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**ACEC NEW YORK AWARDS 17 SCHOLARSHIPS  
TO ENGINEERING STUDENTS ATTENDING NEW YORK COLLEGES**

**NEW YORK, May 16, 2011 --** Seventeen engineering students attending New York State colleges and universities will receive \$45,000 collectively in scholarship money from member firms of the American Council of Engineering Companies of New York (ACEC New York). The awards are based on the students' cumulative grade-point average, college activities, work experience and an essay on consulting engineering. The individual awards range from \$2,500 to \$5,000. Including this year's recipients, ACEC New York has awarded 131 scholarships totaling \$355,500 since the program's inception in 2002.

Students in metropolitan-area colleges will be honored at ACEC New York's membership luncheon on May 19th at the Union League Club. Students attending upstate colleges will be recognized at the council's winter conference in Albany in January 2012. All will receive their checks in May.

One of the students, Johnathon Miner, was honored with the MTA Scholarship at the council's annual Engineering Awards gala at the Waldorf=Astoria Hotel in March. The \$5,000 scholarship, the highest granted, is given annually by ACEC New York in the name of a public agency for its achievements and its pursuit of excellence in design.

Following are the 2011 scholarship winners:

**MTA Scholarship - \$5,000**

- ***Johnathon Miner, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N.Y.***  
Johnathon, in his third year of studies in civil engineering, is particularly attracted to a consulting engineering career in the field of environmental remediation, an interest he developed in his freshman year as an intern at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. While working there he had the opportunity to perform advanced 2-D and 3-D computer mapping and contamination modeling for numerous remediation sites across New York State. He has a GPA of 3.85, is treasurer of the New York chapter of Tau Beta Pi Engineers Honor Society, and is a member of RPI's Ski Club.

**AECOM Scholarship - \$2,500**

- ***Jarrod Shafer, Alfred State College, Alfred, N.Y.***  
Jarrod is in the surveying engineering technology program at Alfred State, a course of study that has interested him since he worked in the engineering department of the Allegany County Department of Public Works. He would like

someday to own his own surveying firm. He is vice president of Tau Alpha Pi Engineering Honor Society and a member of the Survey Club. His off-campus activities include membership in the Hornell Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and he has applied for membership in the Elks in order to help members of his community.

**Dagher Engineering, PLLC Scholarship - \$2,500**

- *Spencer Almen, Columbia University, New York, N.Y.*  
Spencer is majoring in earth and environmental engineering with his interest focused on working toward finding sustainable energy solutions. He is gaining research experience working in his major's department at Columbia, but also worked last summer for an engineering and environmental services firm in Minnesota, his home state, on a municipal water project. Next year, he will be his class representative to the Engineering Student Council. He also gives time to Columbia's Community Outreach program, the Lutheran Campus Ministry, Sigma Phi Epsilon and the road runners, ski and snowboard clubs.

**HAKS Engineers, Architects and Land Surveyors, P.C. Scholarship - \$2,500**

- *Katharine Harvey, Hofstra University, Hempstead, N.Y.*  
Katy is a candidate for a Bachelor of Science degree, majoring in mechanical engineering. A high school program called New Visions and a class trip to General Electric in Schenectady sparked her interest in a career in alternative energy. She is a member of Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society, Golden Key National Honor Society and the Hofstra University Pep Band. During her freshman year of college, Katy earned the Girl Scout Gold Award, which requires 60 hours of community service on a project that has a lasting effect on the community being served.

**Hazen and Sawyer, P.C. Scholarship - \$2,500**

- *Christina Milone, The Cooper Union, New York, N.Y.*  
Christina is working toward her bachelor of engineering degree, with her major concentration on civil engineering, but she holds a strong interest in architecture as well. In the summer hiatus of her sophomore year, she worked for M.J. Macaluso & Associates Architects in Manhattan and the following summer for the New York City Department of Transportation, where she surveyed DOT sites and buildings throughout the city. She is secretary of Tau Beta Pi, vice president of the Society of Women Engineers and captain of Cooper Union's women's basketball team. She has also participated in walks to benefit breast cancer and diabetes organizations.

**Jaros, Baum & Bolles Scholarship - \$2,500**

- *Haena Lee, Columbia University, New York, N.Y.*  
As a child, Haena played with legos, building blocks and glue, setting the stage for her future profession. "I think it's important to make a difference in the world, to contribute something to society, to use one's abilities for the greater good," she says. According to her advisor at Columbia, she works with M.S.,

Ph.D. and post doctoral students as a researcher in the Project Dynamics Network Lab and the Concrete Lab, while also serving as a resident advisor. She is also marketing director of the Society of Women Engineers and a “Big Sister” mentor.

**Langan Engineering and Environmental Services, P.C. Scholarship in memory of Maria Isabel Ramirez (9-11-01) - \$2,500**

- **Waqqas H. Khan, Hofstra University, Hempstead, N.Y.**  
With his two degrees in electrical engineering and physics, Waqqas would like one day to work for NASA and take part in space missions. Considering a specialization in aeronautical engineering at some point, this native of Pakistan realizes that first working for Boeing or Lockheed Martin might give him the background he needs to pursue his dream of joining a space agency. He is vice-president of the student chapter of IEEE, treasurer of the Society of Physics Students, vice president of the Muslim Students Association and treasurer of the Hofstra Cricket Club. He is a member of Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society, Golden Key National Honor Society and Sigma Pi Sigma Physics Honor Society. He is also an on-campus tutor.

**Mid Hudson Region Scholarship - \$2,500**

- **Brian Paupst, Manhattan College, Riverdale, N.Y.**  
This civil engineering student has a very strong sense of community responsibility. In addition to being an active member of the Continental Village Volunteer Fire Department in Garrison, N.Y., Brian has been a counselor for the Town of Cortlandt’s Soccer Camp, and a lifeguard for Continental Village. On campus, he is secretary of ASCE and is a member of the Gaelic Society. He participates in football meets, the Outdoors Club and Engineers without Borders. During his sophomore and junior summers, Brian worked for AECOM on studies, designs and cost estimates for both New York and overseas projects.

**Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers Scholarship - \$2,500**

- **Sean O’Connell, Manhattan College, Riverdale, N.Y.**  
As a future civil engineer, Sean has already identified the area of need that professional engineers have been stressing for some time – our deteriorating infrastructure. Like many of his peers, Sean feels the need to contribute to society and not to choose a career where the sole purpose is simply to make money. To prove his point, Sean is a founding member and president of Engineers without Borders. The group is currently seeking a local project to design and build. Sean is also involved in Nanuet’s volunteer EMS program. On campus, he is a member of ASCE, the Gaelic Society, the Honors Enrichment Club and is the treasurer of the Outdoors Club.

**Parsons Brinckerhoff Scholarship - \$2,500**

- **Benjamin McPherson, SUNY University, Buffalo, N.Y.**  
Benjamin is working toward a Bachelor of Science degree in environmental engineering. Right now, he is not sure if he will pursue a graduate

degree, join a private firm or work for a government agency, but he says he would rather restore a polluted lake or rehabilitate a brownfield than work on regulatory projects. He participates in the Residence Hall Association and the Student Association and is president of the Ultimate Frisbee Club. This summer, Benjamin will perform undergraduate research at the University at Buffalo as part of their ERIE REU program. The project he will be working on is focused on mapping groundwater discharge into streams that will be sites for future restoration activities or are in danger of contaminate plumes infiltrating the streams from their aquifers.

**Pennoni Engineering and Surveying of New York, LLC Scholarship - \$2,500**

- **Matthew Leong, Polytechnic Institute of NYU, New York, N.Y.**  
Matthew has selected electrical engineering as his course of study and has strengthened his academic studies with internships at Capital IQ, the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation, and the Prosser Group, where he was involved in work that supported the design of electric vehicle charging systems. For solving a complex communication issue between newly purchased programmable logic controllers and human machine interfaces, the Bureau of Reclamation awarded Matthew its prestigious Star Award for Achieving Results, which included a monetary bonus. He is a member of IEEE, and won the Rookie-of-the-Year Award as a member of NYU Poly's Cross Country Team.

**STV Group Scholarship - \$2,500**

- **Paul Marzuillo, Manhattan College, Riverdale, N.Y.**  
This future civil engineer credits his high school counselor for the greatest piece of advice he ever received, which was to sign up for the ACE Mentor Program. The program introduced him to all aspects of the design/build industry and helped him to decide on a career in engineering rather than architecture or construction. During the summer of 2009, Paul interned at the NYC Department of Design and Construction, but it was an internship at URS the following summer that confirmed his choice. With a full complement of courses and a continuing internship at URS, Paul has just enough time to give to memberships in the ASCE and Biology Club.

**Stantec Consulting Services Inc. Scholarship - \$2,500**

- **Jacqueline Dresser, Alfred State College, Alfred, N.Y.**  
As a second generation surveyor-to-be, Jackie chose Alfred State College because it is the only college in New York State that offers the surveying curriculum leading to a Bachelor of Science degree. She is described by one of her professors as a high performer, a leader and a take-charge person, who early in her career will own her own design firm. She is a member of the Surveying Club and Tau Alpha Pi Engineering Honor Society and the recipient of the 2010 Athletic Leadership and the Athletic Academic awards, and was named the 2009-2010 Distinguished Academic All American on the college's women's basketball team.

**Syska Hennessy Group, Inc. Scholarship - \$2,500**

- *Anthony Raguseo, Manhattan College, Riverdale, N.Y.*  
Because of his internships at Dvirka and Bartilucci Consulting Engineers, Anthony has been able to apply what he has learned in class to his work assignments at D&B, which has strengthened his understanding of engineering principles. Anthony is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and is taking part in the Steel Bridge Design Competition this year. He is the creator and organizer of the construction of baseball dugouts for Mineola High School, his alma mater.

**Thornton Tomasetti Scholarship - \$2,500**

- *Nolan Patrick Woyner, Manhattan College, Riverdale, N.Y.*  
Like many of his contemporaries, Nolan is keenly aware of what's happening to the nation's infrastructure and would like to make a contribution as a civil engineer to the reconstruction of America's infrastructure in the future. He has worked the last two summers for the New York State Department of Transportation, where he has gotten a first-hand look at some of the problems he'll face as an employed engineer. Nolan is a member of Tau Beta Pi Honor Society, is president of the student chapter of ASCE, is a member of the college's PEP Band and the Outdoors Club. He also plays intramural Gaelic football, soccer and softball.

**Weidlinger Associates, Inc. Scholarship - \$2,500**

- *Grzegorz Szlejer, Hofstra University, Hempstead, N.Y.*  
Greg has been an extremely busy young man since he arrived on our shores from Poland in 2005. Like many immigrants, Greg started life in America as a construction worker learning the trade at Tad Masonry and Peconic Improvement Corp. Settling in Riverhead, N.Y., Greg soon started a masonry business to support his wife and children. But as the economy faltered, two cousins who had previously immigrated to the U.S. and earned engineering degrees convinced Greg that the pathway to success in America was to earn an American diploma. Greg learned English in two years, entered Suffolk County Community College, won a scholarship from the Moles and took additional courses at Farmingdale State College and Hofstra. He looks forward soon to a new future as a civil engineer.

**Western Region Scholarship - \$2,500**

- *Meredith Canty, SUNY University at Buffalo, Buffalo, N.Y.*  
Meredith is a multitasker. In addition to her mechanical engineering studies, she has worked in the Energy Systems Institute as a research student, created and organized a Women in Engineering Breakfast in her freshman year after noticing the lack of women engineering students on campus, and joined the Society of Women Engineers and the Habitat for Humanity group. She is currently a member of ASME and Engineers without Borders and was inducted into Pi Tau Sigma, a mechanical honor society, in her junior year. She is the

recipient of the Joan G. Bennett Memorial Scholarship and the University of Buffalo Provost Scholarship. She will be working for General Mills in Massachusetts this summer.

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*Founded in 1921, the American Council of Engineering Companies of New York (ACEC New York) is the state's premier organization for consulting engineering firms, representing 280 companies and over 20,000 employees in New York. The organization's mission is to further the business interests of its members through advocacy, networking, education and business services. For more information, visit [www.acecny.org](http://www.acecny.org).*