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Electra L. Magnuson is awarded 2008 WoHeLo Award



(Seattle). Electra L. Magnuson will receive her WoHeLo Award at the annual Camp Fire USA C.A.R.E. Dinner and Awards Banquet on Wednesday, May 14, 2008,

The Wohelo Award is Camp Fire USA's most prestigious youth award. It is open to all youth members in high school regardless of the Camp Fire USA programs they participate in. "Wohelo" is a word one of Camp Fire USA's founders, Charlotte Vetter Gulick, created by combining the first two letters of work, health and love. To be awarded a Wohelo Award individual must complete an intensive and individualized project that typically takes two to three years of planning, service and documentation to complete as the project generally entails significant leadership and decision making. The award requires candidates to plan, lead, teach, take action and advocate for three service causes, utilize adult experts and evaluate their projects at the conclusion. About 200 youth earn the Wohelo Award, nationally, each year. The Central Puget Sound Council generally accounts for 5-10% of the total Award winners.

Electra's advocacies included encouraging good sportsmanship and teamwork with children through role modeling and teaching games at Heron Cove Farm Camp Fire Day Camp. Magnuson also worked on protecting and promoting a healthy environment with EarthCorps and worked to help improving quality of life for low income families in Missoula Montana through Habit for Humanity.

Electra has been a member of Camp Fire since first grade and has been secretary, treasurer and vice president of her group. She has strong organizational skills and developed her leadership abilities during camping trips, community activities, fundraisers and numerous other events. She completed her Wohelo Award requirements and received a Horizon Service Award by volunteering with Habitat for Humanity, EarthCorps and at a Camp Fire USA Day Camp. Electra also earned many Adventure, Discovery and Horizon level emblems during her twelve year as a Camp Fire USA member. She has dedicated her time to organizations such as the Bethany Lutheran Church and Bainbridge Island Senior Center. Electra also participated in the Bainbridge Island Rowing Club and the Native American Club and Band program at her school. She is a member of the National Society of High School Scholars and plans to attend the University of Hawaii at Manoa in the fall of 2008 to study zoology and pursue a career that provides protection to marine animals from oceanic pollution and waste. She has a passion for protecting the environment, loves to recycle and spend time outdoors; bicycling, horseback riding and rowing. Electra would encourage others to “not be afraid of trying something new and working with people you have never met before, step outside your comfort zone and achieve a goal you may have once thought was impossible.”

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Camp Fire USA is one of the nation's leading not-for-profit youth development organizations, serving nearly three quarters of a million participants annually. Camp Fire USA, with national headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri since 1977 and local offices in Seattle since 1911, provides all-inclusive, co-educational programs in hundreds of communities across the United States. Camp Fire USA's mission is to build caring, confident youth and future leaders. By design, Camp Fire USA's programs include family and small group experiences, after school programs, camping and environmental education, child care and service learning. The Camp Fire USA experience builds confidence in younger children and provides hands-on, youth-driven leadership experiences for older youth. For more information, visit www.campfire-usa.org.

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