



## FIRST COMMAND ANNOUNCES FIRST DIRECT SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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Two high school seniors have been selected to receive the first-ever First Command Educational Foundation (FCEF) direct scholarships. They are Erin Convery, who will receive \$10,000, and Anya Price, the \$5,000 scholarship winner.

FCEF opened the application for its scholarships on its website, [www.FirstCommand.org](http://www.FirstCommand.org), in October 2007, and plans for the opportunity to be available annually at about the same time. FCEF is a 501(C)(3) public charity which has been in operation 25 years, delivering more than \$3.7 million in scholarships across the United States, and enhancing financial literacy through educational presentations.

Convery is from Virginia Beach, VA. She plans to enter the field of engineering. She is ranked first in her senior class, has carried a 4.39 grade average (out of a possible 5.0) and achieved a perfect 1600 Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) score. As an active member of the Key Club she has risen to District Secretary (four states), and was directly involved in a United Nations Foundation project, *Nothing But Nets*, raising \$15,000 to provide African children protection against malaria.

Price, of Natick, MA, also has top grades and will study for a career in veterinary medicine. She plays saxophone in her high school's symphonic band, jazz ensemble and pit orchestra. She also runs competitively in cross-country and outdoor track events, captaining both teams for her high school. She plans to participate in track in college. She is active in her community with projects at the Humane Society and completed a 60-hour internship at a local animal hospital to heighten her experience with veterinary medicine. She has recently been accepted at Tufts University.

All applicants were required to write an essay on the importance of financial literacy. Both women state that they have been saving since an early age. "Financial literacy is important because knowledge is the key to success. I would not do well solving a differential equations if I knew nothing about calculus. In the same way, it would be silly to try to manage money if I knew little about finances," says Convery, the mathematician. "Personal decisions play a crucial role in future financial management activity. I could spend money on an iPhone, or I could spend it on textbooks. Pretty simple choice for a college-bound student," said Price, in her essay.

"We're very proud to encourage and support these promising young women," says Vickie Mauldin, FCEF Executive Director. "They will be tomorrow's leaders and contributors to society, and FCEF is pleased to have a role in their future accomplishments."