

Golden Apple Foundation

NEWS RELEASE

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125 students named Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois

(CHICAGO — March 31, 2008) The Golden Apple Foundation today named 125 outstanding Illinois high school and college students as Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois, which is the largest pre-service teacher-support program in the nation.

Through a rigorous application and interview process, the Scholars program annually identifies, recruits and prepares bright and talented students, who represent a rich ethnic diversity, for successful teaching careers in schools of need throughout Illinois.

In exchange for financial assistance for four years to attend one of 53 public and private universities across the state, enrollment in summer programs that include teaching internships and enhanced teacher preparation, and continual mentoring by Golden Apple Award-winning teachers, Scholars must agree to teach for five years in an Illinois school of need, which is a school that serves low-income students or has below-par test scores. There are now more than 1,100 Golden Apple Scholars teaching or on their way to teaching in schools of need throughout Illinois.

The Scholars will be inducted at DePaul University Student Center, 2250 N. Sheffield Ave, in Chicago on Saturday, April 12. Reception is at 4 p.m. followed by the induction at 5 p.m.

The 125 Scholars include 45 from Chicago, 51 from Chicago suburbs, and 29 from downstate Illinois. The Scholars are 55 percent low income and 56 percent minority.

A list of the 2008 Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois, arranged by city, follows:

2008 Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois

Alton: Austen Chesnut, Alton HS

Aurora: Kierston Castleberry, East Aurora HS and Emily Densmore, Waubonsie Valley HS

Berwyn: Jessenia Quiroz, Morton West HS, and AnneMarie Casa, Illinois Wesleyan University

Bethalto: Elisabeth Knierim, Civic Memorial HS

Bloomington: Claire Current, Bloomington HS

Bradley: Jayne Huggins, Bradley Bourbonnais Community HS

Bridgeview: Daniel Buys, North Central College

Brighton: Katie Coles, Illinois College

Burbank: Andrea Chavarin, Micaela Gamboa, Meghan Maloney and Kristen Marshall, Queen of Peace HS

Calumet Park: Nakia Frazier, Northern Illinois University

Carpentersville: Courtnee Gonzalez and Sonalia Ramirez, Dundee-Crown HS

Catlin: Betsy Sudlow, Catlin HS

Chicago (alphabetical by school):

- Ileana Navarro, **Amundsen HS**; Sandra Gomez and Y'Donna Hill, **Bogan HS**; Evelyn Doyle, **Chicago International at Longwood HS**; Monique Ester, **Chicago Military Academy**; Bridgett Vance, **Clark HS**; Janira DelValle, **Clemente HS**; Tatanisha Robinson, **Curie HS**; Jennifer Colon, **Denison University**; Marshe Collins, **Englewood Tech Prep Academy**; Daniel Medina, **Farragut HS**; Natalie Thompson, **Foreman HS**; Nancy Barajas, Ruben Sanchez and Erica Zuniga, **Juarez HS**; Danny Pena, **Kelvyn Park HS**; Celestina Agyekum, Arlicia Ketchum and Jonathan Reiman, **Kenwood Academy**; Christopher Harlan, **King HS**; Xiaoli (Lily) Huang and Sydney Smith, **Lake View HS**; Adriana Rodriguez and Cynthia Smith, **Lincoln Park HS**; Raymond Wilson, **Manley HS**; Tatierra Bivens, Shannon Ruzevich and Matthew Silva, **Marist HS**; Shannon Echeverria, **Mather HS**; Luz Candelaria, Lorena Maldonado and Susan Rebolledo, **Noble Street College Prep**; Yamileth Sanchez, **North-Grand HS**; Edith Ramirez, **Notre Dame HS**; Jaime Castillo, **Rockford College**; Theresa Alanis, **Roosevelt HS**; Diona Montgomery, **Simeon HS**; Joseph Matuch and Sharee Onvezia, **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**; Kalimba Coates, Monicadejesus Fuentes and Branden Lancaster-Williams, **VanderCook College of Music**; Maria Irizarry, **Von Steuben HS**

Crestwood: Daniel Michau, Illinois State University

Crete: Alejandra Garcia, Crete Monee HS

DeKalb: Nicole Peele, DeKalb HS

Des Plaines: Ellen Krcik, Nicole Lascelles and Hanna Schmitz, Maine West HS

Dolton: Tiffany Ragsdale, Thornridge HS

East Moline: Emily Shoemaker, United Twp HS

East St. Louis: Anthonea Hyde and Wallace Miller, East St. Louis HS

Effingham: Elizabeth Howze and Ellen Sparks, Effingham HS

Elk Grove Village: Daniel Baker, Elk Grove HS

Elmhurst: Ebony Wrenn and Katherine Mundle, York Comm HS

Evanston: Portia Kirk, Evanston Twp HS

Evergreen Park: Audrey Noonan, Evergreen Park Comm HS

Galesburg: Katie Lusk, Galesburg HS
Gibson City: Brittany Zimmerman, Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley HS
Harvey: Kimberly New, Thornton Twp HS
Herrin: Joseph Ryker, Herrin HS
Hillsboro: Hannah White, Hillsboro HS
Hoffman Estates: Lisa Parente, Conant HS; Jennifer Damhauser and Heather Knobloch, Hoffman Estates HS
Lansing: Leah Rusk, Thornton Fractional South HS
Libertyville: Nicole Krampien, Libertyville HS
Lincoln: Kara Gehlback, Illinois College
Lockport: Paige Vanderschool, Lockport Twp HS
Lombard: Keisha Hoye, Glenbard East HS
Machesney Park: Amy Pacheco, Harlem HS
Mascoutah: Lena Trinkaus-Voirin, Mascoutah HS
Mendota: Adrienne Espinoza, University of Illinois at Chicago
Moline: Brianna McNinch, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Morton: Sarah Reinhofer, Morton HS
Naperville: Colleen Huck, Naperville Central HS
Northlake: Lisa Franco and Corinne Hillertz, West Leyden HS
Oak Lawn: Alexis Smith, Oak Lawn Comm HS
Oak Park: Tristan Rogers, Oak Park-River Forest HS
Orland Hills: Martha Pedziwiatr, Eastern Illinois University
Orland Park: Katelynn McGuire, Sandburg HS
Palatine: Colleen Fitzpatrick, Rachel Grgin and Jillian Postma, Palatine HS
Palos Heights: Elizabeth Hovan, Shepard HS
Palos Hills: Stephanie Healey, AA Stagg HS
Park Ridge: Jillian Ramirez, Maine South HS
Pawnee: Tasha Mohn, Illinois College
Richton Park: Margaret Stack, Rich South HS
Riverside: Christine Lifka, Alexandra Martinez and Thomas Tischler, Riverside Brookfield HS
Romeoville: Keturah Howard, Romeoville HS
Sciota: Ashley Payne, West Prairie HS
Sidell: Nathanael Ford, Illinois State University; and Sarah Rife, Jamaica HS
Springfield: Jennifer Ogden, Springfield Southeast HS
Streator: James Allen, Woodland HS
Watseka: Laura Bruns, Watseka Comm HS
Wauconda: Amanda Merker, Wauconda HS
Waukegan: Griselda Mata, Waukegan HS
Winnetka: Rebekah Park, New Trier Twp HS
Zion: Victor Reyes, Zion Benton Twp HS