



Maui Hotel & Lodging ASSOCIATION

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MAUI HOTEL & LODGING ASSOCIATION AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO MCC STUDENTS - Visitor Industry Gives to Maui's Future Industry Leaders -

WAILUKU, MAUI – The Maui Hotel & Lodging Association recently awarded scholarships to six Maui Community College Spring Semester students from proceeds of the annual EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION Golf Tournament held last Fall. Four students from the Culinary Academy received \$500 and two Business & Hospitality students received \$1,000 scholarships. Students were recognized as outstanding achievers by their department coordinators.

Recipients of \$1,000 representing the Maui Community College Business and Hospitality Department are:

- Raquel Esteban – Raquel is a graduate of Maui High School and will be earning her Associate in Applied Science next Spring. As a school project last year, Raquel assisted the Maui Hotel & Lodging Association in planning last year's Kupuna Dinner and was a very valuable addition to the event team. After graduating from MCC, she plans to pursue a Bachelor's Degree at UH Manoa. Raquel is interested in obtaining a management position in the hotel industry.
- Caroline Nawatzki - Caroline is an outstanding student maintaining a 4.0 GPA and is the President of Hui Ho`okipa, a club for students at MCC who are interested in the visitor industry. Caroline's "passion for people and for perpetuating the Aloha spirit" is what draws her to the hospitality industry. Her goals include earning her degree at MCC and pursuing a career with the Four Seasons.

Maui Culinary Academy students receiving \$500 each include:

- Carolina Cellis-Curtin - Carolina is originally from Boston, MA and is a member of the college's Gourmet Travel Club. She is also the 2009 Bronze Medalist at the prestigious Chaine des Rotisseurs Young Chef Competition. Carolina's goal is to attain an Associate in Applied Science degree in culinary arts, baking and restaurant supervision. She is currently employed at Mama's Fish House as a saute and grill cook.
- Diana Hernandez - Diana is a 2008 Graduate of Lahainaluna High School in her 2nd semester at the Maui Culinary Academy. She currently carries a 4.0 GPA and is a member of the Gourmet Travel Club. Her goal is to attain an Associate in Applied Science degree in culinary arts, baking and restaurant supervision. Diana plans to continue culinary training with Maui's best chefs and one day own her own restaurant.
- Toby Matsubara – Toby is a 2005 Graduate of King Kekaulike in his 3rd semester at MCC. Toby is currently employed at Stinger Ray's and the Ka'anapali Beach Hotel; and is the recipient of the Seehafer Family Class Act Culinary Scholarship (a scholarship that's selected

by his peers). His goal is to attain an Associate in Applied Science degree and become a successful restaurateur specializing in local ingredients and island flavors

- Jonathan Pasion – Jonathan is a 2008 Graduate of Maui High School in his 2nd semester at the Culinary Academy. He currently carries a 3.7 GPA and is the Vice President and Treasurer of the Gourmet Travel Club. He is the 2009 Bronze Medalist at the prestigious Chaine des Rotisseurs Young Chef Competition. His goal is to attain an Associate in Applied Science degree; and eventually give back to the Maui community by sharing his passion for cooking as a Chef Instructor at the Maui Culinary Academy.

These future industry leaders were honored at the *Maui No Ka Oi* magazine's Aipono Awards ceremony in presence of hundreds of business and restaurant industry principals.

“It’s an honor to be able to provide for our future. These students excel in their respective areas and have been awarded for their achievements. We look forward to watching these stellar students turn into the next generation of business leaders,” says Carol Reimann, MHLA Executive Director.

The 2009 EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION golf tournament will be held on Friday, August 28 at Makena Golf Course. This popular event funds Maui’s Academy of Hospitality & Tourism, a curriculum in high schools for students interested in the visitor industry. It also provides for scholarships for Maui Community College students in the Culinary and Business & Hospitality programs.

The Maui Hotel & Lodging Association is a nonprofit organization founded in 1987 to advocate for the Visitor Industry. The organization also provides educational opportunities and scholarships, and gives back to the community via the annual Visitor Industry Charity Walk, Excellence in Education golf tournament and Kupuna Dinner. For additional information, contact MHLA at 244-8625.

PHOTO CAPTION: Maui Community College students receive Maui Hotel & Lodging Association scholarships: bottom row - Caroline Nawatzki, Toby Matsubara, Jonathan Pasion, top row: Carolina Cellis-Curtin, Raquel Esteban & Diana Hernandez



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