

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Tourism Cares Awards \$56,500 in Academic Scholarships**

*Advancing future leaders in travel, tourism, and hospitality*

CANTON, MA - Tourism Cares, a leading non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve and enrich the travel experience for future generations, is pleased to award \$56,500 in academic scholarships to 39 travel, tourism, and hospitality students studying at accredited colleges and universities throughout the United States and Canada. These scholarships support students' academic studies and are funded by [Tourism Cares](#) and by funds donated by members of the travel and tourism industry including the NTA, the American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

The academic scholarship recipients are also invited to attend the [Tourism Cares Mentoring Program](#) taking place in January 2015 at the annual NTA/UMA Travel Exchange in New Orleans, LA. The program gives students the opportunity to shadow professional mentors, build their professional networks, and attend industry educational workshops.

In addition to academic scholarships, Tourism Cares offers professional development scholarships for entering or working professionals pursuing certificate programs. The application period for the professional development scholarships is in the fall.

For specific information on scholarship recipients and their educational institutions, click [here](#).

### **A word from our funding associations:**

"An important part of the Tourism Cares mission is to prepare new generations of travel professionals through mentoring and scholarship. Each year when we see the names of our Tourism Cares scholarship recipients, it's very invigorating and gives great promise for the future of travel and tourism. My congratulations and appreciation to each recipient."

—Catherine Prather, NTA Interim President

"ASTA congratulates all of the students who received a Tourism Cares scholarship," said Zane Kerby, ASTA CEO. "These students represent the next wave of leadership for our industry. ASTA appreciates and thanks Tourism Cares for their careful management of the ASTA scholarships."

“The International Air Transport Association (IATA) is committed to continually growing and supporting the Travel and Tourism sector” said Mr Jean-Charles Odele Gruau, International Air Transport Association (IATA), It is very rewarding to support these students that represent the next generation of young professionals, determined to excel and make a difference in this very rewarding and ever evolving industry!”

### **About Tourism Cares**

*Tourism Cares preserves and enhances the travel experience for future generations. We channel the philanthropic passion and commitment of the travel industry to protect and restore valuable destinations we all care about – and to support those destinations as engines for prosperity, civil society and pride in their communities. Our domestic programs focus on industry-wide volunteer events, capacity building for the non-profit stewards of tourism sites, and scholarships and mentoring to support a talented workforce. Globally, our efforts include corporate social responsibility, partnerships, strategic investments, and advocacy and education across the travel industry. For more information about Tourism Cares, please visit [www.tourismcares.org](http://www.tourismcares.org).*