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Book Industry Charitable (Binc) Foundation expands scholarship program offering up to \$198,500 in higher education scholarships to qualifying bookstore employees and dependents

Ann Arbor, MI (January 13, 2014) – The Binc Foundation is accepting applications from now until February 28, 2014 for the newly expanded Binc Foundation Scholarship program. The program will offer two scholarships at the \$10,000 level and up to 51 \$3,500 awards, together totaling \$198,500, to eligible current bookstore employees/owners and their dependents as well as former Borders Group employees and their dependents. As part of this expanded scholarship program, awards may be used for tuition, fees, books, supplies and room and board. Funds may also be used over consecutive years if the student is not able to use the entire award for the 2014-2015 academic year.

“We received such positive feedback regarding the scholarships awarded in 2013 that when it came time to plan for the 2014 scholarship program, it made sense to expand the program,” said Pam French, Executive Director of the Foundation. “The scholarship program is a very good way for booksellers to learn about the Foundation and all of the ways we can help out during tough times. When the Foundation can provide the opportunity for a bookseller to pursue their dreams it aligns with our mission to strengthen the bookselling community overall.”

Since 2001, the Foundation has supported the educational goals of almost 500 recipients with over 1.1 million dollars in awards. Now in the thirteenth year, the focus on making a positive impact in the lives of bookstore employees and their families continues to extend to all current employees/owners and dependents of retail bookstores in the U.S. who have a minimum of one year of continuous employment at a bookstore. The bookstore must have a retail bricks and mortar presence in the U.S. and generate a substantial portion of the store’s revenue from the sale of books. Eligible employees must be employed directly by the bookstore.

Scholarship America (Scholarship Management Services) will again conduct the 2014 scholarship program. The evaluation process will utilize selection criteria including financial need, prior academic achievement, leadership capabilities, and participation in school and community activities, work experience and a statement of career aspiration.

If you are interested in applying we encourage you to apply at: <https://www.scholarshipamerica.org/binc/>.

About The Book Industry Charitable (Binc) Foundation

The Book Industry Charitable Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that coordinates charitable programs to strengthen the bookselling community. Established in 1996, the core program provides assistance to bookstore employees who have a demonstrated financial need arising from severe hardship and/or emergency circumstances. Since its inception, the organization has provided over \$5 million in charitable assistance. Support for the Foundation’s programs and services come from all sectors of the book industry.

The Book Industry Charitable Foundation’s mission is to strengthen the bookselling community through charitable programs that support employees and their families. The Foundation was imagined and built by booksellers and proudly continues to be their safety net. It is our vision to be a caring community of book people.

Additional information can be found at <http://www.bincfoundation.org>.

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