



# News Release

The Housing Authority of the City of Austin • P.O. Box 6159 • Austin, Texas 78762

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—July 2, 2010

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## **\$109,000 AWARDED FOR EDUCATION TO AUSTINITES**

**WHAT:** AUSTIN, Tex. – July 2, 2010 -- The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) will proudly host the Tenth Annual Resident Academic Scholarship Awards Ceremony. The event will be held Friday, July 9, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the Austin Community College's Eastview Campus, Multi Purpose Hall, Building 8500. The scholarship amount totals to \$109,000 and awards 57 residents of the Public Housing and the Housing Choice Voucher Programs.

One student, Karla Berrones, says, "The HACA Resident Scholarship is the only money I receive to pay for my education. I can not receive financial aid, so this scholarship is a huge help." Berrones will be entering her sophomore year at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Scholarship recipients will be attending various Central Texas schools such as the University of Texas at Austin, Texas State University, Texas A&M University, St. Edward's University and University of Texas at San Antonio. Over half of the scholarship recipients will be attending Austin Community College. The scholarship recipients range from newly graduated high school students, to students currently enrolled in post-secondary education, and to adults attending college for the first time.

The ceremony's keynote speaker will be Loretta Edelen, Director of Community Outreach, Austin Community College.

The HACA Resident Academic Scholarship Program was established in 2001 and serves as a vehicle of hope to individuals who have a desire to further their education, but lack the adequate financial means to accomplish this goal. The applicants individually qualify to receive the scholarship following HACA's scholarship guidelines: to remain in good standing, to maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average, to possess a high school diploma or GED, and to submit two letters of recommendation. Through intensive staff outreach, HACA scholarships reach individuals who may not otherwise realize their college aspirations. The scholarship recipients, in turn, serve as role models to their family, neighborhood, and community. Taxpayer dollars were not used towards scholarship funds.

**WHEN:** Friday, July 9, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

**WHERE:** Austin Community College, Eastview Campus, Multi Purpose Hall, Building 8500, Austin, Texas 78702

**ABOUT HACA:** The Housing Authority of the City of Austin is a public agency whose business is to ensure that safe, quality affordable housing opportunities exist for families of low income; break the poverty cycle by serving as a catalyst for our residents to become economically self-sufficient; create meaningful partnerships to maximize available community resources for our residents; and efficiently and effectively meet federal, state and local mandates. For more information, please visit [www.hacanet.org](http://www.hacanet.org).

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