



Note to reporters and editors: If you would like to receive Lilly Endowment news releases via e-mail, please send your e-mail address, name, title, publication/station to wolframg@lei.org. If you also would like a hard copy of the releases, please indicate.

Contact: Gretchen Wolfram
317/916-7304
317/255-2640
wolframg@lei.org

For Immediate Release
July 26, 2005

Indiana scholars to “Celebrate Education,” hear filmmaker Ken Burns at Lilly Endowment event

If their current dreams are realized, the 216 recipients of the 2005 Lilly Endowment Community Scholarships will, in a few short years, be nurses, doctors, teachers, engineers, accountants, event planners, performers, pharmacists, psychologists, marketing specialists, journalists, physical therapists, social workers, ministers, veterinarians, military officers, business executives, coaches, broadcasters, interior designers, missionaries and actors. This fall they will be freshmen on 29 campuses of Indiana colleges and universities.

First, they will be feted Saturday (July 30) at a special dinner in Indianapolis at the Downtown Marriott Hotel to “Celebrate Education.” Accompanying them will be their parents and guardians, “special people” who have made a difference in their lives, representatives of the more than 90 community foundations around the state who

(more)

Lilly Endowment Community Scholarships
Add 1

nominated them for the scholarship, officials of Independent Colleges of Indiana who made the final selections, and Lilly Endowment officials. Nearly 1,000 people are expected to attend.

“This is the eighth cohort of Lilly Endowment Community Scholars who have received full-tuition, four-year scholarships to attend Indiana colleges and universities,” said Sara B. Cobb, Endowment vice president for education. “On a number of fronts, Lilly Endowment has been actively promoting the imperative that Indiana must improve dramatically the educational attainment level of its citizens. One of these efforts has centered around mobilizing the state’s more than 90 community foundations to engage in programs that promote the importance of education in their areas.

“Over the years, they have spearheaded the selection process for the community scholarship program. The scholarship recipients they have selected are talented and hard-working young people who, by their own records of academic achievement, community service and leadership abilities, have earned this honor. We are always pleased to see them at this gala event and wish them well in their college careers,” Cobb said.

The highlight of the evening will be a presentation by the award-winning writer, cinematographer, producer and director, Ken Burns. He is best known for his 11-hour, thorough and poignant production of *The Civil War*, which attracted more than 40 million viewers in 1990 and was the highest-rated series in the history of American public television.

Burns also has been in the forefront of other groundbreaking television productions. Only six years after receiving his bachelor of arts degree in film studies and design from Hampshire College in Amherst, Mass., he burst on to the public television scene with *Brooklyn Bridge*. This 60-minute documentary received more than 10 honors, including an Academy Award nomination.

(more)

Lilly Endowment Community Scholarships
Add 2

As president of Florentine Films, his subsequent credits include *Jazz; Baseball; Mark Twain; Lewis & Clark: The Journey of the Corps of Discovery; The West; Horatio's Drive: America's First Road Trip; Not for Ourselves Alone: The Story of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony; Frank Lloyd Wright; Thomas Jefferson; Empire of the Air: The Men Who Made Radio; Lindbergh; The Congress; Thomas Hart Benton; The Statue of Liberty; Huey Long;* and *The Shakers: Hands to Work, Hearts to God*. This vast resume prompted the late historian Stephen Ambrose to say, "More Americans get their history from Ken Burns than any other source."

Burns has received more than 20 honorary degrees. He is a trustee of Hampshire College and the New England Humanities Council and a director of the MacDowell Colony, the oldest artists' colony in the country, in Peterborough, N.H. He is a member of the Society of American Historians, the American Antiquarian Society, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the Massachusetts Historical Society, the New England Historic Genealogical Society and the Walpole Society for Bringing to Justice Horse Thieves and Pilferers.

The young "guests of honor" at the dinner and their families also are invited to enjoy cultural attractions in downtown Indianapolis during the weekend. These include the Indianapolis Zoo, White River Gardens, Indiana State Museum, the IMAX Theater, NCAA Hall of Champions, the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art, and the Colonel Eli Lilly Civil War Museum.

Since 1998 the Endowment has authorized more than \$166 million for the program. Nominated by the community foundations in their counties, the scholars go through a rigorous selection process. The nominations are sent to the Independent Colleges of Indiana, which makes the final selection. The recipients – from senior classes numbering slightly more than 30 to those only slightly fewer than 1,000 – often are

(more)

Lilly Endowment Community Scholarships
Add 3

celebrated at luncheons and dinners in their hometowns, their names sometimes adorn billboards in their counties, and their achievements are captured with stories in their local newspapers.

So far more than 2,200 scholarship recipients have graduated. They have excelled in their college careers, earning many honors for their academic and leadership position and for their community service. This year's scholars – 139 women and 77 men – will

fan out across the state to embark upon the college careers at the following campuses:

- Anderson University – 4
- Ball State University – 8
- Butler University – 19
- DePauw University – 14
- Franklin College – 5
- Goshen College – 1
- Grace College – 1
- Hanover College – 6
- Holy Cross College – 1
- Huntington University – 1
- Indiana State University – 2
- Indiana University Bloomington – 30
- Indiana University Kokomo – 1
- Indiana University Southeast – 1
- Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis – 6
- Indiana Wesleyan University – 3
- Purdue University – 42
- Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology – 17
- St. Joseph's College – 1
- St. Mary-of-the-Woods College – 1
- St. Mary's College – 1
- Taylor University – 4
- University of Evansville – 8
- University of Indianapolis – 4
- University of Notre Dame – 23
- University of St. Francis – 1
- University of Southern Indiana – 5
- Valparaiso University – 4
- Wabash College – 2