Secret Society of Happy People Releases Top 10 Happiest Happenings Of 2013

*The Secret Society of Happy People has released its Top Ten Happiest Happenings of 2013 that focus on people, events and things that made people smile.*

DALLAS, TX December 30, 2013—The Secret Society of Happy People has come up with the Top Ten Happiest Happenings of 2013. "Virtually every media organization releases a list of the best of or top ranked list of the year in the various genres they cover, but it's our job to focus on what has lifted the human spirit and made people feel joy, laughter or created a smile," says Pamela Gail Johnson, Founder of The Secret Society of Happy People (<http://sohp.com>).

The criteria for the Top 10 list by the Secret Society of Happy People is that the event, person or subject inspired people to be happy or focused on the actions of people who were uplifting to humanity. The list includes inspirational people, events, viral videos, or activities. Many of them were viral from the moment they were released such as Number 4 on the list: Grumpy Cat and Prancercise videos that made millions smile as they clicked play on YouTube.

Other events that made the list were people who were thrown into the spotlight unexpectedly, such as Number 6: Angelina Jolie's bravery when she went public with her decision to have a preventable double mastectomy because she carried a gene predisposing her to cancer. "She reminded us all that beauty is about what's on the inside and being healthy," said Johnson.

Two young people proved that one voice can be heard around the world. Number 7 was 15-year old Davion Only, an orphan who had one simple wish for a family who would love him. More than 500 families came forward to take him in to their families. "What Davion did was greater than his wish. He opened the hearts of people around the country and shined the spotlight on the thousands of children in foster care who need families," said Johnson.

The other teen on the list is Malala Yousafzai, a 16 year old girl who was shot by the Taliban for going to school in her native Pakistan not only recovered from her injuries, but stood up to prove that she wouldn't be silenced. She spoke to the UN General Assembly to call on the nations of the world to provide universal education for girls worldwide and had an audience with Queen Elizabeth in Britain and visited the Obama family at The White House, and went on The Daily Show with Jon Stewart to promote education as a solution to a more peaceful planet.

Number Two on the Secret Society of Happy People's list of happiest moments of the year was the mission of Pope Francis to promote love, brotherhood, and the focus of helping the less fortunate. "He's drawn Catholics and non-Catholics alike with his inclusive message of focusing on unity and love rather than dwelling on beliefs that divide," said Johnson.

The Number One happiest happening is less of an event and more of a cultural trend that makes people the world over smile—the word "selfie" being added to the Oxford Dictionary. It seemed that every day that a selfie went viral—from the pope posing with teens at the Vatican to President Obama posing for a selfie along with British Prime Minister David Cameron and Danish Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt at the celebration of Nelson Mandela's life. "There were naysayers that felt it was inappropriate, but if you study the photo, it really illustrated that even world leaders have real, human, happy moments that make them smile," says Johnson.

**About The Secret Society of Happy People:**

Pamela Gail Johnson founded the Secret Society of Happy People in 1998 to encourage the expression of happiness and discourage parade-raining. The SSOHP has thousands of members from more than 34 countries. Ms. Johnson is a public speaker for organizations and companies around the country who want to promote happiness among their members or employees. The Secret Society of Happy People offers free membership to anyone interested in learning how to improve their happiness quotient. The free membership includes a downloadable Happiness Word Poster, a monthly Happiness Happens newsletter and an optional Daily Happiness Inspiration email. The society also offers videos, books and daily inspirations to promote happiness.

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