

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Questa Foundation Awards \$51,375 in Sites Scholarships**

March 29, 2011, Fort Wayne, Indiana – Questa Foundation for Education announced today that it has awarded \$51,375 in academic scholarships to 93 Allen County college students in the Questa Scholars Program.

The scholarships range from \$250 - \$2,000 per award and are granted annually to Allen County public high school graduates who are participants in the Questa Scholars Program. A Questa Scholar can qualify for up to \$4,000.00 in Sites grants over a four year time period. The scholarships are awarded based upon academic merit and financial need.

The Sites Scholarship is made available through a generous trust established in 1973 by Mabel and Vanette Sites, former North Side High School teachers.

In making today's announcement, Questa Foundation's Executive Director, Christina K. Smith, said, "These generous and visionary educators shared Questa Foundation's passion for helping Allen County high school graduates afford a college education. Their generosity has helped thousands of students to graduate with less debt and greater financial freedom."

The Sites Scholarships are applied directly to a Questa Scholars loan balance, thereby reducing the overall amount of debt the recipient owes to Questa Foundation. This debt reduction is over and above the 50% debt forgiveness Questa Foundation extends to Questa Scholars if they graduate with a 2.75 cumulative GPA and become contributing members of northeast Indiana's workforce for at least five years after receiving their college degree. The Foundation's 50% debt forgiveness occurs on a graduated scale over five years.

Questa Scholars may borrow up to \$20,000 over four years to pay for college. Questa Foundation's college loan forgiveness program is the only one of its kind in the nation that ties debt forgiveness to college attainment and regional talent retention.

For more information about the Questa Scholars Program or the Sites Scholarship, contact Questa Foundation at (260) 407-6494.

***About Questa Foundation for Education:*** Questa Foundation for Education assists young people with financial need to attain a college education, graduate with less debt and become contributing members of northeast Indiana's workforce. The Questa Scholars Program is the nation's only college loan forgiveness program tied to regional talent retention. In 2010, Questa Foundation adopted a strategic goal to increase college attainment rates in northeast Indiana from 26.5% to 60% of 22-26 year olds by 2025. For more information, visit [www.questafoundation.org](http://www.questafoundation.org).

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