FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE LaVanya Watkins Local Boy Scout Reports to the Nation (614)861-5232

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Photo courtesy of Simon Kenton Council

"Each year, as part of our congressional charter, the Boy Scouts of America is required to present a report to the speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. This report covers who the BSA is as an organization, the programs and initiatives we support, and our major accomplishments and contributions over the past year.

This report is a presentation of who we are and what we do as a community — from the organization as a whole down to each individual unit. Thus, we each own a little piece of it. To bring that important point home, each year a delegation of representatives from a range of Scouting programs is selected to travel to Washington, D.C., to share how Scouting's programs are building lasting character in the next generation of leaders and strengthening communities through service. The delegation represents all areas of Scouting and every region of the country."



This year one of Ohio's Boy Scouts, Te'Lario Watkins II was chosen to represent the Cub Scouts. Te'Lario is an 11 year old entrepreneur, speaker, published author and Hunger Hero. Te'Lario started his mushroom farm after a Cub Scout Project ended when he was 7 years old.

<u>Tiger Mushroom Farms</u> is a crowd favorite at the different farmers markets where he sells his fresh and dried mushroom products. One of his top sellers is his Shiitake & Onion Soup Mix. It's used to



season meat and vegetables and it also makes a tasty dip.



Te'Lario became a Hunger Hero with <u>No Kid Hungry</u> when he realized some families relied on assistance to buy food. He wanted to help and he has raised awareness and

funds to help end hunger. Te'Lario also volunteers with <u>Food Rescue US</u> Food Rescue US partners with restaurants to donate their unsold food to food pantries. Te'Lario picks up and delivers the food to local pantries and has saved over 5,000 meals!

Several people began asking Te'Lario to share his amazing story and his speaking career begin. He recently became a Les Brown Certified Speaker and loves to share his story with schools, churches, rotary clubs and other organizations. Te'Lario wanted to reach more people with his story, so he wrote a book about his mushroom journey when he was 9. He wants to inspire kids and adults to **DREAM BIG!**





The character building skills Te'Lario has learned from his family & Boy Scouts has helped him become the successful young man he is today. Te'Lario is honored to represent the <u>Boy Scouts of America</u> in Washington,D.C.!

20 Under 20 Award Recipient~ Mayor of Columbus