



**Michigan[®]
Boating
Industries
Association**

For Immediate Release

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The Recreational Boating Industries Educational Foundation Grants \$7,000 to 12 Michigan Students Interested in Marine Industry Careers

Livonia, MI, June, 25, 2010 - - The Recreational Boating Industries Educational Foundation (RBIEF) awarded \$7,000 in scholarship funds to 11 students for the 2010/2011 school year. The RBIEF scholarship fund was developed in 1984 by the Michigan Boating Industries Association (MBIA) as a support program for students interested in pursuing careers in the recreational boating industry. Scholarships are awarded based upon the value the applicant displays to the industry, academic achievement and financial need. With this granting, the fund will have distributed \$313,146 to deserving students. In addition to the monetary aid, the foundation coordinates placement for students with MBIA members for work study during the summer months.

"There are many interesting and challenging jobs within the boating industry and we are passionate about educating students about our industry," said RBIEF Chairman John Hatfield of Howe Interlakes Marine in Indian River. "All industries can benefit from bright young minds and the perspectives of our younger generations." RBIEF also has a website: www.boatingscholarship.com and a Boating Management course at Michigan State University which was conducted for the seventh year in Lansing during the 2009/2010 school year.

2010 RBIEF scholarship recipients:

- Alysia Bugg, Harsens Island
- Cooper Dendel, Cross Village
- Alyssa Giles, Grosse Isle
- Steven Hall, Temperence
- Matthew Huyge, Wyoming
- Victoria Scarborough, Kentwood
- Theresa Valentine, Fairgrove
- Colby Aures, Cottrellville
- Kaylee Banas, Commerce
- John Elder, Thompsons Station
- Kristopher Tonjes, Harrison Twp.

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The Michigan Boating Industries Association is a state-wide, non-profit organization representing nearly 400 marine businesses in Michigan. The boating industry in Michigan represents a \$3.9 billion economic impact in Michigan, more than 758 marinas, 460 marine dealers and more than 51,000 jobs. For more information go to www.mbia.org.

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The Voice of Boating in Michigan.

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