

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Young Philanthropists to donate proceeds from second annual gala towards victims of Darfur, Sudan genocide** *May 13<sup>th</sup> fundraiser will pay for a water distribution system in Chad and raise awareness at home*

LOS ANGELES, March 8, 2005 – The Society of Young Philanthropists (SYP) announced today its second annual gala on Saturday, May 13, 2006 to benefit an international relief organization in Chad, via American Jewish World Service (AJWS). This is the organization's second gala, the first event with AJWS. AJWS' work in Chad is directly responding to the genocide in Darfur, Sudan, by providing health care to an estimated 20,000 refugees and Chadian host nationals.

"We chose to give to AJWS based on the fact that it breathes life into our imperative to pursue justice and act upon a deeply felt obligation to improve the chances for survival, economic independence and human dignity for all people," said Sharon Neman, VP of Community Relations for SYP. "We are striving to raise awareness among our generation, through education, social activism initiatives, and immediacy. The culmination of our efforts will be the gala event where we all these aspects will come together and shed light on this very important issue."

The gala will feature open bar, sponsored catering, live entertainment and raffle prizes. Confirmed sponsors include the Beverly Hills Hilton, Warner Independent Pictures, Smashbox, Davines Hair Products, Organic To Go, and Spa on Location. VIP table buyers will enjoy complimentary bottle service and gift bags. Tickets to the event will be available April 15, 2006 for minimum donation of \$175.

Last year's gala raised \$30,000 for two separate charities. SYP motivates young philanthropists by collaborating with and fundraising for various non-profits, choosing a new beneficiary for each event.

An international development organization, American Jewish World Service (AJWS) is committed to alleviating poverty, illiteracy and disease throughout Africa, Asia and the Americas. AJWS believes that empowering individuals and communities regardless of race, religion or nationality advances human dignity and transforms the world for the better.

The Society of Young Philanthropists is a non-profit, public benefit organization. It is a platform designed to raise awareness, and promote charitable causes among young professionals through social events. SYP aims to instill the next generation of professionals with a sense of commitment to philanthropy. SYP provides opportunities for eager young philanthropists to involve themselves by supplying their business, social or educational resources. Events mutually benefit members by integrating them into a network intended to facilitate common philanthropic and professional interests.

For additional information on the genocide in Darfur and up-to-date details for the gala, visit: <http://www.philanthropysociety.org>.