



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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***MICHIGAN RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FOUNDATION
NAMES 2014 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS***

LANSING, MI – The Michigan Restaurant Association Educational Support Foundation (MRA ESF) presented \$16,000 in scholarships at its board of directors meeting on August 6. The scholarships are for post-secondary studies in culinary arts, restaurant management, or similar field.

“These scholarship recipients represent the best-of-the-best students in Michigan interested in a career in the restaurant and foodservice industries,” said Ken Wasco, MRA ESF board chairman. “On behalf of the MRA ESF board, it’s a pleasure to present these scholarships to help them in the next step of their education. We wish them all the best.”

Branch Area Careers Center (Coldwater)

Nick Blanton will attend the Secchia Institute for Culinary Education of Grand Rapids Community College. Nick received the GRCC Foundation Scholarship.

America DePaz will attend Grand Rapids Community College and Ferris State University to earn her degree in Hospitality Management. She received the GRCC Foundation Scholarship.

Olivia Parshall will attend the Culinary Institute of Michigan at Baker College in Muskegon to pursue a degree in Food and Beverage Management. Olivia received the ESF Trustee Board Scholarship and the IFSEA Scholarship.

Oakland Schools Technical Campus SE (Royal Oak)

Cheyenne Boinais is a graduate of the Oakland Schools Technical Campus SE and will attend the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York. Cheyenne received the ESF Trustee Scholarship and the IFSEA scholarship.

Saginaw Career Complex (Saginaw)

Karen Bell will attend Johnson and Wales University in Miami, Florida, to pursue a degree in Culinary Arts. She received the Havermill Foundation Scholarship.

Maria Buko will attend the Culinary Institute of America. Maria is the recipient of the ESF Trustee Scholarship.

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Northwestern Michigan College (Traverse City)

Sarah Nagel is currently working on her Culinary Arts Degree. Sarah is the recipient of the Matt and Vicki Durack Family Scholarship.

IOSCO RESA (Tawas City)

Tiffany Tyson will attend the Culinary Institute of Michigan at Baker College in Muskegon to pursue a degree in Culinary Arts. She is the recipient of the Millennium Restaurant Group Scholarship.

LISD TECH Center (Adrian)

Tyler Woody will attend the Secchia Institute for Culinary Education of Grand Rapids Community College. Tyler received the GRCC Foundation Scholarship.

In addition, two Michigan ProStart® teachers were also awarded the Harbor Restaurant Scholarships to pursue professional development studies. The recipients were Elisa Penczar, from Muskegon Career and Technology Center (Muskegon), and Heidi Rocha, from Clare-Gladwin RESA (Clare).

PHOTO: Left to right: Tyler Woody, Olivia Parshall, Maria Buko, Ken Wasco (MRA ESF board chairman), America DePaz, Sarah Nagel, and Nick Blanton.

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The Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA) is the recognized leader of Michigan's hospitality industry, providing essential services to the foodservice community. Founded in 1921, the MRA represents nearly 4,500 Michigan foodservice establishments. The industry plays an integral role in Michigan's economy, employing almost 400,000 people and creating more than \$13.4 billion in annual sales.