



Maine Community College System

NEWS RELEASE

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TWO MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS NAMED 2008 GEORGE J. MITCHELL PEACE SCHOLARS

AUGUSTA, ME – Two Maine Community College students will study in Ireland next year having been selected as 2008 George J. Mitchell Peace Scholars.

The students, who were selected for their academic and leadership abilities and their commitment to community service, are **Lucas Ireland of Mapleton**, a first-year student in NMCC's residential construction program, and **Tracy London of Waterville**, who graduated this month from SMCC's culinary arts program. Both students plan to travel to Ireland for one semester during the 2008-09 academic year to study at the Cork Institute of Technology.

The students both cited their Irish roots and interest in gaining an international perspective they can apply to their chosen careers as reasons for wanting to represent Maine as Mitchell Scholars.

The George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship exchange was created in 1998 as a tribute to Senator Mitchell for his work in helping to facilitate a peace accord for Ireland and Northern Ireland, and his lifelong devotion and commitment to public service. The Scholarship provides for the exchange of students between public community colleges and universities of Maine and Ireland.

To date, 18 M CCS students have already participated in the exchange, and 14 students from Ireland have travelled to Maine to attend a community college. For more information on the program, visit <http://www.mccs.me.edu/student/gm.html>.

As recipients of the Scholarship both of the M CCS students selected this spring will receive free tuition, room and board, and pay no academic fees at the institution in Ireland. They will also receive a \$1,000 travel stipend and a framed certificate naming them George J. Mitchell Peace Scholars.

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