



**For Immediate Release:**

June 23, 2008

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**The Washington Teachers Union Awards Scholarships to Two Graduating DCPS Seniors**

**Washington, DC** – The Washington Teachers Union (WTU) today announced that it has awarded two \$20,000 scholarships to deserving DCPS seniors. Jasmine Harrison from Woodrow Wilson SHS and Fuk Ying Cheng from Banneker SHS will receive financial support to pursue careers in teaching within the public school system.

Each year the Washington Teachers' Union Scholarship Fund (WTUSF) awards two outstanding DCPS seniors who plan to pursue careers in education with \$20,000 scholarships. These scholarships are paid over four years in equal installments of \$2,500 per semester. Applicants were required to present three letters of recommendation from a teacher, principal or counselor, verification of acceptance from an accredited college or university with a State/DC certified teacher education program and a 500 word essay on "Why He or She Wants to Be a Teacher."

Cheng, a senior at Banneker SHS, is very active in her community and currently teaches Mandarin to Asian Americans. During her freshman year, she was named a "Top Achiever" by the Washington Post newspaper, and she has been an Honor Roll student throughout high school. Cheng recently revived the Banneker SHS school newspaper, "Train of Thought."

Jasmine Harrison, an Honor Roll student at Woodrow Wilson SHS, volunteers as an Aftercare Assistant at a Montessori school in Chevy Chase, MD and works as an intern for The Young Women's Project that aims to build and support teen women. She would like to work as teacher so that she can improve the public school system and empower others.

"It is a great pleasure to be able to provide monetary assistance to deserving students who plan to pursue careers in education and would like to make a difference within the public school system," stated WTU President George Parker. "Both Cheng and Harrison are exemplary students who will make great contributions to the education field."

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The Washington Teachers' Union (WTU), representing more than 4,000 DC public school teachers, is dedicated to improving the working environment for DC public school (DCPS) teachers so that they can provide a quality education for all DCPS children. The Washington Teachers' Union Scholarship Fund Program (WTUSF) is committed to improving teaching in the District of Columbia Public Schools and supports the development of DCPS students interested in teaching in public schools.