



Friday, April 27, 2007

## **Orland resident gets third place at Sacramento essay contest**

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The California Association of Collectors Educational Scholarship Foundation (CACESF) held its' second annual scholarship awards banquet on April 17, at The Hyatt Regency in Sacramento.

Orland resident Jessica Martin was selected as the third place winner from a panel of judges out of over 200 applications throughout California. Applicants were asked to write an essay on "The Importance of Establishing and Maintaining Good Credit During Your College Years."

The three finalists read their essays in front of the attendees and four judges, Assembly Members Jean Fuller and Roger Niello, CACESF Co-founder Patrick Lozano and California Association of Collectors (CAC) President Dale Van Dellen. Senator Dick Ackerman and Assembly Member John Benoit also made a special appearance for the reception portion of the event.

Each student received a certificate of participation, recognition from the California Legislature and will have their essay published in Collector's Ink, the monthly journal of CAC. All finalist walked away winners; the first place winner Laura Johnson from Apple Valley received \$2,500, Diana Ramos from San Diego got \$2,000 and Martin was awarded \$1,500 in scholarships.

Martin is a senior at William Finch Charter School in Orland. She aspires to open her own beauty salon in Northern California in the future after she earns her cosmetology license. Her dream is becoming a reality because she will begin classes through Butte College at the Chico Beauty College this fall.

The Educational Scholarship Foundation was founded in 2005 by CAC. The scholarship was started to help California high school graduates pursue their education at any accredited public or private college, university or trade school as well as to emphasize the importance of good credit management to high school seniors.

CAC is a non-profit association that represents over 400 collection agencies throughout the state. CAC's mission is to promote, stimulate, increase and improve the educational, social, economic and ethical welfare of the California collection industry and the public it serves.