

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

November 27, 2001

SCPS's Eddie Bergman receives student humanitarian award

Eddie Bergman, a junior at NYU's School of Continuing and Professional Studies, was one of six U.S. college students to receive the Howard R. Swearer Student Humanitarian Award in recognition of outstanding commitment to community service. Bergman received the honor in June during the National and Community Service Conference in Minneapolis, sponsored by the Points of Light Foundation and the Corporation for National Service. The award, sponsored by the Sallie Mae Community Fund, honors the life and work of Howard R. Swearer, 15th president of Brown University and one of three college presidents who founded Campus Compact in 1985, and is presented annually by Campus Compact, a national coalition of more than 750 college and university presidents who are committed to making community service an integral part of undergraduate education.

Students are nominated for the award by their college presidents. Each award includes a \$1,500 contribution to support a service program designed or chosen by the student. This year's recipients represent a wide range of community service interests, including domestic violence awareness, sustainable international development, peace activism, the digital divide, English as a second language, and public health.

Bergman is the first NYU student to receive the Swearer Award. His commitment to service began as a freshman in high school when he joined Students for 60,000, a community service club that provided direct aid and care for the needy both in the United States and internationally. He maintained his involvement with this club throughout his high school years and, during his senior year, initiated the club's first volunteer community project on the Ivory Coast of Africa. In January 2000 he co-founded a non-profit organization called Miracle Corners of the World Inc., which provides technical assistance, materials, supplies, and small interest-free start-up loans to help villagers launch their own businesses. "MCW strives to alleviate the daily struggles of those in need by working directly with small community groups and implementing a participatory development approach empowering participants to implement self-sustaining initiatives," says Eddie.

