

Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS HOLDS ITS ANNUAL MEETING AND ANNOUNCES 2006 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands (CFVI) held its annual meeting on June 23rd at the Marriott Frenchman's Reef Beach Resort where CFVI's Chairman of the Board, Ricardo J. Charaf announced that the Foundation gave more than \$1,000,000 to the community during the past year in the form of grants, scholarships and services.

This past year the Foundation received additional monies from individuals, families and businesses to establish 10 new funds. In 2005, CFVI also awarded 42 mini-grants, 35 teacher grants and provided financial relief to 16 families facing emergencies.

Ricardo J. Charaf delivered a report to an audience of more than 150 donors, supporters, and grant and scholarship recipients gathered at the Foundation's annual luncheon meeting.

Charaf announced that this year marks the greatest number of scholarships awarded by CFVI, forty-six students were awarded almost \$80,000 in scholarships by donor-advised funds, permanently established scholarships at CFVI, community members and organizations.

Ashleigh Abbott received the Coral World Scholarship, which awards scholarships to Virgin Island students pursuing science degrees at accredited colleges or universities, with a particular focus on students interested in the marine sciences.

Jenielle Jeppesen and Tamara A. Simon both received scholarships from Driehaus Capital Management (USVI) LLC to attend the University of the Virgin Islands.

Jacinda Palmer of St. Thomas received the Artrelle M. Wheatley Scholarship, which grants one-year's full tuition to the University of the Virgin Islands.

The Theodore E. Sharp Scholarship, given to students who demonstrate community service, was awarded to Dynyce Boyce of St. Croix.

The Tunick Family Business Scholarship was awarded to Erica Donovan to attend the University of the Virgin Islands.

The following nine students received Anna Walsh scholarships of \$1,000 each for academic achievement: Brandon Gregory Aird, María Arroyo, Anita L. Etienne, Yanka De Aza, Rachael Gargano, Trinity Granger, Jenel Murray, Jonathan Rodríguez, and Nisha N. Sylvester.

Kyle Mills, a talented trumpet player received this year's William Otto and Shari Decker Music Scholarship.

A scholarship for graduate studies – the NSL 80th Birthday Scholarship was awarded to Makeda Okolo.

Charaf announced twenty-one scholarships that were created this month in response to an overwhelming number of applications received by the Foundation from an extremely talented pool of young people. These awards included two Charaf Family Fund scholarships, three Drury Fund Scholarships, one from the Alexander A. Farrelly Milestone Fund, one from the Charaf Family and Grishman Family Funds, one from the Peter Gruber Foundation Fund, five scholarships from the Lana Vento Fund for Youth Enrichment Activities, one from the McBride Family, one from Miller Properties, one Isaac and Rebecca Paiewonsky Scholarship and the USVI Education and Assistance Fund awarded five scholarships this year.

The recipients of these scholarships are: Zahur N. Anthony, Laverne K. Francis, Amberky Lynch, Latisha Ramsey, Crystal Diana Thomas, Megan Alexis Livisay, Eric Stanton, Aisha K. Gómez, Keith L. Abraham, Tischer Lockhart, Samuel R. Morris, Ebony C. Petersen, Joann A. Thomas, Lewis Letang, Moreen Tittle, Tromoui A. Malone, Danielle Edwards, Gyasi E. Hodge, Dennis A. Powell II, Tessa M. Richardson, and Janel D. Webster.

In addition, The Investment Security Services (ISS) Educational Fund at CFVI awards scholarships to 10th and 11th grade students from the Virgin Islands seeking to attend academically rigorous summer enrichment programs at state-side institutions of higher learning. This year, scholarships were awarded to six students. Anwar Gregory was granted \$5,500 for his tuition at Penn State's Summer Enrichment Program. The second recipient, Griffin McFarlane, an 11th grade student from All Saints Cathedral School, received a \$4,600 grant to attend the Pre-College Summer Program at Dickinson College. Dujuana Grell was granted \$3,875 for her tuition to the Junior Statesmen Summer School at Princeton University. Megan McGrath, a talented 10th grader with a 4.0 average at Antilles High School, was

awarded a grant of \$2,000 to attend the People to People Future Leaders Summit at Johns Hopkins University. Charnele Burton, a 10th grade student at the St. Croix Educational Complex, received a grant of \$784 to attend the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine. The sixth scholarship recipient is Kayalan Edmeade, a sophomore at All Saints Cathedral School who received a \$750 grant to attend the Smith College Summer Science and Engineering Program.

Please find the profiles of student scholarship recipients attached. For more information call CFVI at 774-6031.