

July 15, 2008

For Immediate Release

## **Community Foundation Awards Nelson, Sherman Scholarships to NBHS Grads**

The Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts has awarded scholarships to three 2008 New Bedford High School graduates from the **Kathleen Joyce Nelson and the Ellery R. Sherman Memorial scholarship funds.**

The **Kathleen Joyce Nelson Scholarship** was established in 2005 by the family of city native Kathleen Joyce Nelson, who died of breast cancer at age 34, to share her spirit and legacy. The \$2,300 scholarship was awarded this year to **Nicole H. Talbot**, a 2008 NBHS graduate who plans to study liberal arts at Bristol Community College.

Established by David and Joyce Nelson in memory of their late daughter, the Kathleen Joyce Nelson Fund provides an annual scholarship of at least \$2,000, with preference given to students who have struggled with cancer or have an affiliation with the cancer-stricken population through community service, employment, volunteer work or family involvement.

**The Ellery R. Sherman Memorial Scholarship Fund** provides scholarships of at least \$1,000 to graduating New Bedford High School seniors who also attended the John Avery Parker Elementary School.

This year, \$1,000 Ellery Sherman Scholarships were awarded to **Aline DeSouza and Erin Brosseau.**

**Aline** graduated with honors from NBHS this year. She was a cheerleader for two years and participated in ROTC for three years. Aline was also a member of her class Steering Committee and of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She is president of her church youth group. Aline will attend UMass Amherst in the fall, where she hopes to study international business.

**Erin**, also a 2008 NBHS honors graduate, plans to major in criminal justice at UMass Dartmouth. She played soccer from age 7 until the beginning of her senior year, when

she was sidelined by a knee injury. Erin had an internship at the Bristol County District Attorney's Office during the first semester of her senior year, spending part of her semester with the State Police investigative unit at the DA's office.

During her second senior semester, Erin took a sociology course at UMass Dartmouth and now works part-time at the UMass Alumni Office. She also works five days a week at the Star Drive-In in Berkley.

### ***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.

While the Foundation's primary grantmaking focus is on the SouthCoast communities of Greater New Bedford, Greater Fall River, and Greater Plymouth County, CFSEMA is a regional foundation serving 41 cities and towns. To date, the Community Foundation has assets of more than \$18.5 million and has distributed over \$6 million from 110 funds to humanitarian, educational and cultural organizations in the region. . More information about the Foundation can be found at [www.cfsema.org](http://www.cfsema.org).

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