



## Boston Named One of Nation's 100 Best Communities for Young People



*Award Showcases City's Efforts to Help Young People Succeed*

America's Promise Alliance, the nation's largest alliance dedicated to children and youth, today announced that Boston has been named a winner of its 2008 100 Best Communities for Young People competition. The competition recognizes communities across America that are the best places for young people to live and grow up. Each of the 100 recognized communities are eligible to apply for \$300,000 in grants from the Alliance.



**Chibuzo Ibeabuchi, an alum of the Mayor's Youth Council and student at Howard University accepted the award on behalf of Mayor Menino at a ceremony held in Washington, D.C. He is pictured here with Alma Powell, Chair of America's Promise Alliance and Marguerite Kondracke, President and CEO of America's Promise Alliance.**

"Cities and towns across the United States are demonstrating that the answer to keeping our youth heading in the right direction involves local leadership, innovation and action," Mayor Menino said. "The innovative strategies that we have put in place right here in Boston will have a lasting impact for generations to come. In particular, I am proud of the Camp Harbor View project that transformed a vacant space on Long Island into an oasis for hundreds of our young people each summer."

The City of Boston was recognized for innovative projects to keep children motivated and in positive environments such as Camp Harbor View, where transportation, meals and programming for 4 weeks at the City's newest camp are provided to 600 campers for \$5, and Boston R.O.C.K.S. (Recreational Opportunities for City Kids), a citywide campaign that identified programs and created new opportunities and positive activities for Boston's young people for the entire summer.

"The prosperity of every community and this country depends on how well we care for our children and youth," said Marguerite W. Kondracke, president and CEO, America's Promise Alliance. "Although no place is perfect, when we have communities that make young people a priority and are working to make sure they stay in school and have all the resources necessary to lead healthy, productive lives, we must recognize them and by extension inspire other cities and towns to follow their lead."

America's Promise Alliance is the nation's leader in forging a strong and effective partnership alliance comprised of corporations, nonprofit organizations, policymakers, advocacy and faith groups committed to ensuring that children receive fundamental resources. More information can be found at [www.americaspromise.org](http://www.americaspromise.org).

Source: Press Release, Mayor's Office, 1/24/08, [www.cityofboston.gov/news](http://www.cityofboston.gov/news)