



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**APPLICATIONS FOR MCCA'S STATEWIDE STUDENT HOSPITALITY SCHOLARSHIPS
NOW AVAILABLE**

\$10,000 in Scholarship Funding Available for Future Hospitality Workforce

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Convention Center Authority (MCCA) today launched the fourth year of its Hospitality Scholarship Program, which awards academic scholarships to students pursuing an education in the hospitality field. Four scholarships of \$2,500 each are available annually to Massachusetts residents—two from Boston and two from other areas of the Commonwealth. The deadline for applications for the 2010 academic year is March 24th.

“The field of hospitality is quickly expanding, and as a leader in that industry, I believe it is important to assist in developing a strong workforce while encouraging our future hoteliers and event planners to pursue their educational goals,” said James E. Rooney, Executive Director of the MCCA. “These scholarships are a great way of bolstering our next generation of hospitality workers, and I am proud to once again be launching this program.”

An MCCA internal committee will review the applicants and select recipients based on the guidelines set forth by the Community Partnership & Hospitality Scholarship Fund. Applications will be 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.
- Plans to seek a career in the hospitality, convention or tourism industry.

In 2008, the MCCA doubled the amount of available scholarship funding just one year after the program's inception by raising the number of awards from two to four. Previous scholarship winners have pursued their hospitality educations at some of the field's top institutions, such as Cornell University, Johnson & Wales University and Boston University.

Since the Community Partnership & Hospitality Scholarship Program launched in 2007, the MCCA has awarded \$20,000 in eight academic scholarships to college students pursuing an education in the field of hospitality. The MCCA has also awarded more than \$266,000 in grants to 75 non-profit organizations in Boston – reaching out to every neighborhood of the city.

Funding for the Community Partnership & Hospitality Scholarship Program is supported by a portion of MCCA revenues derived from annual gate shows held at the BCEC, including the New England International Auto Show and the New England Boat Show.

For a complete list of the MCCA's scholarship guidelines, as well as a downloadable version of the application, visit: www.massconvention.com. All completed scholarship applications should be submitted directly to:

Dennis Callahan, Esq.
Community Partnerships & Hospitality Scholarship Fund
Massachusetts Convention Center Authority
415 Summer Street, Boston, MA 02210
(No copies, faxes or electronic files will be accepted.)

About the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority

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 2009, the MCCA hosted 208 events at the BCEC and the Hynes with 714,128 attendees, generating 521,556 hotel room nights and \$420 million in economic impact for Greater Boston.

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