DEAR SCHOLAR SUPPORTER:

There’s something very special about this time of year when our campuses spring to life: the faces of eager, enthusiastic students, renewed faculty commitment to excellent academics and initiation of another student scholarship award cycle. These are elements of the annual ritual known as “Back to School.”

During the next several months, representatives from MCPHS departments will collaborate to produce the roster of student scholarship award winners for 2012–2013. The selection process involves deliberate consideration of each fund’s selection criteria. Please let me know if you would like to learn about the selection criteria for the scholarship fund with which you are connected. We are committed to select student award winners whose qualifications match the intent of donors and donor representatives.

More than 95% of our students require financial aid. Institutional assistance and externally-funded scholarship awards soften the tuition debt burden that weighs on students long after graduation. Moreover, the prospect of scholarship assistance lets students approach “Back to School” with eagerness and enthusiasm. I see it in their faces all the time.

Have a great fall,

Sincerely,

Marguerite C. Johnson ’61
Vice President for Development and Chief of Staff

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Stories of Scholarship is a moving video tribute to the generosity of scholarship award fund donors and scholarship award winning students who benefit from donor largess at MCPHS. Narrated by MCPHS President Charles F. Monahan Jr. ’62 (a scholarship award recipient himself), Stories delivers concise, enduring and emotional messages about the value of scholarship awards. As one grateful student remarks, “I’m very thankful this year. My mother actually lost her job, and she was the one who was supporting me.”

Stories powerfully shows that scholarship awards deliver much more than welcome financial support to students; in many instances these awards underlie future academic success and professional promise. Donors appear to notice. As one remarks, “I felt that this was a great way to give forward for many, many years.”

You can watch Stories of Scholarship online at www.mcphs.edu/ScholarshipStories. If you would like to have a Stories DVD mailed to you, email Lonny Townley, Executive Director of Development Operations, at lonny.townley@mcphs.edu or call 617.732.2230.
Although MCPHS student Jonathan Plante hails from Rhode Island, the nation’s smallest state, his career ambitions are hardly modest. Jonathan, who expects to graduate in 2014, is enrolled in the Pharmaceutical and Health Care Business academic program. He reports, “I find the effects of drugs on the body to be very interesting. I am fascinated by the process that scientists use to pinpoint disease, and then synthesize drugs that will target disease without killing other human cells. I want to make a contribution to the amazing pharmaceutical industry.”

Upon his MCPHS graduation, Jon plans to pursue an MBA or Master of Public Policy degree, prior to securing employment in reimbursement or finance within the pharmaceutical industry. He credits the MCPHS concentration on health care education for nurturing his career drive. “MCPHS is one of the few schools in the country that has this focus and appreciation for such a growing, and important field.” Jon faces the significant challenge, as do so many of his peers, in financing the cost of his education. “I deal with that challenge on a semester-basis. My extended family has stepped in, and I have maintained jobs as well.”

Last year, Jon received the Eileen S. and Lewis N. Wayne Scholarship Fund award. He notes that there are multiple benefits. “Being a scholarship winner took financial stress off my shoulders and allowed me to focus on my education, gain more from my studies, work less and even sleep more!” For these and other reasons, he says, “Donors are extremely important. They understand the need.” Having come to this realization, Jon projects that “one day, many years after graduating MCPHS, I hope to directly help students by setting up a scholarship fund. I wish to share my happiness in receiving the scholarship, with deserving students.”

Eileen S. and Lewis N. Wayne Scholarship Fund

ROMULUS L. DENICOLA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

There may be no honor more meaningful than to have a scholarship fund established in your name…by others who aren’t even family members…when you are still alive. That’s what the friends of Dr. Romulus L. DeNicola did in 1983 when they created the Romulus L. DeNicola Scholarship Fund.

Although Dr. DeNicola passed away in 1996, daughter Jane Tetzlaff and husband Richard are closely tied to the fund. Dr. DeNicola would be proud. Jane notes, “Dad was a ‘life-long’ student and a fabulous teacher. He thrived on passing on knowledge and pushing the profession to the limit of excellence. He loved instructing nursing students about drugs, chemicals, patient needs and pharmacy law, writing parts of pharmacy exams and crafting state laws.” His professional career included positions in academia, law enforcement, government and retail pharmacy and as executive secretary of the Board of Registration, author of Pharmacy Law and many volunteer organizations.

Dr. DeNicola loved his work. “He ate, drank, slept and dreamt pharmacy,” remembers Jane. “The ‘store’ opened at 7 a.m., closed at 11 p.m., 7 days a week, plus he was always on call for emergencies.”

When awarded an MCPHS honorary degree in 1974, Dr. De Nicola “felt he had done substantial work to warrant a PhD, though not by traditional course work,” observes Jane. “To be given an honorary without proper background wouldn’t have been ‘honorary’ or acceptable to him.”

Both Jane and Richard attend the annual scholarship recognition dinner to meet DeNicola scholarship awardees and, “all the young, eager, optimistic and idealistic students.” She continues, “Helping them only helps mankind. Education is the key. For most, the cost needs to be defrayed. In that regard, it is a selfish reward to be a donor, if indeed a reward is sought at all.”

Jane and Richard Tetzlaff with student Zachary Barrieau