

For Immediate Release

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Buford Business Alliance Establishes Scholarship Awards for Local High Schools

Buford, Georgia - May, 25 2007 - The Buford Business Alliance, an organization whose primary purpose is to attract interest to Buford and its local businesses, has established an annual scholarship fund for both Buford and North Gwinnett High Schools' students for achievements in the arts and marketing. This year, the BBA awarded 4 checks totally \$400 to students that excelled in designated categories at each school.

"We realize that our current scholarship dollar amounts are relatively small, yet we have to start somewhere," states Tim Koenning, President of the Buford Business Alliance." He continues, "As our organization grows, so will our capabilities of enhancing these scholarships. We look forward to the day when we will be able to offer thousands of dollars to deserving students."

This year's recipients are as follows: Autumn Encarnacion (for theatre, Buford High), Jennifer McHugh (for art, Buford High), Taylor Moseley (for band, Buford High) and Katie Martin (for marketing/DECA, North Gwinnett High).

The future scholarships gifted will be initially funded via the BBA Historic Buford Arts Patron Fund. This newly structured facet of the BBA will raise monies via donations and will not only be used for scholarships dedicated to the arts but also to attract artistic talent into Buford by marketing special art events and funding a portion of the prize money for such events.

"Since the early 1980's, Buford has been recognized for its enthusiasm for the arts and we want to make sure this aspect of Buford lives on," states Margaret Kolk, previous Secretary of the Buford Business Alliance and co-owner of Carisma Gallery. "As such, we not only wish to attract well-known artists, we want to help support our next generation of artists in our local schools."

The Buford Business Alliance is a non-profit organization that brings together the citizens, city leaders, civic organizations and the businesses of Buford in a communal spirit. We work together through our festivals, events, and other marketing opportunities to promote business and tourism in Buford. The BBA meets monthly and is open to the public. Please visit www.VisitBuford.com for more information.

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