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For Immediate Release

**Scholarships available through
the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation**

The Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation is now accepting applications for a variety of college scholarship and educational enrichment grant programs. Last year, the Community Foundation awarded scholarships to more than 160 local students who were able to defray college costs, participate in educational enrichment travel programs, repay school loans and nurture their artistic aspirations.

Eligibility for scholarship awards vary for each program and can take into account financial need, academic performance, community service, participation in extra-curricular activities, student interests and family situations. Scholarships recipients selected in 2007 attend colleges as local as Triton and as national as Yale and Stanford.

One scholarship recipient, Julia, is herself a high school teacher and mother of two who is pursuing a graduate degree. Julia told the Foundation, "I cannot tell you how much this will help me this year. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to show my sons that if they try, they can succeed, and even more importantly, that education is worth striving for."

David, a high school junior, received an educational enrichment grant to attend a summer music camp and later reported back that, "I have only just begun to realize how these changes have in turn improved my playing and prepared me for more concentrated and mature work in the years to come."

Scholarship applications and eligibility guidelines are available at the Community Foundation website: www.oprfcf.org. The Community Foundation works closely with local high schools to connect students to available resources. We encourage all students to talk to their high school deans who have all the information about Community Foundation scholarships and additional resources.

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