For Immediate Release:

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The James Beard Foundation Unveils 2010 Culinary Scholarships

Over $310,000 in Educational Scholarships and Professional Grants Available

New York, NY (April 1, 2010) – In its continued effort to uphold James Beard's legacy of culinary education and support, the James Beard Foundation is now accepting applications for its 2010 scholarship program, with more than $310,000 in awards available. Established in 1991, the James Beard Foundation Scholarship Program assists aspiring and established culinary professionals who plan to further their education at a licensed or accredited culinary school.

“Since its creation, the James Beard Foundation Scholarship Program has awarded more than $3.3 million to more than 1,200 worthy recipients,” says Diane Harris Brown, Director of Educational and Community Programming for the James Beard Foundation. “From aspiring young chefs to those pursuing food later in life, and pastry chefs to restaurateurs, the Scholarship Program satiates the hungriest of culinary minds—allowing chefs to further their careers while simultaneously advancing the culinary arts as a whole.”

New offerings for 2010 include the Wolf Hengst Scholarship in Pastry Studies for students enrolled at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, R.I.; the Steven Scher Memorial Scholarship for Aspiring Restaurateurs; and the T. J. Bartolotta Scholarship, designated for a Wisconsin-based culinary student.

Grants for current working culinary professionals to expand their experiences include the Richard Koschwitz Travel, Work and Study Grant, which will support a professional cook or chef as they hone skills of a particular cuisine in the country of origin. The Jean-Louis Palladin Professional Work/Study Grant, in memory of one of the great culinary geniuses of the 20th century, enables a qualified professional to work with food producers at their source.

The James Beard Foundation Scholarship Program is administered by the Scholarship Management Services division of Scholarship America, a nonprofit organization that has helped award scholarships to over one million students. Applications for scholarships are received and evaluated by Scholarship America. The applications of the finalists are then submitted to the James Beard Foundation’s Scholarship Selection Committee for final review.

Application forms can be found online at http://www.sms.scholarshipamerica.org/jamesbeard. All scholarship application materials, including transcript, must be postmarked by May 15, 2010. Professional grant applications must be postmarked by June 15, 2010. Scholarship winners will be notified in August 2010.

About the James Beard Foundation

Founded in 1986, the James Beard Foundation is dedicated to celebrating, preserving, and nurturing America’s culinary heritage and diversity in order to elevate the appreciation of our culinary excellence. A cookbook author and teacher with an encyclopedic knowledge about food, James Beard, who died in 1985, was a champion of American cuisine. He helped educate and mentor generations of professional chefs and food enthusiasts. Today, the Beard Foundation continues in the same spirit by administering a number of diverse programs that include educational initiatives, food industry awards, scholarships to culinary schools, and publications, and by maintaining the historic James Beard House in New York City’s Greenwich Village as a “performance space” for visiting chefs. For more information, please visit www.jamesbeard.org.

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