For Immediate Release

June 9, 2016

JCC Alumnus, Jefferson Community College Foundation and Northern New York Community Foundation recognize Jefferson-Can Community Scholars

Sixty area high school students have received a Jefferson-Can Community Scholars Award for their freshman year at Jefferson Community College (JCC), 2015-16, thanks to the generosity of Stephen H. Can, JCC alumnus ’80. Mr. Can, in partnership with the Northern New York Community Foundation and the JCC Foundation, has supported more than 180 JCC freshman students over their past three-year partnership.

In 2013 Mr. Can, the JCC Foundation and the Northern New York Community Foundation partnered to strengthen scholarship opportunities available to the region’s top high school students – the scholars program awards first-year tuition scholarships to students from Jefferson and Lewis counties who graduate in the top 15% of their respective classes. Since its inception in 2007 as the Jefferson-Can Scholars program, inclusive of this year’s class, over 450 students have attended JCC tuition free for their freshman year and over $1 million dollars has been invested in area students. In addition, approximately 73 students will enroll this fall as Jefferson-Can Community Scholars.

In April, over 50 students gathered at the Italian American Club in Watertown, all of whom were greeted by Mr. Can and his wife, Pam as well as presenter Steve Fisher, retired General Brown coach, and his wife, Alice. Students shared their experiences as first-year students and discussed future plans at JCC and beyond. In total, over $120,000 was invested in this year’s class thanks to the partnership of Mr. Can, the JCC Foundation and the Community Foundation. The Jefferson-Can Community Scholars program will continue to be administered by the Northern New York Community Foundation.

Mr. Can, a high school graduate of General Brown, attended JCC and later earned a bachelor degree at SUNY Plattsburgh and then a master’s of science degree in finance from the Krannert Business School at Purdue University. Mr. Can also earned his Certified Public Accountant, Certified Management Accountant and Certified Financial Manager credentials. He is currently a Senior Managing Director at The Blackstone Group (NYSE:BX), and Fund Co-Head and Founder at Strategic Partners Fund Solutions, New York, New York.

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2015-2016 Jefferson-Can Scholars recipients are:

Kemo Allen, Fort Drum
Nicholas Arrigo, Port Leyden
Hailey Babcock, LaFargeville
Michael Bamann, Watertown
Carly Barrger, Belleville
Kylene Beckstead, Philadelphia
Cassandra Birth, Black River
Christopher Bristow, Watertown
Megan Broyles, Watertown
Victoria Ciarfella, Redwood
Danielle Colwell, Sackets Harbor
Mark Corey, Watertown
Cole Coutermarsh, Theresa
Levi Crestani, Calcium
Noah Davidson, Philadelphia
Tyler Davis, Chaumont
Logan Eddy, Black River
Connor Fayle, Lowville
Bryce Fazio, Watertown
Eric Gibbs, Watertown
Stephanie Green, Watertown
Devon Griffiths, Watertown
Kiersten Guthro, Mannsville
Kaetlynn Hanlin, Watertown
Casey Hughes, Watertown
Rebecca Hunt, Philadelphia
Elisabeth Juczak, Adams Center
Alyssa Kamide, Carthage
Lorraine Knipes, Adams
Zachary LaForest-Hurd, Philadelphia
James Lamson, Watertown
Kaitlyn Larkin, Clayton

Elexys Larson, Carthage
Ryan Loar, Theresa
Cori Mainville, Carthage
Jaden Meeks, Clayton
Sadie Moran, Redwood
Calla Morrison, Castorland
Steven Naputi, Fort Drum
Nicholas Nevala, Clayton
Chelsea Oakes, Watertown
Zachary Perry, Watertown
Brooke Reustle, Black River
Mariah Rizzo, Watertown
Paige Robinson, Adams Center
Drew Safford, Watertown
Garrett Schell, Watertown
Ashley Seybolt, Theresa
Kali Sherbino, Theresa
Caityn Slate, Adams Center
Matthew Sundberg, Beaver Falls
Abigail Tanner, Carthage
Joelee Tooley-Pilon, Watertown
Nicholas Toutant, Calcium
Ryan Ward, Dexter
Casey Webb, Chaumont
Stephen Wilson, Dexter
Tameka Woodward, Carthage
Shyanne Yelle, LaFargeville
Angela Zielinski, Carthage

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The Northern New York Community Foundation makes grants to support the work of non-profit organizations and provides scholarships to individuals in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties. The Foundation has been built and added to from gifts (both while living and through their legacy plans) by individuals and organizations committed to meeting the changing needs of Northern New York, as well as supporting specific charitable interests and passions.

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Photo attached
Mr. Stephen H. Can and Coach Steven Fisher sit among this year’s Jefferson-Can Scholars Program recipients at dinner at the Italian American Club, Watertown.