

# Young Heroes Day 2010

by LPB Programming Department intern Brooke Barone.

They go out of their way to help others in need, they remain strong through the hardest walks in life and not for a second do they question it. Their selfless acts have not gone unnoticed.

Today I had the honor of getting to know the 2010 Young Heroes winners. I didn't realize I was with a group that would make a lasting impression on my life.

We started the day off with breakfast at LPB and then moved into the studio where I pretended to be Vanna White and presented them with all of their gifts!



The Young Heroes with their mentors in the LPB Studio



Just meeting the incredibly spunky Hien can brighten anyone's day!

Then we got on the bus and headed down to the state museum. The first floor was full of stories and artifacts about Louisiana's history and how the state came together. The second floor was the favorite of most of the Young Heroes. On this floor, it was livelier and had fun, Cajun music playing along with other unique characteristics only found in Louisiana!



You would never know this was the first time Katie and a former 2003 Y.H. winner, Amanda Pittman, met. They were like two peas in a pod!



Antonio looked like he was ready to start dishing out New Orleans' classic Lucky Dogs!



Bo gets his inspiration from his favorite statue - The Virgin Mary.



After a few hours there, we went to the governor's mansion to eat lunch, which was prepared by DEMCO. After everyone finished eating, the Young Heroes were presented with certificates and took group photos. We were able to tour the governor's mansion, where a tour guide explained all the painted murals on the walls and the history of this mansion. Each governor has their own little personal item painted on the walls that reflected them when they were in office. It was really fascinating to be in the same place the governor and past governors lived.



Ryan, Antonio and Sean being presented with a certificate from Senator Buddy Shaw from the Shreveport/Bossier area.

Calob gets the award for coolest hair style.



This group has been through tougher times than most people will fare in their entire lifetimes. You couldn't tell because they live their lives like nothing happened. They don't consider themselves different, they're students who play sports, write essay and hang out with friends.



I'm a perfect example of what these individuals do: touch and inspire the people around them without realizing it. I walked away with lifetime friendships.

After the tour, they ventured to LSU's campus to take a tour and see Tiger Stadium. Most had not seen the campus nor where the Tigers played. The entire day, everyone kept a smile on their faces, including me. When I had to leave, I was taken aback at how sad I was leaving them. I had no idea how much this day meant to me until I had to go. I know all of them will continue to inspire others and continue down a path full of achievement and satisfaction. They were such a bright and youthful group that I know will benefit their communities in so many ways.