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Sarah Shoemake selected as the Bank of America Student Leader for 2008



(Seattle, WA) – Camp Fire USA congratulates one of its own, Sarah Shoemake, who has been selected as a Bank of America Student Leader for 2008.

The Bank of America Student Leaders Program invites students who will be juniors or seniors in high school in the fall of 2007 to apply for the Student Leaders program. Applicants must be able to participate in an eight-week paid internship during the summer of 2008 with a designated local community organization. Additionally, selected student leaders will participate in a leadership program arranged by Bank of America during 2008.

Applicants submit information about their personal goals and most significant accomplishments. Students that are selected demonstrate a clear interest in the crucial issues facing communities today and show a desire to help build and sustain vibrant neighborhoods.

Sarah was chosen because of her personal goals, significant accomplishments and her clear interest in the crucial issues facing communities today.

Sarah's work in the community was with Camp Fire USA where she has been an active member the past 13 years. Shoemake is a 2008 WoHeLo Award recipient and has participated as

co-leader of the Carnival of Beads, co-organizer of the North Branch 2008 Council Fire, song leader and Day Camp Junior and Senior Counselor. Sarah has six '200 Service Hour Awards', two 'President's Student Service Awards' and a ten year 'Tenure Award for Day Camp' participation. She plays in the Ingraham High Marching Band and has been a section leader for three years. She has also been on the Varsity Softball team for four years and is team co-captain her senior year. Sarah is an International Baccalaureate Diploma candidate and as a member of the National Honor Society, tutors Spanish students. She has played recreational soccer the past 12 years on a team of City Tournament Champions. She also participates at Wallingford Presbyterian Church as a youth group member, Sunday school teacher and attended national conferences. She will attend the University of Washington to major in social work then later attend graduate school to work in social services. As encouragement to other youth, Sarah notes, "Although the Wohelo Award is perhaps one of the most difficult activities I have completed in my eighteen years; it is absolutely the most fulfilling."

Shoemake's community advocacies include encouraging youth involvement in Camp Fire USA activities through organizing, leading, recruiting and advertising for the annual Puget Sound Council Carnival of Beads. Promoting and supporting small farming communities throughout the world which produce fair trade, organic, shade grown products as well as the Wallingford Church Youth Group Fund by selling products through Equal Exchange Interfaith Coffee Program and promoting breast cancer awareness and early detection through the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and a video produced for Public Service Announcements.

Camp Fire USA's mission is to build caring, confident youth and future leaders. Sarah is definitely one of them!

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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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