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9HEALTH FAIR SELECTS ALAN D. LAFF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

*College In Colorado-Funded Scholarships Support 'In the Classroom'
Student Volunteers Pursuing Healthcare Careers*

Denver, CO - - Going to college can be challenging in these tough economic times, but for nine students pursuing healthcare-related careers, 9Health Fair is helping make that endeavor a reality. Colorado's largest non-profit, volunteer-driven health fair program today announced the winners of the fourth annual Alan D. Laff Scholarships, sponsored by College In Colorado.

They include:

- Tabatha Berndt, Lamar High School
- Sean Gray, St. Mary's Littleton
- Whitney Hodges, Manzanola High School
- Adara Lindt, Lewis-Palmer High School
- Tyndan Erin Marquez, Granada High School
- Ramon Padilla Jr., Manzanola High School
- Shannon Elizabeth Groe, St. Mary's Littleton
- Katherine Karubus, Grandview High School
- Ethan Drew Eberle, Fairview High School

The scholarships help provide financial support to students who participated in an *In the Classroom* 9Health Fair and who are pursuing healthcare related careers. Each recipient receives a \$1,000 to be applied towards their education.

“We are very proud to offer the 9Health Fair Knowledge Awards to these nine exceptional student leaders,” said Jim Goddard, president and CEO of 9Health Fair. “Since 1982, more than 500,000 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.”

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Students receiving an Alan D. Laff scholarship met the following criteria:

- Participated as a student leader in a 9Health Fair *In the Classroom* fair anytime in their school career
- Attends a middle or a high school and are ages 13-18
- Involved in school, community, and extracurricular activities
- Plans to attend college upon graduation
- Maintains a minimum grade point average of 3.0

The scholarships are named after longtime 9Health Fair volunteer, Alan Laff. Laff volunteered for 9Health Fair for more than 10 years in a variety of capacities, including chairman of the organization's Board of Trustees, and passed away in 2008.

For 27 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, 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.

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