



Whatcom Community Foundation

CONNECTING PEOPLE WHO CARE
WITH CAUSES THAT MATTER

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **Bellingham Dollars for Scholars Awards over \$78,000 to Local Graduates**

Bellingham Dollars for Scholars, a program of the Whatcom Community Foundation (Foundation) recognized **90** outstanding students out of **167** applicants this year awarding more than **\$78,000** to Bellingham School District seniors.

With public higher education institutions facing budget cuts and student tuitions expected to fill the gap, a postsecondary education is slipping beyond the financial grasp of many of those who are society's future. These challenging economic times call upon our community to come together to support our own, and Bellingham Dollars for Scholars provides a vehicle to do just that. In turn, the scholarship program inspires students to achieve by showing that others care about them and their futures. This year the Foundation was grateful for the participation of many community groups, companies, families, and individual donors. These caring members of our community partnered with volunteers, the local high schools, and the Foundation to help Bellingham's deserving graduates secure the post-high school education necessary to fortify their economic future as well as sustain the continued viability of our community.

Students and donors will be honored and recognized at the Scholarship Celebration, Tuesday, May 31st from 5:30 to 7:00 PM at Fairhaven Middle School.

Please see the attached sheet for a complete listing of the many scholarships provided by our generous community members and for a complete listing of the students earning the scholarships. Donations for next year's scholarships are already being accepted; please contact the Community Foundation for information on how to participate.

Whatcom Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) Federal Nonprofit organization, connects people who care with causes that matter. Since its inception in 1996, the Foundation has awarded more than \$8.5 million in grants to a wide variety of charitable and educational activities in Whatcom County.

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