



**National Association for Business Economics Foundation Announces
Americans for the Arts College Scholarship Awards**

National Scholarship Recipients Excel at Arts and Economics

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Louis, MO – October 12, 2009 – The NABE Foundation, the charitable arm of the National Association for Business Economics (NABE), and Americans for the Arts jointly announced the winners of the 2009 NABE Foundation Americans for the Arts Scholarship Awards on Sunday, October 11, during the 2009 NABE Annual Meeting in St. Louis, MO. The award was established in 2008 to encourage the integration of the arts into the economic education process.

Allison Elder, a senior at Case Western Reserve University in Ohio, and **Kyle Clifford O'Brien**, a junior at Emory University in Georgia, are recipients of the 2009 scholarships. Each will receive an award in the amount of \$5,000 to support the study and application of economics in their college degree and professional career.

Elder, a practicing violist for more than 18 years, will receive a bachelor of the arts degree in economics with specialization in public economics from Case Western University, and a bachelor of music in viola performance from the Cleveland Institute of Music in May 2010. She is working on an economic honors thesis and conducting independent research studying nonprofit economics and its application to the arts.

O'Brien will receive a bachelor of the arts degree from Emory University in spring 2011, where he is majoring in economics with a minor in mathematics. A French horn player for eight years, he is a Music Merit Scholarship recipient for French horn performance, and a member of the Emory Scholars program.

"Melding the arts and economics was the most natural of mergers, as both professions require a unique ability to recognize patterns amidst what others see as chaos," said **Diane Swonk**, chief economist at Mesirow Financial and a NABE Foundation Board member. "Awarding scholarships that reward those synergies will help to facilitate the human capital we need to draw upon these talents in the future."

"The skills associated with artistic practices—creative thinking, self-discipline, collaboration and innovation—are necessary today in order to succeed in a rapidly changing global economy," said **Robert L. Lynch**, president and CEO of Americans for

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the Arts. “We are pleased to be partnering with the NABE Foundation for the second year in recognizing student achievement in both the arts and economics. These awards reflect a fundamental belief that the arts are a key component in helping to prepare students to exceed, and indeed thrive, in the workplace and society of the future.”

Recipients of the award must come from economically disadvantaged households and have attended public school. The successful candidates demonstrate a long-term participation in the study of, creation in, and/or performance in one or more art forms, including dance, music, theatre, literary, visual/media arts; excel academically; and have formally declared the intent to study economics for policy purposes, or in applications in the private and public sectors. The scholarship recipients are selected following a competitive review process which begins with a pre-screening of applicants by Americans for the Arts, followed by a review of finalists by a sub-committee, and ratification of recipients by the NABE Foundation Board.

*The **National Association for Business Economics** is the largest international association of applied economists, strategists, academics, and policy-makers committed to the application of economics in decision-making in the world. The NABE Foundation is supported by NABE members to provide scholarships, education, and other efforts to build the economic profession.*

***Americans for the Arts** is the nation's leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts in America. With 49 years of service, it is dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating opportunities for every American to participate in and appreciate all forms of the arts.*

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CONTACT: Melissa Golding
National Association for Business Economics
melissag@nabe.com
571-236-2820

Liz Bartolomeo
Americans for the Arts
press@artsusa.org
202.371.2830