Winick Family Scholarship Awarded to Ramona Davoudpour at UCLA School of Medicine

Student Ramona Davoudpour wins prestigious award for second year, based on superior academic performance and record of community service. Born in Iran, Davoudpour and her family overcame hardship to establish a new home and succeed in Southern California.

LOS ANGELES CA – September 28, 2009 – The David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA has awarded the Winnick Family Scholarship for 2009-2010 to student Ramona Davoudpour. This is the second year that Davoudpour, Class of 2010, has won this prestigious honor.

Said Dr. Gerald Levey, Vice Chancellor and Dean of the School of Medicine: “Ramona continues to exhibit strong academic achievement and an active dedication to community service. She was outstanding in her third-year clinical rotations.”

Said Foundation founder Gary Winnick: “We are pleased that the scholarship has been again awarded to Ramona Davoudpour. Ramona was born in Iran but left the country with her parents. Despite financial hardship, her family endured and Ramona graduated from the University of Southern California in 2006, majoring in Biological Sciences and taking her minor in Fine Arts.

Added Gary Winnick: “Our family is particularly proud of Ramona because of her life-long passion for volunteer work that has continued despite her own adversities. Because of that fierce dedication, she was awarded the Order of Troy at USC for her extraordinary undergraduate service at an urgent care center in Hollywood. Her compassion and patient empathy were very evidently behind the letters of distinction she has already won at UCLA for her superior performance in Pediatrics and Psychiatry.”

Said Dean Levey in making the scholarship award: “Ramona is an intelligent, caring, dedicated young woman who has traveled a long road to reach her professional goals. She understands that healthcare is a necessity for people of all economic and cultural strata and is intent on giving back to the community that nurtured her.”

The David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA is ranked among the finest medical schools in the United States. The School was established just over 50 years ago, within the lifetimes of many of its original founders, but has quickly moved to the forefront of academic medicine and scientific discovery alongside elite institutions more than twice the School’s age.

About the Winnick Family Foundation

The Winnick Family Foundation encourages project-specific programs but also selectively supports capital campaigns and unrestricted gifts to grantee organizations. There is a preference for projects in Los Angeles and New York – or those having an international component.

Foundation naming grants include:

• Winnick Family Clinical Research Institute at Cedars Sinai Hospital
• Winnick House and Arnold S. Winnick Student Center at the C.W. Post campus of Long Island University
• Winnick International Conference Center at the Simon Wiesenthal Center / Jerusalem
• Winnick Children’s Zoo in Los Angeles
• Winnick Faculty Scholar at the Graduate School of Business at Stanford University
• Winnick Hall at the Skirball Cultural Center
• Arnold & Blanche Winnick Popular Library and Karen Winnick Children’s Gallery at the Los Angeles Central Library
• Winnick Hillel House at Syracuse University
• Winnick Board Room at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City
• Winnick Winners Mentoring Program for the Los Angeles Unified School District
• Winnick Fellows at UCLA School of Medicine
• Winnick Gallery at Yeshiva University Museum, Center for Jewish History

Karen and Gary Winnick and the Foundation have endowed university and high school literacy and scholarship programs at Brown University, at Mrs. Winnick’s alma mater Syracuse University, and at Gary Winnick’s alma mater, Long Island University.

They have also funded the transformation of the on-campus C.W. Post mansion administrative center – renamed Winnick House – as well as the main cafeteria which is now named in honor of Mr. Winnick’s late father.

In California, the Foundation has supported educational programs at the California Science Center, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, KOREH L.A., the Los Angeles Zoo, L.A.’s Best Afterschool Program, the Wonder of Reading, the Fulfillment Fund and Noah’s Ark at the Skirball Center.

Among the many other Foundation grantees are the Special Olympics, The Center for Jewish History, Children’s Scholarship Fund, Partnership for Better Schools, Teach for America, The Gettysburg Foundation, The National Parks Foundation, Best Friends Animal Society, The Los Angeles Police Foundation, Shoah Foundation, and the Center for Public Leadership at Harvard University.

The Foundation also supports charities operating outside the United States, including the International Medical Corps, Flora and Fauna, World Wildlife Fund, the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, the Israel Museum, the Israel Philharmonic, the Jerusalem Zoo, Heifer International and the Bloomfield Science Museum at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. For more information on the Foundation and its work, visit http://www.winnickfamilyfoundation.com on the Web.

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