Ambassador's Advance Booklet

***Our purpose is to teach
you "how" to think,
not "what" to think.***

"An extraordinarily high proportion of HOBY participants have gone on to leadership positions in business, government and education. This is just one of the reasons leading colleges and universities take special notice of student applications that feature HOBY participation."

***Dr. Malcolm Gillis, Professor and
Past President of Rice University,
Houston, Texas***

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Dear Student,

Congratulations! You will soon become a “**HOBY Ambassador**” and embark on what I hope will be one of the most exciting, educational, memorable, and fun experiences of your young life – your **OUTSTANDING HOBY Leadership Seminar**. During these three or four days, you will learn a great deal about yourself and your world, both current and future. You will also have a tremendous amount of fun.

You have the honor of having been selected to represent your school and community because of your leadership potential. But please remember, “To whom much is given, much is expected.” Along with the title of “HOBY Ambassador” comes the responsibility of becoming an informed citizen who truly understands our nation’s free market incentive system made possible by America’s democratic process. Read, stay informed and discuss with your friends, family, and teachers today’s current events before you attend HOBY.

To help make your experience memorable, this booklet outlines the following HOBY topics:

- Mission Statement
- Leadership Seminar
- Methodology
- Panel Themes

The HOBY Volunteer Planning Committee in your state (the men and women who give of their time to “build” your HOBY experience) and I are very proud of your potential.

Your friend,

Hugh O'Brian
Founder

P.S. Please be sure to share this booklet with your parents, friends, school counselor and principal.

HOBY MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership is to inspire and develop our global community of youth and volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership, service and innovation.

HOBY carries out its mission by:

- **Promoting leadership development in a three-phase approach.** The HOBY Core Curriculum explores individual leadership, leadership in groups, and leadership in society.
- **Providing interactive opportunities for critical thinking.** You will participate in question-and-answer sessions with recognized leaders in your community and engage in groups and activities that challenge your ideas and intensify your understanding.
- **Encouraging social responsibility and service among individuals and corporations.** You will be able to focus on the importance of social responsibility and community service through hands-on experience.

“Education plays an essential role in helping students develop into future leaders. The skills and ideas young people acquire will help them make wise decisions in the coming years. Through these seminars, held annually in each of our United States, Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) provides excellent opportunities for students to better understand the workings of democracy and the free enterprise system.” **George W. Bush, 43rd President of the United States**

HOBY DEFINES... **Ambassador** as “an outstanding 10th grader who participates in a HOBY seminar and who, upon returning home, is charged with providing visionary leadership to his/her classmates and community.”

THE LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

In 1958, Hugh O'Brian returned from a visit with Dr. Albert Schweitzer in Africa and was inspired by the great humanitarian's belief that “the most important thing in education is to teach young people to think for themselves.” Two weeks after returning to Los Angeles, Mr. O'Brian established HOBY. Since then, more than 345,000 students have attended HOBY Leadership Seminars. The HOBY Leadership Seminar you have been selected to attend is one of many that will be held in the United States and Canada this spring. All public, private and charter high schools are invited to participate in HOBY, and programs are held for students in every state. You are now a welcome member of HOBY's large and ever-expanding family.

Positive outcomes of participating in the HOBY Leadership Seminar:

- **Improved critical thinking skills.** By presenting multiple viewpoints on important issues, HOBY encourages you to evaluate all issues from a critical perspective. Effective leaders make informed decisions.
- **Enhanced leadership skills.** HOBY's phase-based curriculum, question-and-answer sessions with community leaders, small group discussions, interactive activities, hands-on service-learning experiences, and opportunities to engage in leadership roles enable you to better understand leadership and begin to identify your own particular leadership strengths.
- **Developing goal-setting skills.** All aspects of the HOBY Leadership Seminar are geared to encourage you to see leadership as a life-goal worth pursuing. At the conclusion of the HOBY Leadership Seminar, you are encouraged to identify personal goals and commit to achieving one or more within the six months that follow.

- **Realizing the importance of leadership.** Through HOBY's *Leadership for Service* program, you are challenged to complete 100 hours of service in your communities and to create service opportunities for others.

HOBY METHODOLOGY

HOBY Leadership Seminars apply the Social Change Model of Leadership, developing self-knowledge and leadership competence in each student. The model examines leadership through three phases: personal, group and community/society. Participants will discover and cultivate personal leadership qualities, learn how to use those qualities to maximize the success of groups in which they work (school, work, community, etc), and explore the role of their leadership in society. The program will also incorporate a Leadership for Service component, which involves exploring a societal issue, performing a project, reflecting and goal setting, through which, the participants should identify their role in the community and discover ways they can implement change. The overall program will reflect the HOBY theme "Empower. Lead. Excel."

Core Curriculum

Each phase of the Leadership Curriculum is explored through an introductory module; a speaker or panel, focusing on question-and-answer and small-group formats; and an activity that provides an opportunity to implement the leadership ideas explored in the phase.

Panel Sessions

In panel sessions, three to four panelists with divergent viewpoints are chosen to emphasize the critical thinking component of leadership: "HOW" TO THINK, NOT "WHAT" TO THINK.

The general structure of most panel sessions:

Session	Minutes
Group/Individual Presentations	3-5 each
Q & A session	30-40
Small group discussion	30-40
<i>Total time per session</i>	<i>90 minutes</i>

"I was chosen to represent Arkansas... My world was never the same, and the friendships I made during that experience are friendships that have endured to the present ... I seriously doubt that I would be the Governor of my state today had I not been a HOBY delegate as a high school sophomore."

Mike Huckabee, 1971 Arkansas HOBY Alumnus and Governor of Arkansas

Leadership Activities

Participants will explore and experience leadership through a variety of activities during the HOBY Leadership Seminar. Get ready for fun activities that your HOBY Seminar Volunteer Committee has planned for you!

- Introspective opportunities to think about yourself as a leader
- Interaction with panelists and keynote speakers
- Opportunities to exercise leadership competencies
- Leadership games and simulation activities

"HOBY created for me a passion in community service. If it wasn't for HOBY, I never would have realized the benefits community service provides not only to others but also myself."

Mieko Treaster, 1998 Hawaii HOBY Alumna

The Seminar will also include the following:

Orientation – *The Volunteer Seminar Chairperson will give an orientation on HOBY, which includes an overview of the schedule for your HOBY experience.*

Fun Activities – *There will also be opportunities to socialize and meet new OUTSTANDING friends, and participate in various leadership development games and activities.*

“Life With HOBY” Session – You will learn about HOBY alumni clubs and chapters. There are a variety of opportunities for volunteer service in the community and continuing education opportunities available to HOBY participants. Just check out: <http://www.hoby.org/Alumni/Opportunities.shtml>.

“The most profitable investment in our future lies in the employment of today’s youth. HOBY’s commitment, to motivate tomorrow’s leaders today, has definitely made the difference for so many of today’s professionals. It is my hope that we will (all) take seriously this charge. The future becomes brighter and brighter as each student is encouraged.”
Eurmon Hervey, 1983 Mississippi HOBY Alumnus and Teacher

Did you know that as a HOBY Ambassador, you will automatically be listed in the next edition of “Who’s Who Among High School Students?” You will be! And that is only the start of the benefit HOBY participation will bring you during the coming years. Remember to include your HOBY experience on your college applications, too!

World Leadership Congress – A highlight of the HOBY year is the World Leadership Congress (WLC) held each summer in Washington, D.C. At the WLC, more than 300 U.S. high school sophomores come together with a hundred more from all over the world for a week-long “super bowl” of HOBY leadership seminars. Want to know more about this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity? Visit <http://www.hoby.org/wlc/index.shtml>

A final message from your Volunteer Seminar Planning Committee...

*All the ingredients are in place to give you a weekend that could change your life. At HOBY we say, “To be enthusiastic, you must act enthusiastic.” If you do just that, your HOBY Leadership Seminar will be something you will never forget. The seminar is for YOU – make the most of it! As Hugh likes to point out, you will get out of it exactly what you put into it. **Go for it!***

“HOBY continues to be a vital program serving our youth. NASSP has enjoyed a professional relationship with Hugh O’Brian and HOBY since 1972. We believe that the long history and commitment of these outstanding HOBY programs are most worthy of our and your support as they continue to contribute effectively to the development of young people. HOBY has my full support and personal endorsement.”
Gerald Tirozzi, PhD, Executive Director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals