



City of Hollywood, Florida
Office of Community and Public Relations

PRESS RELEASE

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**America's Promise Alliance Names Hollywood
One of 100 Best Communities for Young People
In Partnership with Capital One, Competition Recognizes Outstanding,
Innovative Efforts That Benefit Children and Youth**

Hollywood, FL- America's Promise – The Alliance for Youth is pleased to announce that the City of Hollywood is a winner of a national competition to identify the *100 Best Communities for Young People*. In partnership with Capital One, the *100 Best* competition honors communities – ranging from small towns to urban neighborhoods across America – for their commitment to provide healthy, safe and caring environments for young people. Hundreds of communities in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands took part in the competition.

The City of Hollywood was selected for its efforts in making youth a priority through numerous collaborations which with local youth organizations, law enforcement, hospitals, and schools. Hollywood Mayor Mara Giuliani is attending the "100 Best Evening Reception" in Washington, DC to receive this national and prestigious award on the City's behalf.

"I can't begin to express the excitement that I feel for Hollywood's having been chosen as one of our nation's 100 Best Communities for Young People," said Mayor Giuliani. "Being Mayor, as well as a grandmother, I am gratified and proud that our City has as one of its top priorities the well-being of its youth. And we don't rest on our laurels--we keep adding programs and projects that will make the quality of their life--and their future life--the best it can be. I look forward to meeting the Mayors from other like-minded communities in Washington, D.C., to learn more from them and to share ideas."

HOLLYWOOD
Like Nowhere Else!

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Founded by retired General Colin L. Powell, the America's Promise Alliance is the nation's largest private-public partnership committed to ensuring that every child receives the five fundamental resources. *100 Best Communities for Young People* was first launched in 2005 by General Powell in partnership with Capital One Financial Corporation. Other members of America's Promise Alliance — including United Way of America, U.S. Conference of Mayors, Big Brothers Big Sisters, National Association of Counties and the American Association of School Administrators and many others — took leading roles in encouraging communities to compete in the *100 Best* competition. "Nothing is more important than seeing that our children and youth have the resources and support systems they need to thrive and succeed," said America's Promise Founding Chairman General Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.). "When a community provides all that its young people need to be healthy and secure, they deserve to be honored and showcased as an outstanding example of what it takes to successfully nurture this nation's young people."

The 2007 *100 Best Communities for Young People* competition opened in September 2006. The City of Hollywood applied for the honor and was chosen by a distinguished selection panel of civic, business and nonprofit leaders, including United Way of America President Brian Gallagher, U.S. Chamber of Commerce President Tom Donohue, NBC News Washington Bureau Chief and Moderator of *Meet the Press* Tim Russert, CEOs for Cities' President and CEO Carol Coleta, and former Denver mayor Wellington Webb.

The selection panel evaluated *100 Best* entries that required detailed information about each community's efforts to fulfill the Five Promises – the fundamental resources our children and youth need to succeed: (1) caring adults who are actively involved in their lives; (2) safe places in which to learn and grow; (3) a healthy start toward adulthood; (4) an effective education that builds marketable skills; (5) and opportunities to help others.

"We held this competition to appeal to America's competitive spirit to encourage communities to become great places to grow up." said Marguerite W. Kondracke, President and CEO of America's Promise – The Alliance for Youth. "Our winners' outstanding efforts to deliver the Five Promises are shining examples of what it means to keep America's Promise for our young people."

"Capital One believes that every family should have the opportunity to provide for their children in ways that ensure future success," said Capital One President of Global Financial Services and America's Promise board member Larry Klane, a member of the 2007 selection panel. "Through the *100 Best* competition, we can recognize communities that foster the type of environment where children and families have opportunities and resources to realize their potential."



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“The City of Hollywood community should be considered one of the best communities for young people because we possess, address, and provide every aspect of youth development”, says City of Hollywood Public Affairs Manager and project manager of the award Renée Jean. “Through partnerships with the Hollywood Police Athletic League; YMCA; Boys and Girls Club; Hollywood Police Department; Hollywood Fire, Rescue and Beach Safety Department; local schools; and the whole community, we provide a structured and safe environment for our youth to play, learn, and grow.”

Jéan adds, “Hollywood also has a strong partnership with one of the nation’s leaders in healthcare, Memorial Healthcare Systems. Together we provide comprehensive pediatric care and several programs in an environment specially designed for youth at the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital. Additional City of Hollywood projects featured in the nationally recognized proposal included, the Hollywood’s Born to Read Project; Financial Literacy Workshop; New Image Summer Camp; Clean Water Cadets Program; Science, Education and Adventure Camp; Youth Crime Watch; Volunteer Hollywood; Summer Youth Program; BIGS in Schools; and the Russell Life Skills and Reading Foundation initiative. Conclusively, Hollywood has the best services, schools, hospitals, parks, activities, programs, events, collaborations, and youth which make our City one of the "100 Best Communities for Young People."

A complete list of winners and more details can be found at www.americaspromise.org.

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