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MCCA ANNOUNCES RECIPIENTS OF HOSPITALITY SCHOLARSHIPS
Two Massachusetts Students Benefit from Success of BCEC's First Gate Show

The Massachusetts Convention Center Authority (MCCA) today announced that two local Massachusetts students will receive academic scholarships in conjunction with its Community Partnership & Hospitality Scholarship Fund, which was launched in February. Kaley Taylor, a Chelmsford resident and 2006 graduate of Chelmsford High School, was selected to receive a \$2,500.00 scholarship to be put toward her hospitality management education at Endicott College in Beverly. Michael McGuire, the second recipient of the inaugural round of scholarships, is a Norwood resident and 2007 graduate of Norwood Senior High School, who will be studying hotel administration at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY beginning in September.

“As a leader in the North American convention industry, I believe it is part of the MCCA’s responsibility to encourage professional development within the visitor and hospitality industry,” said James E. Rooney, Executive Director of the MCCA. “These students are the next generation of hotel general managers, meeting planners and customer service representatives. We are pleased to be able to help support them in their career aspirations.”

The Community Partnership & Hospitality Fund was established by the MCCA subsequent to the lifting of the prohibition on hosting gate shows at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center (BCEC). The first gate show—the 51st Annual New England Boat Show—generated unanticipated revenue for the MCCA, allowing for the creation of academic scholarships to boost workforce development in the hospitality industry, as well as grant funding for local non-profit organizations. Two scholarships of \$2,500.00 each will be available through this program annually.

An internal committee of the MCCA reviewed more than 90 scholarship applications and selected two recipients based on the guidelines set forth by the Community Partnership & Hospitality Scholarship Fund. Applications were judged under 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 2006, the MCCA hosted 275 events at the BCEC and the Hynes, which drew in 696,522 attendees and generated 648,862 hotel roomnights, as well as \$528 million in economic impact for Greater Boston.

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