



The Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges

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Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges Announces Philip Morris USA Scholarship Winners

Richmond, VA– The Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges (VFIC) and Philip Morris USA are pleased to announce the winners of the VFIC / Philip Morris USA Scholarship Program competition.

These students were selected in a statewide competition with applicants from all 15 member colleges in the VFIC consortium. This prestigious scholarship, worth \$10,000, carries with it the opportunity to be considered for a paid summer internship at Philip Morris USA, a Fortune 500 firm headquartered in Richmond. The newly-named 2007-2008 VFIC / Philip Morris USA Scholars are:

- Patricia G. Byrne of Media, PA – sophomore, University of Richmond
- Naa-Koshie France of Midlothian, VA – sophomore, University of Richmond
- Luke Hawk of Blountville, TN -- sophomore, Emory & Henry College
- Grace Ibitamuno of Waldorf, MD -- sophomore, Marymount University
- James Jones of Salem, VA -- sophomore, Roanoke College
- Elizabeth Nguyen of Stockton, CA -- sophomore, Randolph College (founded as Randolph-Macon Woman's College)

“The competition for this scholarship was strong, so it’s a real credit to these students that they were selected,” said Ned Moore, President of the Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges. “We are delighted to partner with Philip Morris USA on this important initiative. With their generosity we have been able to reward talented and dedicated young men and women with much-needed academic scholarships and career development opportunities too.”

The Philip Morris USA Scholarship program, administered by the VFIC, is provided to sophomores who have academic promise, demonstrated financial need and an interest in enhancing their future career opportunities through an internship with a Fortune 500 company. The award is available to VFIC undergraduate students seeking degrees in Accounting, Biology, Business, Chemistry, Computer Science, Economics, Engineering, Finance, or Physics. Each scholar receives \$5,000 for his or her junior year and an additional \$5,000 for his or her senior year, contingent on maintaining the scholarship requirements. The scholarship process is very competitive and students selected have an inside track to apply for a paid summer internship at Philip Morris USA.

Founded in 1952, the Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges is a nonprofit fund-raising partnership supporting the programs and students of 15 leading private colleges in the Commonwealth: Bridgewater College, Emory & Henry College, Hampden-Sydney College, Hollins University, Lynchburg College, Mary Baldwin College, Marymount University, Randolph-Macon College, Randolph College (founded as Randolph-Macon Woman's College), Roanoke College, Shenandoah University, Sweet Briar College, University of Richmond, Virginia Wesleyan College and Washington & Lee University.

For additional information on the VFIC, visit www.vfic.org.

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