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MCCA ANNOUNCES RECIPIENTS OF SECOND ANNUAL HOSPITALITY SCHOLARSHIPS
Four Massachusetts Students Benefit from Success of Gate Shows at BCEC

The Massachusetts Convention Center Authority (MCCA) today announced that four local Massachusetts students will receive academic scholarships in conjunction with its Community Partnership & Hospitality Scholarship Fund. This marks the second round of scholarship giving since the program launched in February, 2007.

“The great thing about this program is that it allows us to encourage and give back to those in our community who ultimately have an impact in the work we do,” said James E. Rooney, Executive Director of the MCCA. “It is important to make an investment in the education of these students now, as they are the future leaders of the hospitality world. We are proud to be able to support them as they begin their career in this industry.”

With the success of the gate shows held at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center and the program itself, the MCCA was able to double the number of scholarships awarded after just one year, honoring four students this year as opposed to last year's two. For the 2008 academic year, the recipients of the Hospitality Scholarship are: Thomas Johnson of Charlestown; Sau Yan Mui of Quincy; Sasha Packer of Holliston, and; Ashley Willard of Framingham.

An internal committee of the MCCA reviewed a competitive collection of scholarship applications and selected recipients based on the guidelines set forth by the Community Partnership & Hospitality Scholarship Fund. Applications were judged on the following criteria:

- Permanent resident of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- High school senior at an accredited high school or full-time, matriculated college student with declared major affiliated with the hospitality industry
- Cumulative credits reflecting senior in high school status or sophomore, junior or senior class college status
- Plans to seek a career in the hospitality, convention or tourism industry

The Massachusetts Convention Center Authority owns and oversees the operations of the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, the John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center, the MassMutual Center in Springfield, MA and the Boston Common Parking Garage. In 2007, the MCCA hosted 247 events at the BCEC and the Hynes, which drew in 852,728 attendees with 602,112 associated hotel room nights, generating \$494.2 million in direct economic activity for Greater Boston.

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