

The Julia Burke Foundation Annual Newsletter 2011

www.JuliaBurkeFoundation.org



FOR THIRTEEN YEARS & ON FIVE CONTINENTS

CRITICAL SUPPLIES SAVE LIVES TROOPS DIRECT

*By Aaron Negherbon,
President and Founder, Troops Direct*

Featured NEWS:

Troops Direct

Interfaith Center
for Sustainable
Development

Halo

Academic
Scholarships

Debate

Organ Donation

Music Education

Mindfulness
Education

Crew

Memorial Walk

The young American men and women who comprise our military forces serving in Afghanistan fight tirelessly to protect our security, here at home, on a daily basis. Most of us cannot fathom existing as they do, in 120-degree heat, with 70 lbs of gear strapped to their backs, for days on end. TroopsDirect.org addresses the large-scale need to support these heroes with essential supplies and resources. We attribute our success in large part to support from The Julia Burke Foundation. Like our brave service members on the frontlines, The Julia Burke Foundation has been selfless in its mission to support our efforts.

In partnership with The Foundation, TroopsDirect.org acquires critical supplies for our troops, responding at times to uncommon, unexpected, and even surprising requests: medical gear ranging from stretchers to stethoscopes, portable showers, and even tools used to identify roadside bombs. Furthermore, support from The Julia Burke Foundation enables



us to double our response to requests for shipments when times are darkest for our soldiers and Marines. To quote a Marine Corps Colonel, "Troops Direct is single-handedly changing the manner in which our military can operate on the frontlines."

However, the greatest facet of our relationship with The Julia Burke Foundation is their recognition that the work we do, every day, for our Americans on the frontlines, makes a genuine and unparalleled difference in the lives of these service members. I can state with



great confidence that The Julia Burke Foundation saves lives and limbs directly, through their support of TroopsDirect.org. For more information, visit troopsdirect.org.

A SHARED VISION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT INTERFAITH CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

By Rabbi Jonathan Neril, Founder and Executive Director, The Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development

As Julia's former debate partner and friend, I am very moved by the support of The Julia Burke Foundation in promoting a message of coexistence, tolerance, and sustainability from the Holy Land.



I was inspired to witness the cooperation of religious teachers of different faiths (that many times are associated with conflict). Through coverage in 15 media outlets in five languages, including the internationally syndicated AFP, the event reached millions of people around the world with this message.

With critical support from The Julia Burke Foundation, the Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development achieved two goals this year: securing the endorsement of a joint Declaration on Climate Change by the Council of Religious Institutions of the Holy Land, and putting on the Interfaith Eco Forum in Jerusalem in July, 2011. The Forum

brought together Christian, Jewish, and Muslim religious leaders to speak about their shared vision for environmental sustainability in the Holy Land.

At the event, Bishop William Shomali of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem said, "The earth is like our home, and those who live in the same home should know how to live together. The main religions should study ecological issues together because we have a common destiny."

We aim to follow up on these successes with a series of workshops for Christian, Jewish, and Muslim seminary students in the Holy Land. For more information, visit: www.interfaithsustain.org.

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



"Life is no 'brief candle' to me. It is a sort of splendid torch... I want to make it burn as brightly as possible.... before handing it on....". These words of George Bernard Shaw are from one of Julia's favorite quotations. We selected the torch flame as the symbol of the Julia Burke Foundation for an important reason. The Foundation is committed to being in partnership with some of the finest organizations in the world that are also focused on keeping their own torch burning

brightly. It is the Foundation's great privilege to support those individuals and organizations focused on making a better and safer world.

We see the torch of concern and commitment take shape in many different ways, from supporting our troops directly, to promoting a message of coexistence in the Holy Land, to staying the course on land mine removal in the world's most troubled regions. The Julia Burke Foundation's torch burns brightly, today, through the work of its partner organizations.

Marilyn Burke

I'M A JULIA PERSON



Ethan Albritton representing JBF at the park.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WHAT'S NEW?

As I reflect upon the last year, I would like to share with you a snapshot of our recent activity.

The Foundation is pleased to join in partnership with two new grantees, Troops Direct and The Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development.

Aaron Negherbon, President and Founder of Troops Direct is making an amazing difference in the quality of life for our Marines who are operating on the front-lines in Afghanistan. Troops Direct provides not only items which will improve the physical quality of life for our soldiers, but also sends a message of emotional support, which is priceless.

Rabbi Jonathan Neril, Founder and Executive Director of The Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development, was Julia's friend and debate partner at College Preparatory High School, and was also



injured in the accident that took her life. After obtaining his bachelor's and master's degrees at Stanford, Jonathan became an ordained rabbi in Jerusalem. The center he has founded brings together leaders of various religions to teach the importance of environmental sustainability.

The Julia Burke Foundation is proud to assist these new non-profits in their endeavors.

I also would like to invite everyone to join us at the Annual Reunion and Walk, which will be held one week earlier in December than in the past. Our Walk this year will be held on Sunday, December 18, 2011 (the Sunday before Christmas) at the San Pablo Visitor Center. For additional information, please check our website, www.JuliaBurkeFoundation.org.

Joy Johnson



TEAM HALO AND THE RACE TO CLEAR LANDMINES

In 2011, our grantee The HALO Trust was an official charity partner in two U.S. marathons: the San Francisco Marathon at the end of July and Washington D.C.'s Marine Corps Marathon in late October. Participating runners had the opportunity to support HALO's mission — getting landmines out of the ground, now — and earn free registration bibs by raising donations for HALO USA.

Eight runners ran with San Francisco's Team HALO. The

night before the race, Marilyn & Jerry Burke and Jonathan Cowperthwait of the JBF board joined several runners and HALO staff members Claudia Delgado and Amy Currin for a spaghetti dinner at Jon's home; and Jon participated in the marathon's first half, setting a personal record time of Finishing At All.

Local runners interested in training with fellow Julia People to run a future HALO race should contact HALO at: mail@halousa.org or Jon at j@cowp.co.

MAKING SMART COOL BAUDL

By Dmitri Seals, Executive Director, Bay Area Urban Debate League

The support of the Julia Burke Foundation has made a real difference for Bay Area youth and families over the past three years. Thanks to this support, we have brought the transformative voice-centered pedagogy of debate to more than 700 students in 14 schools in San Francisco, Oakland, and now Emeryville. These students — and the coaches and volunteers who give so much of their time to open debate opportunities for them — are indebted to the Foundation for this chance to follow in the footsteps of their more privileged peers.

According to our students, there are two things that our organization most clearly does better than any other program. First, we inspire students whose voices are ignored or silenced in traditional classrooms not only to take stands on issues (plenty of programs do this) but to **take stands backed by rigorous evidence**. Second, we use a fun, competitive community to raise expectations and enable young people to **pursue excellence unlimited by contexts of underachievement**.

As support from our schools and districts grows, we are closing in on the transformative goal of **making smart cool** developing a cadre of eloquent debaters on each campus that help their peers find the benefits of intelligence and change those contexts of underachievement over time.

The Summer Institute, the Travel Scholarships, and the League Championships that The Julia Burke Foundation make possible are crucial pillars for the work we do. As we grow in our capacity to serve more students, to send our varsity debaters out to debate on the national circuit, and even to contribute to their research skills and their commitment to solving the problems of the communities around them, BAUDL and The Julia Burke Foundation keep these pillars standing. For more information, visit www.baudl.org.



Participants at the BAUDL League Championships 2011



A LIFE OF POSSIBILITIES STUDENTS RISING ABOVE

By Lynne Martin, Executive Director Students Rising Above

Students Rising Above (SRA) is proud of its 90% (and rising!) college graduation rate, but that's only part of the story. In addition to fulfilling the dream of a college degree, we ensure that by the time our students graduate, they have strong resumes filled with meaningful professional experiences that have given them the skills, confidence and connections to be competitive as they transition from college to career. How do we find these opportunities, especially in today's challenging economy, where this kind of experience is more crucial than ever? The answer is hard work combined with the generosity of The Julia Burke Foundation.

A portion of the funds from The Julia Burke Foundation grant supports our growing career guidance and summer internship programs. Just as the number of students in SRA has been growing every year, we have also increased the number of internship placements each summer. This year we placed 52 students in rewarding internships, up from 39 in the summer of 2010.

Dalvin Butler, a junior at Georgetown University, interned for the San Francisco District Attorney's office this summer. "It's a great honor and pleasure to serve as an intern in the DA's

office. As a future attorney and politician, this was a once in a lifetime experience." Dalvin's supervisor was equally enthused, "Dalvin exhibits the hallmarks of an exemplary and faithful student of SRA, namely a profound sense of self, commitment to and respect for others, and burgeoning leadership skills."

Support from The Julia Burke Foundation helped make this opportunity possible for Dalvin and 51 other SRA students. "Their support gives hard working students the opportunity to participate in life-changing experiences," commented Lynne Martin, Executive Director. Additionally this year, the organization was proud to appoint Jerry Burke to the SRA Board of Directors.

SRA graduate Kira Lillard may have said it best — "SRA helps students see the world as a place of possibility." The Julia Burke Foundation believes in the possible. For more information, visit www.studentsrisingabove.org.

Pictures on left: Top, Wendy Tokuda (Founder of SRA) and Jonathan Cowperthwait, JBF Board Member at the SRA Annual Gala in San Francisco, California. Bottom, Dalvin Butler

PRIVILEGED TO REPRESENT THE FOUNDATION

By Roberta Murphy, JBF Board Member

As a member of the Board of Directors of The Julia Burke Foundation, I am privileged to participate in various activities that are part of the important work of the Foundation. Our mission and the focus for over thirteen years has been to support those interests and important causes that were meaningful to Julia. These included national debate, rowing, and music. But the circle quickly widened to include causes that Julia felt passionate about, such as organ donation, international relations, and serving people who are disenfranchised due to poverty or lack of education. The Foundation's reach quickly became international through its partnership with the HALO Trust and its support of land mine removal in places far removed from Northern California, Julia's home. Now there are several international initiatives the Foundation supports. Representing the Foundation on several occasions has allowed me to see first-hand the high esteem that is given to the Foundation by the many organizations and individuals it has touched. I am impressed by how often those who receive Foundation support express that they find special value in this relationship because they are an extension of Julia's reach. They understand how they honor Julia through their own commitments to serve others.



Robbie Murphy, Cindy McCain, Jonathan Cowperthwait; San Francisco, CA

A POWERFUL PARTNERSHIP HALO

By Roberta Murphy, JBF Board Member

Board members Jon Cowperthwait and Robbie Murphy represented The Julia Burke Foundation at a luncheon hosted by Cindy McCain, a board member of HALO USA and wife of Senator John McCain, in San Francisco on May 21, 2011. The Foundation has sponsored landmine removal and weapons destruction through The HALO Trust in several war-torn countries. This event provided an opportunity for these two board members to discuss, with other potential donors to HALO USA, how effective the partnership is between the Julia Burke Foundation and The HALO Trust.

By January 2011, twenty-two years after its founding, HALO has reached some important milestones that include:

- over 1.3 million landmines destroyed
- over twelve million items of larger caliber ordnance destroyed
- over fifty million bullets destroyed
- over 2,800 heavy weapon systems immobilized
- over 129,000 assault rifles destroyed
- over 7,400 minefields cleared
- 27,367 hectares (67,625 acres) made safe from landmines
- 128,785 hectares (318,235 acres) made safe from unexploded and abandoned ordnance
- 12,409 kilometers (7,710 miles) of roads cleared

These statistics, which may appear bland, are a testament to the dedication of HALO staff conducting one of the most inherently dangerous jobs on earth, and the generosity of donors, including The Julia Burke Foundation, who understand that our work directly saves lives, and allows a return to normal rural livelihoods in some of the poorest countries in the world.

For more information, visit www.halotrust.org.

TELL YOUR FAMILY YOUR WISHES!



Take pride in your decision to become an organ donor and communicate this choice to your loved ones. Your decision can save the lives of eight people and enhance the lives of 50 more. With those kinds of odds, Julia said, "This is a no-brainer!"

Sign up online:

www.donatelifecalifornia.org

To become an organ donor today.

MINDFULNESS MATTERS MINDFUL SCHOOLS

By Laurie Grossman, Community Outreach Coordinator, Mindful Schools

"The growth in recognition of the need for mindfulness in education and the excitement and enthusiasm from people all over the globe are tremendous. We are happy to be able to meet the demand, especially with the launching of our online training, that The Julia Burke Foundation supported," said Kate Janke, Training Director for Mindful Schools.

It has been quite a year for Mindful Schools. We separated from Park Day School and are now our own nonprofit organization. With new offices and new employees, our revised mission is to be a leader in the integration of mindfulness into education.

After learning to put on a mindful body—a technique for increasing focus and awareness—a 2nd grader raised his hand and said, "I feel like \$1,000 dollars." And after a minute of focusing on her breath, a 5th grader said, "I feel relaxed and I don't feel mean."



Students practice Mindfulness exercises

"When the bell rings at the end of the day, mindfulness goes home with the children," Mrs. MacDonald, principal of Franklin School told us. Over 52% of our students teach mindfulness to family and friends.

This coming year is sure to be an exciting one

as, with the Foundation's support, we focus our efforts on research providing the evidence that indeed, mindfulness is a vital tool for students and teachers that belongs in the classroom.

The Julia Burke Foundation has been with us all the way and we are incredibly grateful! For more information, visit www.mindfordschools.org.



Participants at the Lafayette Summer Music Workshop



JOINED THROUGH JAZZ GENERATIONS IN JAZZ

By Jill Schlichtmann, Board Member, Generations in Jazz

The weeklong Lafayette Summer Music Workshop serves 195 students of Jazz—of all ages—and supports a 40-member faculty comprised of world-class professional musicians, recording artists and music educators. The Julia Burke Foundation provided 50 students with full or partial scholarships to attend the camp, based on both need and merit, which ran in August 2011. In so doing, the Foundation continues to support the workshop goals, including: improving musicianship with a pathway from entry level to the professional level; the development of life skills such as listening, collaborating, responsibility, respect, competency and confidence; and providing students the opportunity to work directly with music professionals from across the country and with other music students with similar passions.

The camp benefited greatly from the participation of these scholarship recipients, none of whom could have attended the workshop without financial support. One student, in particular, auditioned and was placed in the highest combo, and her performance brought down the house. She plans to study music in college. She said, "I want to thank you so much for giving me the chance to attend and experience Lafayette Jazz Workshop. I appreciate you for providing for me. I've been having a lot of fun and learning a bunch from these amazing musicians. This has been one of the best camps I've attended. I cannot thank you enough. You're the best!!!"

For more information, visit www.generationsinjazz.org.

THE JULIA BURKE AWARDS FOR DEBATE

The Julia Burke debate awards recognize the spirit and character of young debaters at both the local and national level. The Julia Burke Award for Debater of the Year, given by The College Preparatory School, honors the debate team's graduating senior who best exhibits excellence in debate combined with love for and commitment to the activity. The 2011 winner of this award is Vinay Pai. When asked to describe the importance of debate in his life, Vinay responds:

Debate forced me to do the things I love most, which I would otherwise have lacked the focus and conscientiousness to pursue on my own. It may sound trite, but debate changed my life – I would not trade that experience for anything.

Vinay now debates for the University of California at Berkeley, where he is a freshman.



THE COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
Oakland, California
Julia Burke Debater of the Year Award
Recipient: Vinay Pai



TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS
Lexington, Kentucky
Julia Burke Award for Character and Excellence in National High School Policy Debate
Recipient: Nadeem Farooqi
School: Damien High School, La Verne, CA
Designated Charity: Tijuana Outreach



AMERICAN DEBATE ASSOCIATION NATIONALS
Harrisonburg, Virginia
Julia Burke Award for Character and Excellence in National College Policy Debate
Recipient: Ben Saunders,
School: The University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, VA
Designated Charity: Students Helping Honduras

THE DEBATE GROWS ROUND ROBIN

By Lexy Green, The College Preparatory School

Each February, the College Preparatory School hosts The California Round Robin, the premier policy debate round robin competition on the West Coast, just before the California Invitational at the University of California at Berkeley. In 2011, with support from the Julia Burke Foundation, College Prep expanded the scope of the competition by adding Lincoln Douglas and Public Forum debate. Twelve of the top Policy Teams, Lincoln Douglas debaters, and Public Forum teams came to the Bay Area for the event, including debaters from as far away as Washington, D.C., Florida, and Maryland. A total of sixty debaters from ten states competed in the round robin. This competition is unique in the world of high school debate because experts on the topics being debated evaluate the final round debates. Video of the final round and post debate critique is available online at <http://nfltv.org/2011/02/24/cal-round-robin-policy/>. For more information, email lexy@thecollegepreparatoryschool.org.



TOP FLIGHT DEBATE CAPITOL DEBATE

By Ron Bratt, CEO and Founder, Capitol Debate

Capitol Debate, in partnership with The Julia Burke Foundation, continues to send more outstanding debaters to national tournaments, and these travel opportunities are really paying off. Every year of national travel brings exponential improvement to a debater's skill, translating into both tournament wins and academic success.

Competitive debaters who have been sponsored by the Julia Burke Foundation grant to travel nationally are demonstrating that success is defined by more than the number of trophies on the shelf. These debaters are also matriculating into top universities across the country. Students testify that their debate programs, and the opportunity to challenge themselves against top competitors nationwide, have positively influenced their academic success and ability to perform well on college entrance exams, and at interviews. These students are also afforded a visibility to college coaches that is simply not available to local debaters.

Of course, the amazing and increased success of our team of debaters is also not to be missed! Without the support of The Julia Burke Foundation, our ability to develop our team at the national level would simply not exist. As a result of the Foundation's support, we experienced great success this past season. Capitol Debate teams won the Harvard University JV Tournament and the Capitol Debate Fall Classic. Capitol Debate teams consistently had teams in elimination rounds at national tournaments, including Wake Forest, Lakeland, Georgetown Day School, and The Barkley Forum at Emory. Capitol Debate had a team invited to the Harvard Round Robin and made the prestigious Tournament of Champions.

In short, we greatly appreciate the legacy that is being developed through each enthusiastic young person whose life is being enhanced through participation in competitive debate in Julia's honor. Thank you for your support! For more information, visit www.capitol-debate.com.



Marilyn Burke, President of JBF and Professor J.W. Patterson, Founder of TOC

MARILYN BURKE HONORED

During the Breakfast of Champions at the 40th Annual Debate Tournament of Champions, held annually at the University of Kentucky, Professor J.W. Patterson surprised Marilyn Burke by announcing to the 600 attendees that she had been selected to be inducted into the Tournament's Distinguished Hall of Service. This roster represents those individuals who have provided sustained support to the tournament. Marilyn, President of the Julia Burke Foundation, has attended the tournament for twelve years. Each year, the Foundation awards the "Julia Burke Award for Character and Excellence in Debate" to a debater

who is selected by both peers and coaches as the debater in attendance that best demonstrates these attributes as a debater.

In receiving this honor, Marilyn said: "I am humbled by the bestowing of this honor on me. It has been my privilege to support the TOC these many years. The TOC brings together, for one weekend, some of the nation's best and brightest high school minds to engage in intense, rigorous debate. The Foundation is proud to support debate and the TOC in particular."

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MARIN AQUATIC CREW TEAM

The Marin Aquatic Crew Team was this year's recipient of the Julia Burke Trophy. The trophy is presented by the Oakland Strokes rowing club, at the U.S. Southwest Regional Junior Championships.

For more information, visit www.OaklandStrokes.org.



Photo by: Tim Humphrey



NEW BOATHOUSE OPENS

The Oakland Strokes Rowing Club has a new home for its watercraft, including the eight-man shell The Julia Burke, in the new and expansive Tidewater Boating Center. The new boathouse, secured in part through a grant from The Julia Burke Foundation, sits on the shore of the Oakland Estuary in San Leandro Bay at Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline.



The Oakland Strokes, in a heartwarming gesture, remembered Julia at the dedication of their new boathouse, by flying a purple flag that said, "Julia" on their flagpole.

Memorial Walk 2011

The meeting place for our Memorial Walk and Reunion will be INDOORS at:

San Pablo Reservoir Recreation Area Visitor Center
7301 San Pablo Dam Road
El Sobrante, CA 94803

We will have talented student musicians from Stanley Middle School, refreshments, heat, and sweeping views of the reservoir in our new venue. There will be an easy walk, less than one mile. This is not a fundraiser, but a reunion, a chance for everyone to catch up and visit in honor of Julia Burke's birthday. We look forward to seeing you there! For more information, visit www.JuliaBurkeFoundation.org.

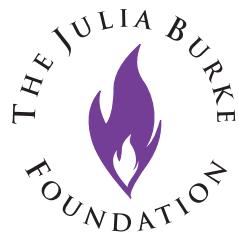
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2011 SAN PABLO RESERVOIR VISITOR CENTER 9:00 AM–10:30 AM



Photography by Julia Burke

“Life is no ‘brief candle’ to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for a moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.”

George Bernard Shaw From Julia's book of favorite quotations.



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