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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Three NBHS Seniors Awarded Jacobs Scholarships
Fourth Scholarship is added for Charter School

Three New Bedford High School seniors have been awarded four-year scholarships to study math, science or engineering at a college or university, thanks to the Jacobs Family New Bedford High School Scholarship, a fund of the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts.

City native and QUALCOMM founder Dr. Irwin Jacobs and his wife, Joan Klein Jacobs, flew in from their home in La Jolla, Calif., on Thursday afternoon to award the scholarships at the New Bedford Whaling Museum to NBHS seniors **Stephanie Bender, Joy Nightingale and Brandon Roderick**. Each will receive a \$24,000 scholarship, to be distributed over four years.

The Jacobs Family New Bedford High School Scholarship Fund was established by the Jacobs in 2000 with a \$1 million gift to the Community Foundation (CFSEMA). In 2005, thanks to an additional \$800,000 donation by the Jacobs, the Foundation was able to increase the size and number of scholarships from two \$20,000 scholarships to three \$24,000 awards.

During a visit earlier in the day to the New Bedford Global Learning Charter High School in the school administration building on County Street, Dr. and Mrs. Jacobs announced the creation of a fourth scholarship to be awarded to a graduating Charter School senior beginning with the Class of 2008. The amount and criteria for the scholarship will mirror the current New Bedford High School awards.

“It is very gratifying each year to see the enthusiasm and learn of the accomplishments of the scholarship winners,” said CFSEMA President Craig J. Dutra. “New Bedford High School has graduated some very talented students, and we’ve been thrilled to see past winners accomplish just as much in college. We are grateful to the Jacobs for making this possible.”

Guest speakers at the May 18 presentation included Dr. Jacobs, CFSEMA Chair Thomas F. Lyons and President Craig J. Dutra, Deputy Superintendent of Schools Ronald Souza, and Joanna Kyriakidis, a 2005 Jacobs Scholarship recipient who is now attending the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

Scholarships were awarded to the three students below:

- ✓ **Stephanie Bender**, daughter of David Bender, who will attend the University of Massachusetts at Amherst to study Biology and pursue cancer research. Stephanie ranks 13th in her New Bedford High School Class of 549 students, is a member of the National Honor Society, and maintained “highest honors” throughout high school. She played for the school’s Junior Varsity and Varsity Soccer teams, and belonged to the Book, Photography and Drama Clubs, as well as the Debate Team. Stephanie also received a Student Athlete Award. She also works part-time and has volunteered at a local day care center.

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- ✓ **Joy Nightingale**, daughter of James Nightingale and Janice McDonough, plans to study pre-medicine at Boston College. She ranks second in her New Bedford High School class, and has been actively involved in school and community activities. At school, Joy is a member of the National Honor Society and the Faculty Honor Roll. She is a drum major for the high school marching band, vice president of the NBHS Jazz Band and was a member of the field hockey and track teams. In the community, Joy is Vice Chair of the City of New Bedford Mayor's Youth Council and Youth Liaison for the Greater New Bedford Workforce Investment Board.

- ✓ **Brandon Roderick**, grandson of Patricia Roderick, will attend Tufts University as a pre-medical student. Brandon is graduating 5th in his NBHS class, and is a member of the National Honor Society, a Venture's Scholar, and was on the Faculty Honor Roll for every marking period. Brandon also was a 4-year Homeroom Representative, a 3-year member of the Medical Careers Club and the Book Club, a member of the Bowling Club and the Learning Leaders Network. He also is the student representative on the New Bedford Drug Free Student Assistance Program Advisory Board and a Junior Volunteer at St. Luke's Hospital.

The Jacobs' full day in New Bedford also included visits to the Carlos Pacheco Elementary School, formerly Mt. Pleasant Street School, which Dr. Jacobs attended; the Global Learning Charter High School, and City Hall for lunch with Mayor Scott Lang followed by an interview in New Bedford Public Access TV Studios. The Jacobs also visited the Sea Lab Marine Science Education Center in the South End.

In 2006, the Jacobs made a gift to establish several New Bedford education funds at the Community Foundation, portions of which are used to fund programs and trips at the Carlos Pacheco School as well as scholarships for students to attend the summer Sea Lab program.

A 1950 New Bedford High School graduate, Dr. Jacobs received a Bachelor of Engineering degree from Cornell University and a master's and Sc.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering from MIT. In 1985, he co-founded the California-based wireless communications Fortune 500 Company QUALCOMM, Inc., and has served as Chairman and CEO. Joan Klein Jacobs is a New York City native who has become a leader in the San Diego community since moving to La Jolla in 1996. She has played a vital role in her contributions to the San Diego arts community.

Joanna Kyriakidis graduated in 2005 from New Bedford High School, where she was sixth in her class of more than 600 students. That year, she was awarded a \$24,000 Jacobs Family New Bedford High School Scholarship to study pre-medical sciences at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, where she just finished her sophomore year.

About the Community Foundation

Since 1995, area residents have been turning to the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts to make their philanthropic giving as effective as possible. CFSEMA is a public charity serving thousands of people who share a common concern – improving the quality of life in Southeastern Massachusetts.

To date, the Community Foundation has assets of more than \$16.5 million and has distributed over \$5 million from 92 funds to humanitarian, educational and cultural organizations in the region.

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