

**For Immediate Release**

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**SAVANNAH STUDENT WINS INAUGURAL DISCUS SCHOLARSHIP**

*Rebecca Dawson receives first \$2,000 scholarship from The Discus Awards, a new national program honoring multi-talented students who demonstrate excellence both inside and outside of school*

<http://www.discusawards.com/scholarship-rebecca-dawson>

**Savannah, GA (February 3, 2010)** – Rebecca Dawson, a senior at Savannah Arts Academy, today became one of two inaugural recipients of The Discus Scholarship, a new 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.

A non-denominational Christian, Rebecca has taken three mission trips to Haiti and plans to take another in the spring. When she isn't volunteering with her church, she juggles two part-time jobs in order to help her mother pay the bills, while managing to keep up with a rigorous academic schedule that includes an online French course at a level beyond the highest offered by her school.

Rebecca epitomizes the mission of The Discus Awards ([www.DiscusAwards.com](http://www.DiscusAwards.com)), the organization behind The Discus Scholarship. Launched last month, The Discus Awards look beyond test grades and athletics to recognize students whose multi-dimensional talents and passions span at least three of ten areas, including community service, work, technology, athletics, academics, and the arts.

After kicking off with two recipients this month, the \$2,000 Discus Scholarship will be awarded to one Discus Award winner each month of the school year. In addition to becoming eligible for a Discus Scholarship, winners of the Discus Award are profiled on The Discus Awards site ([www.discusawards.com/winners](http://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 last November, the Discus Awards have attracted thousands of nominees from every state in the U.S. Winners are selected by a judging panel of teachers, counselors, and education professionals.

“With her energy, enthusiasm, and commitment to both her local and global community, Rebecca Dawson exemplifies everything the award 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 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 were created by Campus Direct, a leading educational services company, and Recognition Media, a 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](http://www.DiscusAwards.com).

**About The Discus Awards**

The Discus Awards ([www.DiscusAwards.com](http://www.DiscusAwards.com)) is the only scholarship and awards program honoring active and engaged high school students who excel in and out of school. Looking beyond just grades, test scores, and win-loss records, the Discus Awards recognize 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 are presented by Campus Direct, a leading educational services company, and Recognition Media, a producer of major awards programs, including The Webby Awards and The Telly Awards.

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