

History and Description of the Hope of America Award

The Kiwanis Cal-Nev-Ha Foundation established the Hope of America award during the 1984-85 administrative year. The Hope of America award was discovered in the Southwest District of Kiwanis International, where it was used to recognize students in elementary, middle and high school for leadership and service.

Today, the Hope of America award recognizes and encourages students who have demonstrated academic accomplishments, leadership and good character. These students should be potential leaders who have sustained our democratic way of life and exhibited outstanding citizenship traits. Criteria for selection of a recipient includes:

- ∞ Capacity for leadership (self-discipline)
- ∞ Ethical and moral character
- ∞ Academic competency (general studies)

Selection will not only be made on the basis of high I.Q. or academic achievement, but also on demonstrated leadership and character combined with consistent devotion to the acquisition of learning skills. It is our goal to challenge youths to excel in school and to dedicate themselves to strengthening their character and leadership skills.

The sponsoring Kiwanis club presents the Hope of America award to the winner(s) upon completion of an elementary, middle school, junior high school or high school grade. Each sponsoring club determines the number of awards it will present, the selection process and arranges an appropriate ceremony. Some clubs chose to present the award during a regular club meeting, while others present the award at a special ceremony. Often times, clubs present the award to their scholarship recipients.

However the presentation occurs, winning the coveted Kiwanis Cal-Nev-Ha Foundation Hope of America award might well be the first spark in stimulating a life-long effort of outstanding accomplishment and leadership!

