



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Students, Cleveland and Samuel Lynch, Selected as Disney Summer of Service Winners to Create Positive Change in Their Community

(Philadelphia, PA) – December 15, 2017 – Cleveland Lynch (age 9) is a fourth-grade student from Philadelphia, PA. His brother, Samuel Lynch (age 7), is a second-grade student. Both children are the Co-Founders of Childlike Heart, Inc. and have been awarded a \$500 *Disney Summer of Service* grant through YSA (Youth Service America). Cleveland and Samuel are two of 270 young leaders across the country chosen to organize projects to help make their communities healthier, greener and stronger. Grantees will educate and mobilize their peers around the issue of Childhood Literacy creating solutions to increase literacy rates through awareness, service, advocacy, and philanthropic activities.

Service activities for “Reading with the Golden-Agers” will allow elementary school students to read to senior citizen members at a local organization. The literature selected for the project focuses on the theme of building community through intergenerational relationships. Through small group and whole group discussions, the children and adults will share the main ideas and lessons they learned from the selected readings. The project satisfies Pennsylvania Learning Standards and 21st Century Skills. Participants will address driving questions like: How can we help senior citizens stay connected with the academic experiences of children in their community? How can we help young children see the importance of senior citizens in their community? Planning is ongoing for the project to take place in January 2018.

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Founded in 1986, YSA (Youth Service America) supports a global culture of engaged children and youth committed to a lifetime of meaningful service, learning, and leadership. With half the world’s population under age 25, YSA’s mission is to help young people find their voice, take action, and make an impact on vital community issues. For more information, visit www.YSA.org.

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