The Moving and Storage Institute announced the names of the student achievers who fill the ranks of the winners of its 2007 scholarship contest. MSI, which is the research and educational arm of the American Moving and Storage Association, established the scholarship program for sons and daughters of officers and employees, as well as employees themselves, of AMSA-member moving and storage companies. Annual awards are granted to those who demonstrate how his or her education will be utilized to pursue a career related to the advancement of the moving and storage industry. 

"None of these scholarships would be possible without the generosity of the many AMSA members, who contribute to the scholarship fund, or those members who volunteer to participate on the Institute’s Board,” said AMSA President and Chief Executive Officer Linda Bauer Darr. “We are pleased to be able to reward and recognize those individuals who are affiliated with the moving and storage industry. These scholarship recipients have the qualities needed in order to succeed and we wish them the very best in their studies.”

MSI Chair Robert “Chip” Dircks, president of Dircks Moving Services, Inc., commented, “As movers become more diversified as well as more sophisticated, it has become more critical to invest in the people that will become the future of our industry.” He added, “With the increase in technology, it has become very important that our next generation of movers is highly educated in not only accounting and sales, but also in supply chain management. As a third-generation mover, I believe in promoting the industry and investing in the future of the industry in any way possible.”

AMSA Chairman K. Scott Ogden, senior vice president and general counsel for Bekins Van Lines, Inc. and a member of the institute’s board, observed that the changes sweeping through the moving and storage industry require more extensive education and professional development for those working in it. “The local moving and storage agency has become much more than a simple ‘Mom-and-Pop’ local trucking company. Today’s successful local agents need to have a solid business background to run their firms. They must not only have general business skills but, also have solid human resources, sales, accounting and information technology skills,” he observed. “While some of these skills can be learned the old fashioned way through on

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By providing scholarships to our next generation, we are assuring them in getting the education they will need to succeed not only in their own careers, but to use this individual success to improve the industry as a whole.

The partial tuition scholarship will permit these deserving recipients to study at various two and four year accredited colleges and universities all over the United States. Some of the awardees work for moving and storage companies, others have parents who work in the industry. The Moving and Storage Institute is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2007 scholarships in the amount of $1,000 each:

Cori Goedeke, a junior attending Indiana University-Bloomington, majoring in accounting. She is the daughter of Daniel Goedeke, employed by Atlas Van Lines, Evansville, Ind., and Tori Veeck. A member of the Dean’s List, she is president of Civic Leadership Development and volunteers with People and Animal Learning Services Inc. and is a basic accounting skills teaching assistant.

Michelle Summers, a senior at West Liberty College, West Liberty, W. Va., who is studying business. The daughter of David Summers and Melody Clark, she is a claims adjuster with Ocean Air International, Inc., Weirton, W.Va., and a single parent. She has made Dean’s List for four years and is a member of the National Honor Society.

Aimee Butler is a sophomore studying business at Michigan Technological University, Houghton, Mich. Daughter of Dennis and Kimberly Butler, she was sponsored by family friend Joe Biskner, president of Stevens Worldwide Van Lines, Saginaw, Mich. A member of the American Marketing Association and active on the Student Entertainment Board, she also is on the Dean’s List.

Jennifer Derrick will be a freshman attending Presbyterian College, Clinton, S.C., this fall, majoring in business. The daughter of Eddie and Wanda Derrick, who works for Lange Moving Systems, Inc., Columbia, S.C., she has participated in school activities and won recognition from local civic groups for her academic achievements at Swansea High School in Swansea, S.C.

Bryce Koonts, will be a freshman this fall at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, majoring in business. The son of Wes and Teresa Koonts, who works for Ray Moving & Storage, Greensboro, N.C., he played varsity basketball at Page High School in Greensboro.

Naomi Sheeley, also is a freshman at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, majoring in business. The daughter of Robert and Wayten Sheeley, who is employed by Bushler Moving & Storage, she was active in the student council, Upward Bound and was a varsity golfer at Alamosa High School, Alamosa, Colo.

Heidi Vetter is a senior at California Baptist University, Riverside, Calif., studying business administration. She is the daughter of Christine and Rick Vetter, who works for Co-O-Van Moving & Storage Company. She is on the university’s President’s List and serves in her local church when not outdoors camping and backpacking.

Katherine Wallenfang, also is a senior at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign majoring in business.

The program is directed primarily to those who plan to pursue a career in an area of business having an impact upon the field of household goods moving and storage. Each application is carefully reviewed with attention and consideration given to academic standing, major course of study, financial need, and community involvement.

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The daughter of Valerie and James F. Wallenfang, who is employed at Federal Warehouse Company, East Peoria, Ill., she is on the Dean’s List, is a member of the Honor Society and is active on student publications, along with serving as an “America Reads, America Counts” tutor.

Avery Lewis, will be a freshman at the Ohio State University Columbus Campus concentrating on general studies. Daughter of Terre and William E. Lewis, who works at Lewis and Michael Moving and Storage, she is a member of the National Honors Society, was a varsity cheerleader, is active in theater and a member of the Invisible Children Club.

Brett Whalin will be a freshman at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, majoring in aviation. He is the son of Robin and Gay Whalin, who works at Green’s Moving & Storage, Inc., Rapid City, S.D.

Scholarship applications will be available in October 2007 for the coming school year. Interested individuals who are connected with the moving and storage industry are encouraged to apply for a scholarship.

For further information on the scholarship program criteria and application process, please contact Madeleine Morgan at 703-683-7410. Congratulations to all of this year’s award winners!