National “Cherokee A Nurse I Am Scholarship” Winners Announced

Cherokee Uniforms awards 10 students $2,000 each for outstanding essay entries

Chatsworth, Calif., July 22, 2013 – Cherokee Uniforms announced today 10 winners of the 2013 Cherokee A Nurse I Am Scholarship. Scholarship winners each receive $2,000 toward defraying the cost of their nursing education.

The winners of the 2013 scholarship are Theresa Jepsen (Mesa Community College – Mesa, Ariz.), Mary Thies (Oregon Health and Science University – Portland, Ore.), Richard Thai (Baldy View Regional Occupation Program – Ontario, Calif.), John Haddock (University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill School of Nursing – Chapel Hill, N. C.), Jennifer Wattles (University of Missouri – St. Louis – St. Louis, Mo.), Ashley Smith (University of Massachusetts, Amherst School of Nursing – Amherst, Mass.), Jaime Contreras (Riverside Community College – Riverside, Calif.), Allison Williams (Cedarville University – Cedarville, Ohio), Hayley Colleran (Curry College – Milton, Mass.), and Jesus Beltran (Oakland University- Rochester, Mich.).

Selection was based on an assigned essay written in response to the inspirational nurses’ film, “A Nurse I Am.”

“The winning essayists represent a solid understanding of the role nurses play in America’s healthcare continuum and an awareness of what nurses can do to maintain and improve patient care, despite the challenges facing the industry,” said Wendell Mobley, who directs charitable and scholarship programs for Cherokee Uniforms.

The essays and photographs of the 2013 scholarship recipients are viewable on www.anurseiam.com.
The 2014 Cherokee A Nurse I Am Scholarship application period will begin in late November 2013 and will be open to students enrolled in an accredited LVN/LPN, RN degree (ADN or BSN), diploma, or RN-to-BSN program.

Cherokee Uniforms has awarded $140,000 in scholarships to nursing students since the program began in 2007. It provided a grant for the production of “A Nurse I Am,” a film for nurses and nursing students, out of concern over the number of nurses leaving the profession within the first few years of practice. In the film, Emmy Award-winning director David Hoffman presents nurses in real-life situations where they interact with real patients, students and colleagues, highlighting key points for a successful nursing career. More than 400 nursing-education programs are showing the film to more than 39,000 students annually. The film may be viewed free of charge at www.anurseiam.com/video/.

About Cherokee Uniforms

Cherokee Uniforms, Tooniforms and Cherokee Footwear are leading brands in healthcare apparel, recognized for helping to foster a warmer, friendlier, more comfortable environment for healthcare workers and their patients. The company recognizes the incredible value of nurses and other healthcare professionals through the inspirational nurses’ film “A Nurse I Am”, the A Nurse I Am Scholarship (www.anurseiam.com) and the Cherokee Inspired Comfort Award (www.inspiredcomfort.com), which honors and rewards exceptional service, sacrifice and innovation. Cherokee Uniforms proudly supports the DAISY Foundation, which serves the nursing profession through recognition and retention programs for nurses and grants for nursing research. For more, visit www.cherokeeuniforms.com. For timely updates and offers, Like us on Facebook – www.facebook.com/cherokeeuniforms and follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/inspiredcomfort.

[Attention Editors... Photos of winners are available on request.]

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