

For Immediate Release

State Magazine

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State Department Federal Credit Union
Awards \$20,000 to Thirteen Scholarship Winners

Alexandria, Virginia -- State Department Federal Credit Union's Board of Directors announced the winners of their twenty-eight Annual Scholarship Competition. Since the competition's inception in 1976, SDFCU has awarded more than \$300,000 in scholarships. This year's \$20,000 award fund was divided among twelve recipients.

SDFCU's 2004 Scholarship Competition winners are:

● **Kimberly Akern**

Providence College
Public/Community Service Studies

● **Sharnikya Howard**

Bennett College for Woman
Computer Science

● **Michelle Bernard**

Strayer University
Computer Networking

● **Sarah Price**

University of Maryland at Baltimore County
Health Administration and Policy

● **Lanier Coles**

Northwestern University
Healthcare Industry Management, Marketing

● **Carlena Solomon**

Bowie State University
Sociology/Criminal Justice

● **Marifat Chapoteau**

Marymount University
International Relations

● **Patrick Street**

University of Portland
Spanish/Communications

● **B. Thomas Hail**

Brigham Young University
Psychology

● **Umar Wada**

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Aerospace Engineering

● **Mikia Heard**

Ohio State University
Pre-Pharmacy

● **Jennifer Warren**

University of South Carolina
Nursing

"We are pleased to award \$20,000 in scholarships to our academically outstanding members," said Jan N. Roche, President/CEO of SDFCU. "We value education and assist our members by providing scholarships and education loans."

To qualify for the scholarship competition, students must be SDFCU members and have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours at an accredited college or university. The competition is open to both graduates and undergraduates who meet certain GPA and financial criteria.

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The Scholarship Competition was established in 1976. Since then, the annual award fund has increased from \$2,000 to \$20,000. Each year in February, scholarship applications are available by mail, online and at the Credit Union's five branches. All applications and transcripts must be received by mid-April for consideration.

In addition to scholarship funds, SDFCU offers education loans for students and their parents to finance college tuition -- Federal Stafford Loans (both subsidized and unsubsidized) and Federal Parent Loans to Undergraduate Students (PLUS).

State Department Federal Credit Union serves employees of the State Department. The Credit Union also serves National Credit Union Administration employees. The Credit Union has assets exceeding \$720 million with more than 62,000 members. See our website at www.sdfcu.org for more information.

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