

## Horatio Alger recipients announced

May 22, 2009

The Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans has announced it has awarded scholarships to four high school students in Minnesota. Each scholar will receive \$20,000 to assist in funding their college education. The students were selected for the Horatio Alger Hormel State Scholarship because they persevered in overcoming adversity while also demonstrating excellence in academics, admirable character and community contributions.

The 2009 Hormel recipients are: Nicole Byers of Austin, Austin High School; Sigin Ojullu of Austin, AHS; Stephanie Solland of Albert Lea, AHS; and Jacob Whalen of Austin, AHS.

"The Hormel scholars have overcome great obstacles and we are proud to present this award," said David Sokol, president and chief executive officer of the Horatio Alger Association. "Through this scholarship program, we celebrate their accomplishments and help them reach their future goals."

The Horatio Alger State Scholarship Programs range from \$2,500 to \$10,500 and are sponsored by Horatio Alger members and friends. These scholarships are offered in 29 states. In 2009, the programs are awarding more than 600 state scholarships to students throughout the country.

The Hormel scholarships are made possible by The Hormel Foundation and Richard Knowlton.

"We are indebted to the contributions of The Hormel Foundation and Richard L. Knowlton," Sokol said. "They are truly stewards of the Horatio Alger mission. Their support enables us to continue to offer young people access to a brighter future through higher education."

Horatio Alger scholars are provided with numerous resources to ensure a successful college career. Each student receives:

- Financial aid guidance to assist in the selection of, and preparation for, college.
- Access to the association's Web site, where students can create online profiles, search for fellow scholars, update their personal information, submit disbursement requests and direct questions to the association.
- Access to a toll-free information line, to speak to program coordinators for assistance with questions about their scholarships and other educational programs.

Scholars are encouraged to remain connected with the association throughout their lives and become active members of the Horatio Alger alumni group.

Founded in 1947, the Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans continues to fulfill its mission of honoring the achievements of outstanding individuals in our society who have succeeded in spite of adversity and of encouraging young people to pursue their dreams through higher education.

For more information, visit [www.horatioalger.org](http://www.horatioalger.org).