

For Immediate Release

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WINSTON CHURCHILL HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR WINS \$2,000 DISCUS SCHOLARSHIP

Joshua Coyne was named the May 2011 Discus Scholarship winner by the Discus Awards, a national program that provides recognition and scholarship opportunities for multi-talented students who demonstrate excellence both inside and outside of school

<http://www.discusawards.com/>

Bethesda, MD (June 1, 2011) – Joshua Coyne, a senior at Winston Churchill High School in Potomac, MD, was named the recipient of the May 2011 Discus Scholarship, a [national college scholarship](#) that provides \$2,000 to ten multi-talented high school students each year who demonstrate excellence both inside and outside of school.

Adopted at the age of 2, Joshua has come from rough beginnings to achieve excellence in the arts, community service, and government.

The subject of a Spark Media film called *Prodigy* set for a 2012 release, Joshua's well-rounded body of work finds its base in his impressive musical aptitude. A musician and composer who began to compose and perform at the age of six, Joshua has performed for some very high-profile audience members. Joshua recalls, "I performed a solo concert at the Kennedy Center, opened for Grammy winning Motown artists, and performed for President Obama in front of 13,000 people."

Joshua's desire to use his talents for good is just as impressive and impactful as the extraordinary abilities themselves. As Joshua puts it, "I have learned that I can use my talents to financially support people in need. My benefit concerts have raised \$43,000 to fund arts education scholarships for at-risk youth, \$40,000 to help children in Haiti, and a concert performed with friends raised more than \$10,000 for Save the Children."

Joshua Coyne embodies the mission of the Discus Awards (www.DiscusAwards.com), the organization behind the Discus Scholarship. Launched in November 2009, the Discus Awards looks beyond test scores, grades, and athletics to recognize students whose multi-dimensional talents and passions span three of ten attributes, including community service, work, technology, athletics, academics, and the arts.

The \$2,000 Discus Scholarship is awarded to one Discus Award winner each month of the school year. In addition to becoming eligible for a Discus Scholarship, Discus Award winners are profiled on the Discus Awards site (www.discusawards.com/winners) and [Facebook page](#), providing them with a powerful new tool for showing colleges the full range of their diverse strengths and interests. Students can apply for a Discus Award throughout the year.

Since its soft launch in November 2009, the Discus Awards has attracted tens of thousands of nominees from every state in the U.S. plus D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. Winners are selected by a judging panel of teachers, counselors, and education professionals.

"With his energy, enthusiasm, and commitment to arts, community service, and government, Joshua exemplifies everything the Discus Scholarship stands for," said Devin Schain, CEO of the Discus Awards and Campus Direct. "At a time when it's harder than ever to pay for college, we're giving recognition and

support to the kind of leaders who will thrive in a world that increasingly requires creative thinking, dedication, and a wide range of strengths.”

Students may nominate themselves for a Discus Award at www.DiscusAwards.com, or be nominated by parents, teachers, counselors, coaches, or friends. They are then asked to submit references and write short essays describing their accomplishments in three out of ten major categories, or attributes, of student life: Academics, Arts, Athletics, Community Service, Faith, Government, Green, Technology, Work, and Other Achievements.

To show that they are more than just words on a page, nominees also are encouraged to upload photos and videos that illustrate their achievements.

The Discus Awards was created by Campus Direct, a burgeoning boutique global education company, and Recognition Media, the owner and producer of major awards programs including The Webby Awards and The Telly Awards.

To nominate yourself or someone you know, please visit www.DiscusAwards.com.

About The Discus Awards

The Discus Awards (www.DiscusAwards.com) is the only awards and scholarship program honoring active and engaged high school students who excel in and out of school. Looking beyond grades, test scores, and win-loss records, the Discus Awards recognizes students for achievement in at least three areas, from community service and work to faith and the arts. Winners are selected by a panel of teachers, counselors, and education professionals, and each winner is eligible for a \$2,000 college scholarship awarded each month of the school year. The Discus Awards is presented by Campus Direct, a burgeoning boutique global education company, and Recognition Media, the owner and producer of major awards programs, including The Webby Awards and The Telly Awards.

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