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**UMANA
Foundation**

Press Release

UMANA Foundation Awards 2007 Walter and Olga Prokopiw Scholarships

The Foundation of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA Foundation), recently awarded two \$1,000 scholarships through its Walter and Olga Prokopiw Scholarship Fund. The Foundation, a not-for-profit educational and medical literacy arm of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA), was incorporated in 1996 to improve medical knowledge among Ukrainians worldwide. The Foundation received an endowment from the estate of former UMANA member Dr. Walter Prokopiw and his wife Olga, to help fund scholarships for medical students and defray the increasing cost of medical studies.

The Board of the UMANA Foundation, respecting the wishes of Dr. and Mrs. Prokopiw, established a formal scholarship screening process and began publicly seeking applicants early in 2007. After reviewing the qualified candidates, the board selected two individual medical students fulfilling the qualifications for the scholarship. The Foundation is proud to identify and support members of the Ukrainian medical community in the US and Canada who seek a high level of educational competence and commitment.

The 2007 scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 US were awarded to Julia Skliarenko and Andrea Zelisko.

Julia Skliarenko, originally from Kyiv, has lived in Canada for the last 12 years. She is presently completing her second year of medical school at the University of Ottawa. Julia has been actively involved in the Ukrainian Canadian community, participating in Ukrainian folk dance and bandura instruction. She hopes to become active in the Ukrainian community as a preventive health advocate, holding informative seminars in English and Ukrainian and exposing Ukrainian youth to the medical profession through mini-med school seminars.

Andrea Zelisko, born in Illinois, is completing her first year of medical school at the Medical College of Wisconsin, which she elected to attend because of Milwaukee's strong Ukrainian community. Andrea participates in the Dnipro Dance Ensemble despite her heavy class load. Andrea looks forward to when she can be of help to the Ukrainian immigrants who are experiencing the same difficulties her grandparents encountered when they arrived in the United States.

The UMANA Foundation congratulates these two exceptional students and wishes them continued success in their professional endeavors. For the 2008 academic year, the UMANA Foundation will accept applications beginning September 10, 2007 and ending at 5:00 PM CST January 10, 2008. For more information please visit www.umana.org.

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