



### Role Models and Message

As you know, students' views of themselves and the world around them are significantly shaped by their role models. More than any other role models, today's youth are influenced by the entertainers and personalities they hear on their ipods & the radio and see on TV & in the movies. I know I don't need to tell you that not all of these role models inspire positive values.

With our presentation, your students will get a chance to meet a very special breed of entertainers. HOJA performers are very positive, enthusiastic, and committed to achieving our personal goals and ambitions. We care about people. We respect and support each other and everyone we meet. We work hard and have achieved great success. We take the time to meet and talk to students one on one because we know how much it means to them. We love what we do and are thankful for the opportunities we get to enjoy every day.

Not only do we demonstrate to your students what can be achieved if you pursue your dreams by example. Throughout the show and especially in our message following the performance, we encourage and inspire your students to seek out and discover their own talents, to pursue their interests and passions, and to work hard at achieving their own goals and dreams. Each singer tells a personal story relating the three important things we did while we were growing up that helped us make our dream come true – getting involved in a variety of positive activities to try them out, practicing and working hard, and believing in ourselves when facing obstacles such as peer pressure and bullying. We assure your students that they are just as talented and capable as we are, and that they can each become whatever they want to be if they follow the same steps.

We find that, because the students have a lot of fun during our show and we relate well to them, they drop their 'listening defenses' and really do pay attention, absorbing our message and internalizing some concrete skills for shaping their lives. We know that, by inviting us to perform at your school, you are giving us the opportunity to be a significant influence in your students' lives, and we take a lot of pride in living up to that responsibility.

*"They reinforced the important message of living out your dreams, following your aspirations and leading a positive lifestyle. HOJA took the time to meet with students and staff after their performance and answer questions. They were very professional and respectful in all aspects of their performance and as guests of our school. Our staff appreciated the positive role model influence the group portrayed."*

- J. Campbell, Principal, Walker Elementary, Regina, SK

*"Equally impressive was the marvelous way in which HOJA helped to develop our character education theme of diligence that we had introduced at the beginning of the assembly. Group members spoke sincerely about themselves and reminded our students of how persevering and working hard are essential ingredients to achieving success. Their discussion was a wonderful complement to the work teachers were doing in their classrooms."*

- Raegina Diceman, Music Teacher, Steinhauer School, Edmonton AB

*"The passion that you have for your music/work was evident throughout your presentation and well spoken through your message. Students need to hear others speak of their passions and experiences in a positive way. They need to hear often how important it is to follow your dreams and the importance of education. Both of these messages were very clear through your presentation."*

- Shelley LaCroix, Vice Principal, Holy Cross Catholic School, Grande Prairie, AB

*"Not only do you gentlemen have tremendous voices, but you also have huge, big hearts. We, as a profession, greatly need 'your voice' to help us make a positive impact on children. Thank you for your commitment to children and for the powerful message you leave at each place of performance."*

- Rose Wynnyk, Stewart Nicks School, Regina, SK

*"It was inspiring to hear a strong positive message delivered by the members of your group. Too often, children idolize performers who don't live by the standards that we hope our children will have as they mature. You had their attention as you told them to believe in themselves. We're sure it made a difference for many of them."*

- Lisa Kirtzinger, Elizabeth Elementary, Kindersley, SK

*"We would especially like to thank you all for the time you spent with the kids after the show. The thing that impressed us the most was how very polite and respectful you all were. Our school values are Honor, Respect, and Responsibility, and you all demonstrated that the entire time you were in our school. We will recommend you to everyone not only for the great entertainment but also for the excellent role models that you are."*

- Rhonda Dimen, Parent Council President, McDermid Community School, Regina, SK