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WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY & THE CHICAGO HOUSING AUTHORITY OFFER OVER \$100,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

**Record 66 scholarships to be awarded to CHA/low-income youth
August 7, 2003**

Amanda Gayle, current CHA resident and a senior majoring in biology at the University of Chicago, plans to attend medical school upon graduation. She and 65 others are getting the chance to achieve an education and fulfill lifelong dreams through Windows of Opportunity and the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) Youth Scholarship Program.

Each student will receive a \$1,500 scholarship today, August 7, 2003 at the 7th Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony **to be held from 5:30pm until 7:30 pm at the Mid-Day Club, One Bank One Plaza, 56th Floor (10 S. Dearborn).**

Available to new college students and those continuing their education or preparing for vocational careers, the scholarships help pave a much-needed avenue away from the limitations of poverty. Since the program began, Windows of Opportunity, an independent not-for-profit affiliate of the CHA, has given out over 200 scholarships worth a total of \$200,000 as part of its mission to help young people achieve their goals.

At the ceremony, Windows will also announce its new Academic Excellence Award, which honors students with exceptional grade point averages who have unique opportunities for their educational development and who are also active in their respective communities. Windows plans to give out up to two such awards each year, at a maximum of \$5,000 each.

“These scholarships are a vital resource for public and assisted housing residents who want to achieve great things in life” said Gwendolyn Mackel Rice, Executive Director of Windows of Opportunity. “This assistance has made life changing differences for those who have benefited from this program and has also had a favorable impact on their families.”

The scholarship program has helped CHA residents earn degrees in many fields, including medicine, business, accounting, education and computer science. Funds for the scholarships are made possible through proceeds from the CHA Annual Celebrity Golf Outing and individual donations.

Note: Interviews with award recipients can be arranged. Please call for

more information.