

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT:
Kimberle Hall, 402-471-6228
kim.hall@nebraska.gov

Governor Honors Omaha Youth with Points of Light Award

Lincoln, Neb. – Asmini KC was chosen to receive the Governor’s Points of Light Award for Youth because of her volunteer work in her community, school and kids in other countries. Governor Heineman and First Lady Sally Ganem presented the award to Asmini on August 17, 2011 at a special ceremony at the State Capitol. Asmini KC, her sister, and parents came from Nepal when Asmini was only seven years old, and have lived in the U.S for nine years. Asmini is now sixteen and a junior at Millard West High School. Her volunteer spirit began at Lakeside Hospital when she was fourteen. She began volunteering one hour every other week, but soon realized that she liked to be in the hospital and increased her volunteerism to two hours every week for the whole year. She made a big impact on volunteering at the hospital, helped out many people, and encouraged fellow classmates to volunteer. Asmini volunteers at Barnes and Noble once a year in December to raise money for her school library. She also tutors many students at her high school in geometry, algebra and science. Asmini is involved in outreach efforts working with younger children and kids outside of the U.S. who don’t have access to resources. Asmini gives presentations to local elementary schools about safety and stranger danger. She coordinated a neighborhood picnic and all of the kids’ activities for the event, and with friends created a fundraiser to purchase extra school supplies for children in Costa Rica. Asmini’s close friend, Neha Pokharel, chose to nominate her, because she enjoys helping people in her community and kids in other countries. Asmini is definitely a bright light in her service to the Omaha community.

Also recognized at the ceremony and receiving the Adult Award was Michael J. Gallagher for his volunteer efforts to the Boy Scouts and devotion to Omaha Troop 395. The Group Award was presented to the Nebraska United Methodist Church-United Methodist Committee on Relief for their work in providing various kits; cleaning, health, sewing, school and birthing to aid in disaster relief in Nebraska and overseas.

Each quarter, a panel of judges from across Nebraska reviews award nominations and makes final recommendations to the Governor. To nominate individuals and groups for the Governor’s Points of Light Awards who have made a difference through volunteerism and service, visit the ServeNebraska website at www.serve.nebraska.gov or call Kimberle Hall 800-291-8911 or 402-471-6228. The next nomination deadline is September 15, 2011.

ServeNebraska pursues its mission of mobilizing Nebraskans to strengthen their communities through volunteering, collaboration and national service programs.

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