

STACY PRESENTED CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AWARD FOR SUDAN PROJECT

Is history really doomed to repeat itself? Not if Jared Stacy of Morehead, Ky., has anything to do about it. Fifteen-year-old Stacy recently received the “Excellence in Civic Engagement Award” by a high school student. The award was sponsored by the Morehead-Rowan County Chamber of Commerce and the Center for Regional Engagement at Morehead State University.

Stacy is more than just your typical high school sophomore. Though he enjoys playing golf and baseball, he also enjoys informing his community about what is happening across the world in Darfur, Sudan.

According to Paula Stafford, Rowan County Senior High School assistant principal, students connected the actions taking place in Darfur with other genocides such as the Holocaust in World War II. With the students’ pro-active attitudes, the ‘Sudan Project’ was put into action to help prevent genocide, like the Holocaust, in their lifetimes.

“Jared skipped out on field days,” Stafford said. “He would come sit in the office and work on the ‘Sudan Project.’ He took all the initiative himself with this project, along with many others.”

Stacy stated the Sudan Project was not only about raising money for the people in Darfur, but also to raise awareness. The project’s goal was to raise one penny for every person killed in the Darfur genocide. The group collected \$700 in pennies, and after other donations, the group was able to donate \$1,600 to a non-profit organization working for Darfur.





“Kentucky, and the United States as a whole, needs to take action,” Stacy said. “With this project, we were able to get the community involved.”

Being the first year for this award category, Stacy has set the bar high for future nominees.

“Our communities are truly global in nature,” Stafford said. “To see such dedication and passion in Jared and the other students reassures me that our world – our community – is in good hands.”