

# 2007 Yudian Community Service Award Recipients

Highest Honor ★★ With Distinction ★

## **Assiyah Muhammad ★★**

George Washington High School

Assiyah is amazing young lady who is focused, determined and committed. As a child, Assiyah has her share of misfortune, when she was homeless from age three to seven and was placed in foster care at the age seven. Assiyah sees a way where she can help others who are in a similar situation as she was. She volunteers in her church as usher, choir member, and secretary; she volunteers for the youth advisory board for Denver human services; she helps make decisions for the youth in foster care; she participates in community service projects in which she gives her views and shares her experiences. She has great influence among her peers and she has beaten the odds of a terrible past, which could have consumed her and leered her on a completely different path.

## **Benjamin Liu ★★**

Highlands Ranch High School, Great Wall Chinese Academy Benjamin has shown his big heart in helping others and community. Ben gave great support and comfort to Yudian and his family during their difficult time. Helping Yudian profoundly changed Ben's view of life. He shifted his past focus to wanting help others and making a difference in community. He volunteers in nursing homes for elderly, helps wheelchair patients in hospital, serves as assistant teacher at summer camp for young children, helps at heritage camp for adopted children; volunteers on holidays in hospital and Chinese children adoption center; serves in Chinese school student council and volunteers in community events throughout a year. Ben believes volunteer works provide a great way to give positive influence to others.



我们是  
**Volunteers**  
志愿者

## **Sarah Whitman ★★**

CEC Middle College of Denver

Sarah is an amazing source of ideas, inspiration and dedication in helping others. She participates in a program that build teams of students who give back to the community; she is very active in her church, feeding the homeless and work with youth; she went to New Orleans on a bus to participating in the Katrina recovery effort in summer. She has been instrumental in helping many younger students become more involved in school and turn that involvement into academic success. Sarah does this all while maintaining high GVA despite a learning disability. Sarah's own struggle with her learning disability has led her to be able to create a rapport with struggling people that is exceptional. Sarah is very tireless volunteer for community good.

## **Bowen Yang ★★**

Smoky Hill High School, Denver Chinese School,

Bowen was at Yudian's bedside when Yudian was lying on his hospital bed; Bowen was with Yudian at parks and libraries when Yudian was on his wheelchair. Bowen contributed countless hours in Yudian's difficult recovery. Most importantly, Bowen followed Yudian and did outstanding community service at Craig hospital; even after Yudian left for college, Bowen continues the volunteer work at Craig Hospital. Bowen's friendship cart provides so much comfort to the patients there. Through his volunteer works, Bowen is able to reach a solid conclusion that the people in hospitals need someone like him to make them feel more comfortable. Bowen believes his work of reaching out to patients in Craig may be the best cure. Bowen is an excellent volunteer.

## **Sharon Yang ★★**

Cherry Creek High School, Great Wall Chinese Academy

Sharon is compassionate and dedicated in making a difference in community. It is amazing you see her volunteering in so many school and community's activities as a high school senior. She participates in a library project that would build a library in a third world; participates in a project which helps fund a school in Haiti; she visits nursing homes for elderly in summer; volunteers in Christmas workshop for children whose parents could not afford to buy toys; she volunteers at a 9news Heath Fair, help wheelchair patients in hospital; She leads her Chinese school Student Council volunteers in community events throughout a year. Sharon has consistently demonstrated her willingness to help others and community in broad ranges of volunteer works.

### **Victoria Crystal ★**

East High School

As a fourth grader to the present, Vikki Crystal donated her time during Thanksgiving filling and dispersing baskets to families in need. She has volunteered at Corinth of Mississippi National Visitor Center preparing gifts for opening day. She is a regular volunteer at the National Jewish Hospital volunteer program. Vikki is one of volunteer for the Denver Public Library Summer Reading Program in 2005. Most recently, Vikki has spend many hours at Temple Micah assisting and teaching Sunday school. She donated her income to charities. Vikki is aware of needs of people, appreciate of what she receives from people, and pulls her resources to give to others.

### **Binpeng Cao ★**

Cherokee Trail High School

Bingpeng Cao is a kind, friendly and compassionate high school junior. He is one of Yudian's best friends who played very important role in Yudian's recovery and re-enter the society. Binpeng started visiting Yudian when Yudian was at Craig Rehabilitation Hospital. It was a little shock for Binpeng to see Yudian paralyzed on a hospital bed at first. But gradually, he learned how to communicate, comfort and encourage Yudian. He regularly visited Yudian, helped Yudian with doctor's visits and physical exercises. Bingpeng was also a volunteer teach assistant at the Great Wall Chinese Academy, where he actively involved in the school's community services.

### **Sean Manton ★**

George Washington High School, Denver Chinese School

Sean Manton is an outstanding student in the international Baccalaureate Program at George Washington High School. He went to Ecuador helping lay a pipeline for fresh water supply for a village when he was an eighth grader. He worked at food stands at Bronco football games to raise money for Denver School of the Arts travel programs. Sean volunteers at senior citizen homes in Denver area, offering his piano playing skills for senior and charity events-and he also enjoying spending time with them as part of the activity. Sean is also a volunteer tutoring each week at GW high school. Sean has a deep commitment and sense of responsibility. He demonstrates the very best qualities as a volunteer.

### **Yangyang Liu ★**

Highlands Ranch High School, Denver Chinese School

Yangyang Liu has been the present of Denver Chinese School student council. He played an active leadership role in many school activities. Yangyang had involved extensively in the 2007 Dragon Boat Race, as the captain of the DCS race team. He spent almost the entire month of July in organizing the DCS team. Yangyang was actively involved in community activities that support Yudian's recovery.

### **Chen Zheng ★**

Cherry CreekHigh School, Denver Chinese School

Chen Cheng has volunteered hundreds of hours to Denver Chinese School and Colorado International School since 2004. He played an active leadership role in many school activities and contributed his computer skills in school's administration. He was a co-captain of Denver Chinese School youth team of Colorado Dragon Festival and a member of National Society, French Honor Society and Excalibur, an organization uses fundraiser money to provide Thanksgiving dinners to families in need. Chen volunteered at Nanjing China Para-Olympic training center in summer 2007. Chen believes giving back to the community doesn't require countless hours; even the smallest endeavor can bring happiness to others.

### **Teresa Yeh ★**

Arapahoe High School, Colorado Chinese Language School

Teresa Yeh is a long term volunteer at Colorado Chinese Language School. She also performs Chinese dance in many local culture event to promote Chinese culture. Over the past several years, Teresa has danced throughout Colorado with smile and grace. Teresa also works for Chinese Heritage Camps to help adopted children from China. She assists the dance instructors to teach dances to elementary and middle school aged children as they attended dance workshops. Teresa never tires of working with kids, helping them or just being with them. She is an incredible representative of the Chinese culture and one of the best role model for her peers.

### **Yudian Community Service Award**

**Contact Info:** Chunhe Chen: 303-229-7024