



Real Teens. Real Life. Real Results.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TWO NON-PROFITS TEAM UP FOR ST. LOUIS TEENS **Wyman teens awarded nearly \$113,000 toward college costs**

St. Louis, Mo. [June 26, 2012] – The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis awarded \$112,700 to eleven teens from Wyman Center’s Teen Leadership Program (TLP) to provide last dollar funding for their 2012-13 college expenses.

The students each applied for and were awarded interest-free loans from The Scholarship Foundation, based on their financial need, character and academic success. In addition, the eleven teens were awarded Bravo Grants funded by TG’s Public Benefit Program. Bravo Grants recognize individuals who have overcome great personal adversity to achieve their educational goals. Bravo students are often the first in their families to attend college. Both loans and grants are renewable annually depending on academic progress and continued financial need.

Each teen is a recent high school graduate and participant in Wyman’s Teen Leadership Program (TLP), a seven year program that helps youth be productive in school and work; connect to community and family; and navigate successfully in diverse environments. Teens in Wyman programs are achieving grade level advancement on time, graduating high school, moving on to college and developing a sense of responsibility for themselves and their communities.

TG provides support for *Persistence Power*, a joint effort between Wyman and The Scholarship Foundation to provide teens with direct financial support, college access services, summer orientation sessions for rising college freshmen and coaching to help students complete college.

TG, Wyman and The Scholarship Foundation are partners in St. Louis Graduates, a regional collaborative working to increase to 50% the proportion of students in the St. Louis region who earn a higher education degree by the year 2020. *Persistence Power* contributes to St. Louis Graduates’ overarching goal and also provides a model for replication in the region and beyond.

About Wyman Center

Wyman, a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit and proud member of the United Way, partners with communities to provide teens with the supports and opportunities they need to survive AND thrive in life. Its innovative programs are powerful and effective, and the staff is highly acclaimed and committed to preparing today's youth. For more information, visit www.wymancenter.org.

About The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis

The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis, a nonprofit organization founded in 1920, is based upon the conviction that an educated citizenry is essential to a democracy. The Scholarship Foundation provides access to postsecondary education to members of our community who otherwise would not have the financial means to fulfill their educational goals. Annually, some 650 students receive approximately \$3.9 million in direct financial support in the form of interest-free loans and grants from The Scholarship Foundation. For more information visit www.sfstl.org.

About TG's Public Benefit Program

TG's Board of Directors established the Public Benefit Grant Program in 2005. In distributing its competitive grants, TG intends that the primary beneficiaries of the proposed programs be students who are from low- to moderate-income families. In addition, the competitive process favors proposals that also aim to serve the needs of first-generation college students or students who are from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in undergraduate and graduate education, which may include nontraditional or adult learners.

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