

Contact:

Linda White 952.931.3008

lgwhite@mac.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTV MEETS ARISTOTLE AND YOU'RE INVITED
Youth Frontiers Brings School Climate Retreats to Denver

Minneapolis—Youth Frontiers, a non-profit organization working to teach young people kindness, courage and respect, is bringing their powerful retreats to Denver area schools this fall.

Since 1987, the vision of Youth Frontiers has been to change the way young people treat each other in every hallway, lunch line, and classroom of every school in America. Youth Frontiers works to improve school climate and strengthen student character in schools throughout the nation by providing daylong retreats that help them experience and understand the importance of being kind, acting with courage, and showing respect to themselves and others.

According to the National Education Association, nearly 160,000 kids skip school each day due to a fear of bullying. At a time when school climate is at the forefront of youth issues, does it matter if kindness, courage and respect are taught in our schools? "Absolutely," said Joe Cavanaugh, founder and CEO of Youth Frontiers. "Too many kids get an 'A' in history and an 'F' in life. We need to educate our youth to value compassion over belonging and following the crowd."

These compelling retreats use a unique approach to reach students. An approach that can best be described as MTV meets Aristotle: music, dance and powerful discussions combine to speak to students on their level, and challenge them to respect themselves, respect their classmates and act with courage and character.

At the closing ceremony of each retreat, students are invited to stand up in front of their peers to share their thoughts and retreat experience. It never fails to be the most powerful, emotional, and heartfelt hour.

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Youth Frontiers offers three different retreats to help build a more caring school climate:

- *Kindness Retreat*: elementary school students learn the painful effects of bullying and the value of kindness.
- *Courage Retreat*: middle school students learn to honor one another by acting with courage despite their fears, and resist following the crowd.
- *Respect Retreat*: high school students learn how to respect themselves, respect others and stand up for the value of respect.

In the 2005/2006 school year, Youth Frontiers held 537 retreats nationwide. Last year alone, over 80,000 students and educators heard the life-changing messages of Youth Frontiers retreats.

Note to editors:

Youth Frontiers is a Minnesota-based non-profit organization working to improve school climate and strengthen student character. For more information about Youth Frontiers or one of the retreats, please visit www.youthfrontiers.org

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