



Carolinas' Carrousel Announces 2011 Belk Carrousel Scholarship Winners

Carrousel Scholar and Runners-Up named at awards ceremony at the Charlotte Marriott City Center

CHARLOTTE, NC – November 23, 2011 – The 2011 Carrousel Scholar and Runners-Up were named at an awards ceremony luncheon at the Charlotte Marriott City Center on Wednesday, November 23. The scholarship winners were selected from a group of 58 area high school girls who participated in the Carrousel Scholarship program.

Judging was based on academic achievement, community involvement, poise and interview skills. The winners announced at the ceremony are:

Carrousel Scholar	Molly Walker	Jay M. Robinson High School
1 st Runner Up	Shannon Elaine Kay	Ashbrook High School
2 nd Runner Up	Sarah Elizabeth Clarke	North Lincoln High School
3 rd Runner Up	Samantha Forlenza	South Mecklenburg High School
4 th Runner Up	Jessica Brugman	Forestview High School
York Scholarship Winner	Molly Walker	Jay M. Robinson High School

The Carrousel Scholar and Runners-Up and the York Scholarship winner receive college scholarships ranging from \$700 to \$3,000. All scholarship winners also receive trophies.

In conjunction with the Carrousel Scholarship program, Wingate University offered scholarship to six students who had submitted applications to the school. They are:

Jenna Katherine Alexander	Cherryville High School
Madison Ann Cheswick	East Mecklenburg High School
Leyna Marie Crane	Union County Early College
Sierra Danielle Croft	Bessemer City High School
Micala Griffin	Forest Hills High School
Abigail Page Johnson	Metrolina Christian Academy

After the ceremony, the Carrousel Representatives were guests of the NASCAR Hall of Fame, which will be open to the public on Thanksgiving Day. They then enjoyed a tour of uptown Charlotte, courtesy of Charlotte Crown Guides.

Also announced at the ceremony were the winners of the Carrousel Music Scholarships, awarded to outstanding members of area high school marching bands. The winners' band departments receive matching grants from the Carrousel Scholarship Fund. The Robert L. Maddox Scholarship is awarded to a student who plans to major in music in college. The winners are:

Inside Mecklenburg County	Meagan Elizabeth Barger	Providence High School
Outside Mecklenburg County	Andrew Steven Vogl	Ashe County High School
Overall Winner	William Robert Church	Ashe County High School
Maddox Award Winner	Tatianna Munro	Independence High School

The Carrousel Scholar and Runners-Up, the York Scholarship Winner and the Second Harvest honoree will ride on a float sponsored by Autobell Car Wash in the Belk Carolinas' Carrousel Parade on Thursday, November 24. The other outstanding students who participated in the Carrousel Scholarship Program will ride on other sponsored floats in the parade. The music scholarship winners will march with their bands in the parade.

About Carolinas' Carrousel, Inc.

The Belk Carolinas' Carrousel Parade has evolved over more than six decades as a regional tradition and highlight of the Holiday Season. Founded in 1947 by four local businessmen to attract holiday shoppers to uptown Charlotte, the Thanksgiving week events have become much more. The Parade and its ancillary activities, such as the Carrousel Scholarship program, are produced by Carolinas' Carrousel, Inc., an independent, volunteer, non-profit, charitable organization. Carolinas' Carrousel is committed to enhancing regional area's community life through quality family oriented entertainment. The Parade officially announces and celebrates the beginning of the holiday season. In addition, it promotes excellence through awards to area high school students and marching bands. Carolinas' Carrousel, Inc. also exists to offer business, industry, and the local citizenry the opportunity of participating in showcasing the region and encouraging academic excellence in the future leaders of the area.

About Belk, Inc.

Charlotte, N.C.-based Belk, Inc. (www.belk.com) is the nation's largest privately owned mainline department store company with 303 Belk stores located in 16 Southern states. The company was founded in 1888 by William Henry Belk in Monroe, N.C., and is in the third generation of Belk family leadership. Its belk.com Web site offers a wide assortment of fashion apparel, shoes and accessories for the entire family along with top name cosmetics, a wedding registry and a large selection of quality merchandise for the home. To connect with Belk via Facebook, Twitter, blog, mobile phone text messages or by email, go to: Belk Get Connected.

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