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RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES® AWARDS \$23,000 IN COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS TO LOCAL STUDENTS

*Awards Celebration to Honor Students' Commitment to Education and Community Service;
Keynote Address by Ronald McDonald House Co-Founder Jim Murray*

PHILADELPHIA, March 12, 2009 – Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC®) and the McDonald's® Owner/Operators of the Greater Philadelphia Region will recognize the accomplishments of 15 area high school seniors by awarding them RMHC/Scholars college scholarships. RMHC/Scholars is a local extension of a national program that recognizes high school seniors for their scholastic achievement and community service.

A panel of judges comprised of local college and university admissions professionals, community leaders, and McDonald's and RMHC representatives selected the winners from Southeastern Pennsylvania, Southern New Jersey and Delaware (winners list follows).

The winning students will be recognized at the **RMHC/Scholars Awards Celebration, being held on Thursday, April 9, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia.** Ronald McDonald House Co-Founder and former General Manager of the Philadelphia Eagles Jim Murray will deliver a keynote address to the students highlighting the importance of community service. Students' families, Ronald McDonald, McDonald's and RMHC representatives and community leaders will be in attendance.

Additional Information:

RMHC of the Philadelphia Region, Inc. is dedicated to supporting programs that improve the lives of children and families. RMHC "lifts children to a better tomorrow" through scholarship programs for high school seniors; the Philadelphia, Southern New Jersey and Delaware Ronald McDonald Houses; the St. Christopher's Foundation for Children Ronald McDonald Care Mobile; and grants to not-for-profit children's programs.

McDonald's USA, LLC, is the leading foodservice provider in the United States serving a variety of wholesome foods made from quality ingredients to millions of customers every day. More than 80 percent of McDonald's 14,000 U.S. restaurants, including more than 300 McDonald's restaurants in the Greater Philadelphia Region, are independently owned and operated by local franchisees. For more information on McDonald's visit www.mcdonalds.com or log on at any of the 10,000 Wi-Fi enabled McDonald's U.S. restaurants. Visit www.mcstate.com for local restaurant, career and program information.

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2009 RMHC Scholars Scholarship Recipients



Delaware

Diana Louder

Lake Forest High School
Felton, Del.

Christopher Shifflette

Smyrna High School
Smyrna, Del.

Shoaib Baqi

Smyrna High School
Smyrna, Del.

Jennifer Daniels

Polytech High School
Smyrna, Del.

Caitlin Graf

St. Elizabeth High School
Wilmington, Del.

Philadelphia

Tanzin Fatima

University City High School
Philadelphia

Leonard Hughes

Father Judge High School
Philadelphia

Darlene Scudder

Philadelphia High School for the
Creative and Performing Arts
Philadelphia

New Jersey

Christopher Savio

Mainland Regional High School
Northfield, NJ

Matherose Marcellus

Woodrow Wilson High School
Camden, NJ

Brandon Tomasso

Vineland Senior High School
Vineland, NJ

Pennsylvania Suburbs

Brittany Mills

Conrad Weiser High School
Reinholds, Pa.

Betsy Thomas

Neshaminy High School
Feasterville, Pa.

Christian Grouse

Monsignor Bronner High School
Sharon Hill, Pa.

Kaylee Shumaker

Pottstown High School
Pottstown, Pa.