



## **Cougar Volunteer Spirit**

**A Public Relations Student Project**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **C OF C WEBSITE SALUTES STUDENT COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**Cougar Volunteer Spirit Honors Nearly 20 Civic-Minded Students**

What mental image comes to mind when thinking about our nation's college students? There are a few negative and stereotypical images that may be prevalent. In an effort to highlight the outstanding accomplishments of students in the area of public service and volunteerism, a College of Charleston website is featuring its student volunteers.

Called Cougar Volunteer Spirit and found at [www.cofc.edu/~volunteerspirit](http://www.cofc.edu/~volunteerspirit), the site is a project of a public relations class taught in C of C's Department of Communication by Patrick Harwood, a former public relations professional.

Whether volunteering for local organizations, on-campus initiatives, or distant public service activities, all of the students recognized have donated time and energy to worthy causes. Victor Wilson, the College of Charleston's Senior Vice President of Student Affairs, said, "The website illustrates the selfless dedication of these students to improving the lives of others."

Among the students recognized on the site are:

- Carly Sother – a junior who has worked with the college's Recycling Committee as well as Conservation Volunteers Australia
- Fritz Stine – a sophomore who has participated in Alternative Spring Break in Waveland, Miss., and is a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity.
- Cierra Rogers – a junior who was a member of the Model United Nations Conference as well as a "reading buddy" at the Charleston Development Academy Charter School.

"Some people in the general public have stereotypes of college students. This website shows how caring college students can be – about their fellow humans and other inhabitants of Planet Earth," Wilson added.

*Initiated in 2004, the Cougar Volunteer Spirit website is a project of public relations students in the Department of Communication at the College of Charleston. The ongoing project strives to recognize College of Charleston students who have sacrificed their own personal time to give back to their community. The site can be accessed at [www.cofc.edu/~volunteerspirit](http://www.cofc.edu/~volunteerspirit).*

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