Washington DC and New Haven, CT (June 2012) On June 19, a team of Students and Alumni of Yale ("STAY") leaders traveled to Washington DC for the Jefferson Awards for Public Service National Awards Ceremony. STAY President Brandon Levin, along with Sam Beard – one of the three founders of the Jefferson Awards with Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and U.S Senator Robert Taft, Jr. – announced a partnership between STAY and the Jefferson Awards for Public Service (the "Jefferson Awards"). Widely known as the “Nobel Prize for Public Service,” the Jefferson Awards has agreed to advise STAY in creating STAY/ Jefferson Awards to be given annually to three outstanding members of the Yale community – an undergraduate, a graduate or professional school student, and an alumnus/a – who distinguish themselves in service.

Over time, this ground-breaking partnership is also intended to advance key Jefferson Awards initiatives, while also giving STAY the chance to inject an added youth dimension to existing Yale student and alumni service initiatives.

About STAY. STAY’s mission is to change lives by bringing together Yale undergraduates, graduate and professional school students, and alumni through service, mentorship, and
community-building. This central purpose, previously-lacking among the Ivy+ group of universities, sets STAY apart. STAY offers a unique intersection of time and talent, and a way for three Yale communities (undergrads, graduate/professional students, and alumni) to form long-lasting, meaningful relationships. By breaking down the institutional boundaries that sometimes separate students from alumni, and by blending student energy and can-do attitudes with alumni wisdom and relationship networks, STAY’s mission reaches far beyond New Haven. Alumni relations leaders at Yale are pioneering innovative collaborations in alumni community service. With students alongside alumni, STAY aims to change lives--not merely the lives of Yale students and alumni, but also lives in communities far beyond Yale’s day-to-day reach.

(For more information please visit www.yale.edu/stay or email stay@yale.edu)