

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Service-Learning Champion Wins National Honor

SAINT PAUL, Minn. (January 20, 2015) — Joe Follman, VISTA Director at George Washington University, Washington D.C., is the recipient of a national honor recognizing his work. The Service-Learning Practitioner Leadership Award, given by the National Youth Leadership Council with support from UPS, celebrates those who have equipped young people to lead and serve. The award will be given during the 26th Annual National Service-Learning Conference® on April 10, 2015 in Washington D.C.

“NYLC is honored to present Joe with the Service-Learning Practitioner Leadership Award,” said NYLC CEO Kelita Bak. “From his time as a teacher in the classroom to his work with service-learning stakeholders at all levels to help develop policy and curricula, Joe exemplifies what it means to be a service-learning practitioner.”

Follman is currently a doctoral student in the Human and Organizational Learning program at the George Washington University Graduate School of Education and Human Development. For 17 years prior to his enrollment, he directed Florida Learn and Serve and the Florida Alliance for Student Service where he held 44 statewide service-learning conferences and presented at more than 200 other conferences. He has placed VISTAs in K-12 and higher education institutions to expand service-learning and developed mentoring programs and service-learning councils.

Follman also served as Director of Florida Campus Compact, as a board member and co-founder of the State Education Agency Network (SEANet), and as a Service-Learning United steering committee member. He hosted the Florida Service-Learning Institute for 14 years and has twice co-hosted the National Service-Learning Conference. He is a published writer and producer of over a dozen service-learning books, curriculum guides, manuals, and other publications.

The Service-Learning Practitioner Leadership Award is presented to a teacher or community member who has created a living legacy through service-learning practice. The award recognizes practitioners who have equipped young people to lead and serve, both through their direct service-learning instruction with youth and by nurturing other practitioners to expand their service-learning skills and knowledge.

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About NYLC

At the National Youth Leadership Council, we strive for a world where all young people are valued and called on to lead. With passion, creativity, and ingenuity, young people can address world issues while strengthening academic and learning outcomes through service-learning. To that end, we provide programs and services that **develop** young leaders, **support** educators, and **advance** the field of service-learning. Visit www.nylc.org to learn more about NYLC and service-learning.

About the National Service-Learning Conference

The National Service-Learning Conference brings together youth and adults from across the country and around the world for three and a half days of learning, inspiration, and connection for those who view

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youth as solutions for stronger communities and schools. For more information, visit
www.nylc.org/conference.