



**For Immediate Release:**  
Thursday, May 29, 2008

**For More Information:**  
Angie Dixon  
Director of Communications  
9Health Fair  
(303) 698-4455 x 1302  
[angie.dixon@9healthfair.org](mailto:angie.dixon@9healthfair.org)

## **9HEALTH FAIR SELECTS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

*Alan D. Laff Scholarships Support 'In the Classroom'  
Student Leaders Pursuing Healthcare Careers*

**Denver, CO** - - 9Health Fair announced today the five winners of the third annual Alan D. Laff Scholarships, sponsored by College In Colorado. Formerly known as the 9Health Fair Knowledge Awards, the scholarships help provide financial support to graduating high school seniors who organized an *In the Classroom* 9Health Fair and who are pursuing healthcare related careers. Each recipient receives a certificate and \$1,000 to be applied toward college expenses.

This year's scholarship recipients include:

- Lesslee Gaucin, Aurora CO
- Kaitlin Calhoun, Greeley, CO
- Ellen Verkler, Littleton, CO
- Matthew Drews, Castle Rock, CO
- Josephine Cunningham, Littleton, CO

“We are very proud to offer the Alan D. Laff Scholarships to these five exceptional student leaders,” said Jim Goddard, president and CEO of 9Health Fair. “Since 1982, more than 400,000 elementary, junior high and senior high school students have been impacted by 9Health Fair’s *In the Classroom* health education and activities. We have student leaders, such as our scholarship winners, to thank for that.”

The 2008 scholarships are dedicated to longtime 9Health Fair volunteer, Alan Laff. Laff, who volunteered for 9Health Fair for more than 10 years in a variety of capacities, including chairman of the organization’s Board of Trustees, passed away in February.

Students receiving a scholarship met the following criteria:

- Participated as a student leader in a 9Health Fair *In the Classroom* fair
- High school senior, or previous recipient, with a commitment to health care
- Involvement in school, community, and extracurricular activities
- Enrolling in a health care field of study at an institution of higher learning
- Minimum grade point average of 3.0
- Financial need
- Follow-up with 9Health Fair at the end of the school year with update on school and career plans.

For 26 years, 9Health Fair *In the Classroom* has offered its peer-to-peer education program to kindergarten through high school-aged students throughout Colorado. The program is designed to help students learn from each other about their own health and about healthy choices and issues. The statewide program runs in approximately 70 Colorado schools and reaches more than 25,000 students annually.

### **About 9Health Fair**

9Health Fair is Colorado's largest non-profit, volunteer-driven health fair program that promotes health awareness and encourages individuals to assume responsibility for their own health. Created by a National Institutes of Health project and 9NEWS, 9Health Fair's free and low cost health screenings and education program has earned unique endorsements from the Colorado Medical Society, the Colorado Nurses Association and the Colorado Hospital Association. Since 1980, 9Health Fair has impacted 1.7 million lives.

As an independent non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, 9Health Fair is proud of its financial management performance, keeping its administration and fundraising expense under 17 percent of its total budget, well under the industry average of 20-25 percent.

Major sponsors for the 2008 9Health Fair include 9NEWS, Quest Diagnostics, UniPath, King Soopers/City Market, GE Healthcare and Abbott. Special thanks to The Colorado National Guard for its continued 9Health Fair support through delivering supplies to volunteers and sites around the state.

###