Community Service is Rewarded with Scholarships

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NORWALK, Calif. – November 27, 2012 – At its November 15 board meeting, the Cerritos College Foundation awarded the Bellflower Noon Lions Club Scholarship and Cheryl A. Epple Memorial Scholarship to students committed to service.

Students Erick Maglalang of Bellflower and Katarina Taylor of Norwalk received the Bellflower Noon Lions Club Scholarship which recognizes students who have lived, worked or attended school in the city of Bellflower. The recipients were awarded $1,000 each in recognition of their community service and involvement.

The scholarship was presented by Club members Dr. Eric Ikeda and Dr. Ted Edmiston. Dr. Ikeda also serves as the Cerritos College Foundation vice chairman and Dr. Edmiston also serves as a member of the Cerritos College Board of Trustees.

Biology major Maglalang is involved in Project Hope, the Scholars Honors Program and the Chemistry Club on campus. His ultimate goal is to earn his M.D. and help underserved communities gain access to quality healthcare.

Taylor, a graduate of Bellflower High School, currently volunteers as a sign language interpreter for deaf and hard of hearing students with the DSPS office. She plans to transfer to Cal State Northridge to pursue her bachelor’s degree in deaf studies and ultimately earn her master’s degree in counseling.

The recipients of the Cheryl A. Epple Memorial Scholarship were Regina Jaster of Long Beach and Zanjbeel Mahmood of Downey. Terri McCon-Williams and Nelda Reuter, sisters of the late Cerritos College Trustee Cheryl Epple presented the scholarships to the recipients.

Jaster is a re-entry student enrolled in the Paralegal program. She is a member of the iFalcon club and Phi Theta Kappa, and serves as a student senator in the Associated Students of Cerritos College (ASCC.) She would like to earn her A.A. in paralegal studies and transfer to a Cal State to earn a degree in counseling.

Psychology major Mahmood is an active member of the Psychology Club and spends many hours serving others while volunteering at Metropolitan State Hospital as well as a senior care facility in Downey. She has also participated in ASCC activities such as Club Information Day, Hoe Down Days, and Mental Illness Awareness Week. Mahmood’s ultimate goal is to earn an M.D. to one day facilitate the research leading to the cure of mental illnesses.
The scholarship was established in 2004 by Epple’s family to honor her and recognize students who are committed to service in the community.

About the Cerritos College Foundation: The Cerritos College Foundation, a non-profit organization, serves as a charitable vehicle for the community, individuals and alumni, to assist with financial support of Cerritos College beyond that which state funding supports. Visit the Foundation online at www.cerritos.edu/ccf.

About Cerritos College: Cerritos College serves as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles County. Communities within the college’s district include Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, La Mirada, Norwalk, and portions of Bell Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, Santa Fe Springs and South Gate. Cerritos College offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions. Annually, more than 1,200 students successfully complete their course of studies, and enrollment currently averages 23,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at http://www.cerritos.edu/.

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