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SCHOOL NOTES | KATHARINE DALE

Students to serve in Elie Wiesel project

The Echo Foundation has announced the student winners of "In the Footsteps of Elie Wiesel." The educational leadership and travel program is one component of Voices Against Indifference, an annual comprehensive education and community-based initiative. Those who were chosen to follow "In the Footsteps of Elie Wiesel" are high school students who will serve for the yearlong Elie Wiesel Project. These student ambassadors will promote positive social action in the greater Charlotte community, have dedicated time with Wiesel in March during his visit to Charlotte, and are responsible for initiating and communicating projects and messages to benefit humanity.

The 12 student ambassadors were chosen from 56 applicants, representing 15 schools across the Charlotte region. They are:

Preston Gray and **Blake Templeton**, sophomores at Butler High; **Gabriela Reed**, a freshman at East Mecklenburg High; **Casey Horgan**, a junior, and **Catherine Auerbach**, a sophomore, at Myers Park High; **Adara Blake**, **Scott Fisher II** and **Margaret Love**, sophomores, and **Evelyn Denham**, a junior, at North Mecklenburg High; **Natasha Frosina**, a junior, and **Kristine Sowers**, a sophomore, at Providence Day; and **Harold Robins**, a junior at Providence High School.

In July, they'll explore the challenges, opportunities and environments that shaped the life and work of Elie Wiesel. The students will trace his path from his birthplace in Sighet, Romania, to the Auschwitz death camp in Poland where much of his family perished. They'll visit Paris, where Wiesel was given refuge and began his studies after the war. The 2007 program is sponsored by the Leon Levine Foundation.

- Also, **Benjamin Smolen**, a Myers Park High graduate studying musicology at Princeton University, will receive the Young Hero of Hope Award on March 27 at the Elie Wiesel Student Dialogue at Myers Park High. The award recognizes Smolen's leadership and commitment to action for humanity.

Details: www.echofoundation.org; 704-347-3844.