

# Meet the 2011 Young Humanitarian Award Winners

## Kevin and Freddy Noriega-Gomez



This year's youngest winners are brothers Kevin and Freddy Noriega-Gomez, Grade 6 students in the same class at École St. Avila in Winnipeg. The boys became interested in the subject of the needs of women and children who experience domestic abuse and approached the school to see if it would be possible to help Osborne House. Working with Karine Rioux, the school's vice-principal and teacher Eric Paas, the boys

developed a presentation about the needs of the facility and families who use it. They made presentations to students at the school and asked the children of St. Avila to bring in any gently used or new items which would help the families living at Osborne House. The end result was a donation of over 100 boxes and bags of toiletries, clothes, blankets and toys—a tremendous help to the shelter during the holiday season.

## Justin Valentino



Justin Valentino, a Grade 12 student at R.D. Parker Collegiate in Thompson, lost his father in a tragic fall at the family's remote cottage on Paint Lake. His father's death got Justin thinking about how inadequate medical facilities were in the lake area that many people use year round. Justin raised \$8,000 and bought six backboards, three defibrillators and nine first aid kits. These will be placed at the marina, fire hall

and ambulance centres, as well as at every fire barrel. Through Justin's caring spirit, better medical equipment is available, increasing the chances that others won't experience a similar loss in their families.

## Fuze Thru Shoes



Shea Kosokowsky and Zak Johnson, Grade 12 students at Vincent Massey Collegiate, were touched by seeing so many children in third world countries playing barefoot and suffering cuts and lesions. So, they created and became the driving force behind Fuze Thru Shoes, a project that connects Manitoba school children who donate their shoes with Peruvian children who receive them. Fuze is unique because it allows donors to see the faces of the children to whom they donate.

Since November, Shea and Zak have spent countless hours planning, coordinating, promoting, developing a website ([fuzethrushoes.com](http://fuzethrushoes.com)), sorting, packing, finding financial assistance and making shipping arrangements. Many of the shoes were delivered during the March break.

## CHANGE



(Back L-R) Gillian Lewis, Jennifer Curle, Jenna Mashtoler, Carissa Merke, Paxton Johnson. (Front L-R) Emily Kingdon, Cassandra Cardy, Anna Donohoe, Chelsea Henry, Hayley Surovy. (Missing) Samantha McIntosh. Eleven students form the Citizens Helping All Nations Grow Equally (CHANGE) committee at Minnedosa Collegiate. Over the past four years the group has raised a total of \$32,000 for a rural Ethiopian School with a low enrolment of female students. Where there was only one school there are now three, the number of female students has increased to half of the school's population, and the girls are staying in school past Grade 6. This year, the committee has turned its attention to Haiti raising over \$6,000 as part of its four-year commitment to the village of Hope, Haiti.

## Who have they helped?

Here are some of the people that benefit from the work of this year's Young Humanitarian Award recipients. If you can help, please do.

- **Women and their children at Osborne House**  
[www.osbornehouse.org](http://www.osbornehouse.org)
- **Women and children at the Women in Second Stage Housing (WISH) shelter** [www.wishinc.ca](http://www.wishinc.ca)
- **Hamper recipients of the Christmas Cheer Board**  
[www.christmascheerboard.ca](http://www.christmascheerboard.ca)
- **Patrons of the Minnedosa Food Cupboard**  
Donations to the Food Bank may be dropped off at the Minnedosa United Church Office at 48 Main Street South, back door or call 204-867-2211.
- **People in the developing world through Samaritan's Purse**  
[www.samaritanspurse.ca](http://www.samaritanspurse.ca)
- **Residents of the Minnedosa Personal Care Home**
- **The children of Trujillo, Peru**  
[www.bruceperu.org](http://www.bruceperu.org)  
[www.fuzethrushoes.com](http://www.fuzethrushoes.com)
- **Students attending three rural schools in Ethiopia**
- **Earthquake victims in the town of Hope, Haiti**  
[www.hopeforhaiti.com](http://www.hopeforhaiti.com)
- **The young earthquake victims at St. Benedict's Day Nursery and Children's Home in St. Vincent, Haiti**  
[www.stbenedictshome.org](http://www.stbenedictshome.org)
- **Anyone needing emergency backboards, defibrillators or first aid through the services of the marina, fire hall and ambulance service at Paint Lake, Manitoba**



## Enjoy performances tonight by

### Jon Ljungberg



You may remember Jon as the host of Winnipeg's Breakfast Television on City TV. When Jon is not in front of the camera, he's on stage performing stand-up comedy. For over 15 years, he has performed across Canada and the United States—Montreal's Comedy Festival and the Riviera in Las Vegas to name just two. Jon has also shared the stage with stars like Celine Dion, Tom Jones, and others.

### River East Collegiate Percussion Ensemble



This group of high school musicians performs a wide variety of repertoire encompassing many styles and eras of percussion history. They have performed at numerous local, national, and international events and have received many awards

and accolades for their performances. The group is bound by the love of music and the joy it brings by sharing it with others.

### Oak Park Dance Company

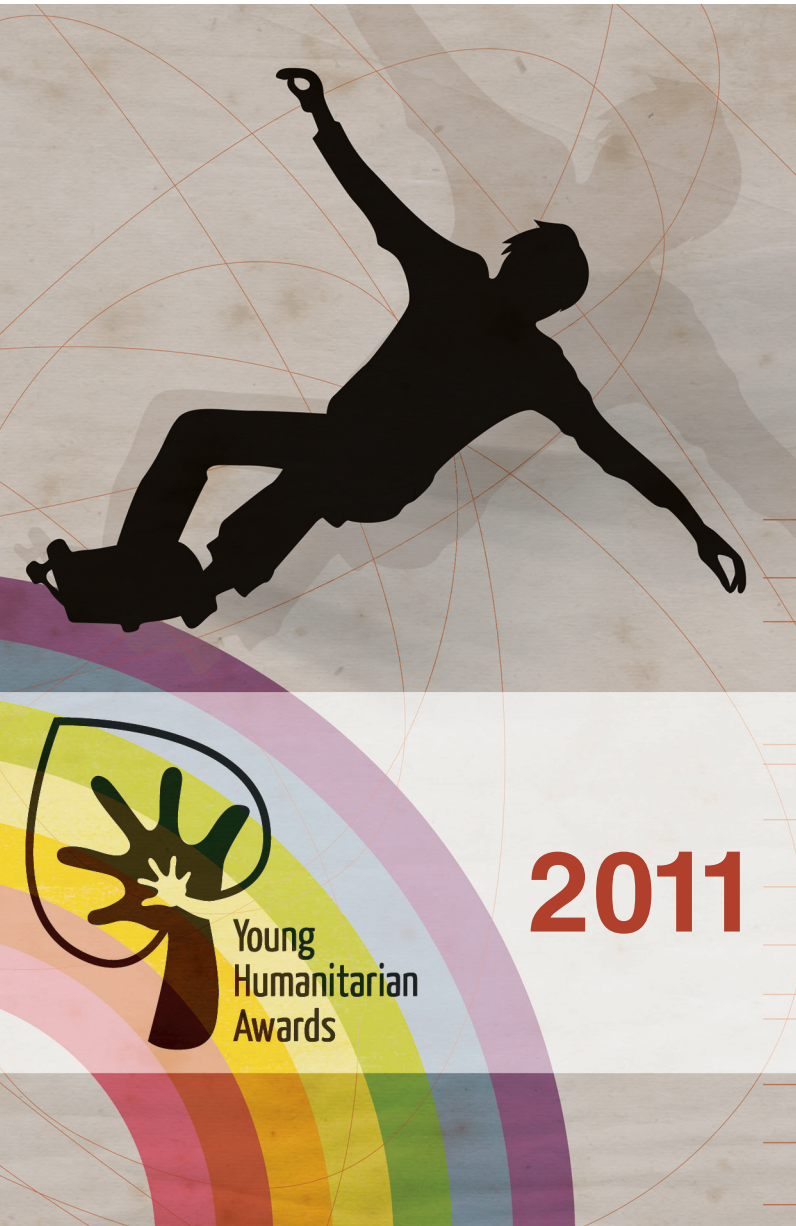


The Oak Park Dance Program offers classes for all levels in the styles of Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary, and Modern. The group performing tonight is the Oak Park Dance Company. This group has been performing and competing in events around Manitoba and the U.S. for the past seven years. The OP Dancers are excited to be a part of the Young Humanitarian Awards celebration.

Monday, April 25, 2011, at 7:00 PM, Manitoba Theatre for Young People



- **Greetings from the Emcee**  
Jon Ljungberg
- **Student Greetings**  
Miriam Stobbe-Reimer and Brenden Gali, *Steinbach Regional Secondary School/St. James Collegiate*
- **River East Collegiate Percussion Ensemble**  
*Directed by Jeff Kula*
- **MTS Greetings** Pat Isaak, President,  
*The Manitoba Teachers' Society*
- **Chairperson's remarks** Kyle McKinstry,  
*YHA Committee Chair, MTS Executive Member*
- **YHA Individual Award** presented to Freddy and Kevin Noriega-Gomez, *École St. Avila* by Gordon Campbell, Principal
- **YHA Individual Award** presented to Shea Kosokowsky, Zak Johnson, Fuze Thru Shoes, *Institut collégial Vincent Massey Collegiate Institute* by Adam Khan, Teacher
- **YHA Individual Award** presented to Justin Valentino, *R.D. Parker Collegiate, Thompson* by Murray Kissick, Teacher
- **Oak Park Dance Company**  
*Directed by Kristen Downey*
- **YHA Group Award** presented to CHANGE, *Minnedosa Collegiate Institute* by Tanis Barrett/Roberta Galbraith, *Minnedosa Collegiate Institute Staff/Community Mentor*
- **River East Collegiate Percussion Ensemble**
- **Closing Remarks**



Remember to join us for a reception in the MTYP lobby after the show.

*Tonight we honour Manitoba public school students whose acts of compassion and caring inspire us—and encourage us to do the same.*

**Meet our 2011 Young Humanitarians...**