



USO WORLD HEADQUARTERS
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March 9, 2009

Sergeant Major Kenneth O. Preston
United States Army
203 Army Pentagon
Room 3E541
Washington, DC 20310-0203

Dear Sergeant Major Preston:

Each year, the USO honors true American heroes at the USO Gala in Washington, D.C. Once again, we are asking that you select an outstanding and heroic junior enlisted member from the Army to receive the *USO Soldier of the Year Award*. This year's event will be held on October 7, 2009 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel.

The *USO Soldier of the Year Award* will be presented to a deserving E-5 or below. **Please identify a Soldier who represents the Army's heroic service, demonstrated through a specific act of heroism within the past 12 months.** We are especially interested in recognizing individuals involved in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. A copy of last year's Gala program, containing background information on the 2008 *USO Soldier of the Year*, is enclosed for your reference.

The selected Soldier and one guest will be our guests for a very special stay in Washington, D.C. We will provide transportation to and from Washington, hotel accommodations, meals, and ground transportation. The Service Member Honoree selected for this award will have the opportunity to participate in special tours of the White House and the U.S. Capitol Building, and attending meetings with members of Congress and military leadership.

The *USO Service Member of the Year Award* ceremony is the highlight of the USO Gala. Last year, patriotism and dedication to our country were illuminated in each of the recipients, and attendees were truly numbed by their service. With your help, this year's gala will be equally meaningful.

Please send detailed information about your honoree to Stacey Hacker, by May 1, including the enclosed summary information form and a detailed write-up to provide us with details of your selected honoree. Also, please include any letters of commendation citing the reasons your honoree has been selected. We will confirm the selection with your office, and then begin to make arrangements for the honoree's trip to Washington, D.C. for the gala. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Stacey Hacker at (703) 908-6453/shacker@uso.org.

Thank you for your assistance and for your support of the USO. I look forward to having the Army represented at this very special event and will see you in October.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Sloan Gibson".

Sloan Gibson
President
USO



Until Every One Comes Home.

SELECTED HONOREE SUMMARY INFORMATION FORM

Soldier of the Year
to be honored at the
USO Gala
October 7, 2009
Marriott Wardman Park
Washington, D.C.

Honoree Name: _____

Honoree Rank: _____ Honoree Unit: _____

Senior Enlisted Submitting Honoree: _____

Point of Contact for Senior Enlisted: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax #: _____ Email: _____

Signature of Senior Enlisted: _____

Honoree's Personal Information:

Name: _____

Resident Address: _____

Resident Phone
Number: _____ Fax#: _____ Email: _____

Office Phone Number: _____ Office Fax#: _____

Hometown: _____

The USO will need a current photo of the honoree for the award ceremony and printed program. **Please submit with your selection materials by May 1 a formal, color photo**, no smaller than 5"x7" size. Alternately, you may email the photo in a JPEG, 300 dpi format to shacker@uso.org, or send to: Stacey Hacker, USO, 2111 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1200, Arlington, VA 22201.

For more information, please contact Stacey Hacker at (703) 908-6453/shacker@uso.org.



Until Every One Comes Home.

SELECTED HONOREE DETAILED INFORMATION FORM

**Soldier of the Year
to be honored at the
USO Gala
October 7, 2009
Marriott Wardman Park
Washington, D.C.**

Please use this page to submit a detailed description of the honoree's act(s) of heroism. Please use additional pages as needed, and attach copies of any official letters of commendation, if available.

Honoree Name: _____