



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Youth Trustees Lend Valuable Perspective to National 4-H Council Board of Trustees

CHEVY CHASE, MD— Long-time 4-H members and college students April Johnson, Jeremy Embalabala, and Whitney Kupferer have been elected as youth trustees for National 4-H Council's Board of Trustees. As members of the Board, they will set strategic direction for the future of National 4-H Council, supporting the organization's overall commitment to positive youth development and evaluating the Board's performance.

"As a youth-led organization, we need to put our mission to practice and include young people in every strategic decision we make," said James C. Borel, Chairman, National 4-H Council Board of Trustees. "These trustees will bring a valuable youth perspective to the Board as we seek out fresh, creative ideas that can steer the 4-H youth development movement in new directions."

April Johnson, a 4-H member for the past seven years, majors in communications at Texas A&M University. April has participated in a number of 4-H leadership activities and volunteer events, including the 2008 National 4-H Conference Planning Committee. In addition, April served as the emcee for the Congressional launch of 4-H National Youth Science Day (4-H NYSD) in 2008. She is an active and motivated 4-H member who volunteers with Kaboom Playground Build, Habitat for Humanity, and Ronald McDonald House.

Jeremy P. Embalabala, a ten-year 4-H member, is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Illinois. He is the president and CEO of TechOctane Inc., a company providing IT solutions and support to clients in Illinois, Iowa, and Indiana. A natural leader, Jeremy has participated in a variety of 4-H national conferences, including the 2005 National 4-H Hall of Fame Inductions and the 2006 4-H Congressional Caucus where he served as youth emcee and host.

Whitney N. Kupferer, a 4-H member for seven years, has held every office in her 4-H club while leading her 4-H state caucus and hosting the 2006 4-H Congressional Caucus. An enthusiastic public relations major at the University of Alabama, Whitney works as a student runner for CBS Sports and as an intern for the University of Alabama's Athletic Media Relations Department. She is also an active volunteer for Habitat for Humanity, Children's Miracle Network, and the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

"April, Jeremy, and Whitney have an unprecedented knowledge of the 4-H system—and they know first-hand how 4-H can positively impact young people's lives," said Donald T. Floyd, Jr., National 4-H Council President and CEO. "We are excited to leverage their guidance and feedback as we position 4-H for the future."

4-H is a community of six million young people across America learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. National 4-H Council is the private sector, non-profit partner of National 4-H Headquarters (USDA). The 4-H programs are implemented by the 106 Land Grant Universities and the Cooperative Extension System through their 3,100 local Extension offices across the country. Learn more about 4-H at [www.4-h.org](http://www.4-h.org).

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