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The 18th Annual National Service-Learning Conference Enters Second Life

Those unable to attend The 18th Annual National Service-Learning Conference®: Beyond Borders, Beyond Boundaries, March 28-31, 2007, in Albuquerque, can attend it in Second Life.

Residents of the 3-D virtual world Second Life will be able to attend conference plenary sessions in real time at the Global Kids Island in Teen Second Life and at an additional location in Second Life's world for adults. Plenary speakers include **Jane Goodall**, founder of the Jane Goodall Institute and United Nations Messengers of Peace; **Jackie Joyner-Kersey**, Olympian and founder of the Jackie Joyner-Kersey Foundation; **Verna Cornelia Price**, founder of the Girls in Action program, **David Eisner**, CEO, Corporation for National and Community Service; **J. Robert Flores**, Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; and **Kerri Strug**, Special Advisor to the Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and Olympian.

The Second Life webcast is the product of a partnership among the conference host, the National Youth Leadership Council; Learn and Serve America; and Global Kids, Inc. — a New York-based nonprofit.

“The conference brings together youths, educators and community-based organizations that want to use service and service-learning to make a difference in their communities and in the lives of young people,” says Conference Director Amy Meuers. “More than 60 schools and educational organizations, along with countless nonprofit organizations, are in Second Life. This not only provides an incredible opportunity for our speakers to reach more people, but it also provides a gathering place where these people can meet, network and interact as if they are with us in New Mexico.”

The National Service Learning-Conference is the largest gathering of youths and practitioners from the service-learning movement — drawing nearly 3,000 people from all 50 states and up to 41 other countries. Learn more about the conference at www.nylc.org/conference.

Second Life is an online world entirely built and owned by its residents. It opened in 2003, and its population has grown to 1,465,294 people from around the globe. Second Life has recently been the site of a major IBM announcement and the opening of a Sundance Channel screening room and a Dell Computer store.

About NYLC

NYLC has been at the center of service-learning program and policy development since 1983. It annually convenes The National Service-Learning Conference, offers adult and youth trainings and develops service-learning resources. For more information, please visit www.nylc.org.

About Service-Learning

Service-learning is a teaching method that enriches learning by engaging students in meaningful service to their schools and communities. It integrates service with established learning objectives, emphasizes critical thinking and problem-solving and tackles real issues, such as hunger, ecological concerns and diversity.