

PRESS RELEASE

Manufacturing Institute collaborates with University of Phoenix to offer scholarships and higher education opportunities to current and prospective manufacturing employees

20 full-tuition scholarships position manufacturing working learners for education and career advancement

Washington, D.C. ,September 28, 2012: The Manufacturing Institute, in collaboration with University of Phoenix – a global education provider – awarded twenty (20) qualified individuals with a full-tuition scholarship for an undergraduate or master’s degree at University of Phoenix. Awarded to individuals currently employed by a manufacturer or wanting to pursue a career in the industry, The Manufacturing Institute Scholarship allows manufacturing working learners to access the education needed to advance their skills in today’s advanced manufacturing workplaces.

The Manufacturing Institute and University of Phoenix would like to congratulate the following scholarship recipients:

Stacey Bibik – Arvada, Colo.

Brian Fiscus – Middleton, Ohio

Kevin Conrad – Noblesville, Ind.

Jacob Hogg – Pullman, Wash.

Chelsi Craddock – Belluno, BL (Italy)

Ryan Jessen – Wall Lake, Iowa

Christopher Creamer – Monmouth Junction,
N.J.

Daniel Kaercher – Columbus, Ohio

Russell Knight – Denver, Colo.

Tamo Duske – Centennial, Colo.

Brent Kuskie – Mount Vernon, Ohio

Daniel Evangelista – Madera, Calif.

Charles Lamb – Morris, Ill.

Leland Stroud – Garner, N.C.

Chelse Monnier – Grinnell, Iowa

Kendy Troiano – Columbus, Ohio

Christopher Schnupp – Phoenix, Ariz.

Darcie Utterback – Bucoda, Wash.

Keri Steward – Morrow, Ga.

Jason Walker – Spring, Texas

“The Manufacturing Institute is proud to provide these exceptional manufacturing employees and students opportunities to further their education at University of Phoenix and directly impact their company’s success and their career advancement goals,” said Jennifer McNelly, president, The Manufacturing Institute. “Manufacturers’ ability to compete globally depends on an educated and skilled workforce. These individuals represent the workforce that will lead the innovation that is critical to our U.S. manufacturing base.”

The scholarships are part of an educational alliance between the Institute and University of Phoenix to develop the next generation of highly educated and competitive manufacturing workers. In addition to the scholarship program, University of Phoenix offers a Bachelor of Science in Management with a concentration in Manufacturing, which aligns to the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)-Endorsed Manufacturing Skills Certification System.

“The nature of manufacturing continues to evolve. Manufacturers require knowledge of complex and expensive systems,” said Dr. Bill Pepicello, president, University of Phoenix. “Employers are seeking an educated and skilled workforce to meet the demands of a changing global industry. These scholarships enable employees to further their education through relevant and challenging coursework.”

This is the second year the University and Manufacturing Institute have partnered to award the Manufacturing Institute Scholarship. “My studies at University of Phoenix have been extremely helpful to my company and my job experience,” said 2011 recipient Justin Babcock. “The Manufacturing Institute Scholarship is a critical factor in continuing my education.”

Endorsed by the leadership at their companies or schools, the applicants submitted essays articulating how pursuing their degree would directly impact their careers in manufacturing. In addition, employer

recommendations demonstrated how the applicants' educational advancement would help the companies improve their business operations.

For more information about Manufacturing Institute University of Phoenix scholarships, please visit <http://www.themanufacturinginstitute.org/Education-Workforce/University-of-Phoenix-Partnership/University-of-Phoenix-Partnership.aspx>

About The Manufacturing Institute

The Manufacturing Institute (the Institute) is the 501 (c) 3 affiliate of the National Association of Manufacturers. As a non-partisan organization, the Institute is committed to delivering leading-edge information and services to the nation's manufacturers. The Institute is the authority for U.S. manufacturing on the attraction, qualification, and development of world-class talent. Visit www.themanufacturinginstitute.org.

About University of Phoenix

University of Phoenix is constantly innovating to help students balance education and life in a rapidly changing world. Flexible schedules, challenging courses and interactive learning can help students pursue personal and career aspirations without putting their lives on hold. As the flagship university of Apollo Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: APOL), University of Phoenix serves a diverse student population, offering associate, bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs from campuses and learning centers across the U.S. as well as online throughout the world. For more information, visit phoenix.edu.