



For Immediate Release
August 2007

For more information, contact,
Lynn Norman-Teck
305-216-6208

FLORIDA CONSORTIUM OF PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO THREE STUDENTS

Florida — Three charter school students who graduated in June 2007 were named winners of scholarships awarded by the Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools. Tiffany Marie Walker, from Indian River Charter High School in Vero Beach; Renata James and Charmaine Grace Limpioso from Somerset Academy Charter High School in Pembroke Pines each received a \$1,500 scholarship to use towards their post-secondary education.

Tiffany Marie Walker, a resident of Vero Beach, has been accepted to Stetson University in Deland, Florida. A pre-med major, Tiffany aspires to be a pediatrician. "It is my goal in the future to not only work as a pediatrician in my community," explains Tiffany, "but to be involved in missions work in other less fortunate areas of the world."

President of the Honor Society at Somerset Academy, Renata James plans to attend Florida International University. She is interested in a career in Human Resources Management. Charmaine Grace Limpioso, who also attended Somerset Academy in Pembroke Pines, has been accepted to the University of Florida. She plans to pursue a degree in pharmacy.

The Florida Consortium of Public Charters Schools scholarship recipients were selected from among 300 charter schools in the state. Recipients must be enrolled in a Florida charter school, have an outstanding academic record and have completed community service hours to qualify for the scholarship.

The Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools (FCPCS) is the leading charter school membership association in the state, with a membership of nearly 75% of all operating charter schools. Since it was founded in 1999, FCPCS has been dedicated to creating a national model of high quality, accredited public charter schools that are student-centered and performance-driven. It provides a wide array of technical support, mentoring, training, networking, and purchasing services to its membership, as well as serving as an advocate for all Florida public charter schools.

Public charter schools are a vital, thriving component of Florida's K-12 public education system. Charter schools are public schools that are operated by individuals or groups under contract with their sponsor – usually a local public school district. They are required to participate in federal and state accountability programs, such as FCAT and No Child Left Behind, and are held strictly accountable for both academic and financial performance. There are currently more than 350 public charter schools in the state of Florida serving close to 100,000 K through 12th grade students.

###