

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROVIDERS ASSOCIATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Amy Weinstein NSPA 303-442-2524 aweinstein@scholarshipproviders.org

National Scholarship Providers Association Announces 2013 Scholarship Providers of the Year

BOULDER, CO. (November 5, 2013) – The National Scholarship Providers Association (NSPA) announced the 2013 Scholarship Provider of the Year (SPOY) Award Winners at the NSPA conference in Portland, OR. This year's recipients are the University of Colorado-Boulder Guardian Scholars and the Western Golf Association's Evans Scholars Foundation. Two outstanding scholarship providers are selected for this honor each year and each receives a \$2500 cash prize sponsored by <u>Fastweb</u>, the nation's recognized leader in helping students pay for school and a top site in the <u>Monster Worldwide</u> network. NSPA and Fastweb have collaborated on this award for 14 years. The awards were presented by Jacy Shillan, Senior Marketing Manager for Fastweb and Amy Weinstein, Executive Director of NSPA.

This prestigious award recognizes scholarship providers who demonstrate exceptional leadership, efficiency and impact in their support of higher education. There are two eligible categories, College and University Providers — those within a post-secondary educational institution that provide scholarships for study at the institution and Independent Providers which are scholarship organizations run by a private or public foundation, unaffiliated with a specific college or university. Organizations must be current members of NSPA and in good standing to be considered for the award.

"Both of this year's winners demonstrate that scholarships are about engaging and mentoring students to become successful graduates. These programs involve student support, accountability, and foster a sense of community with students which provides a track record for success," commented Amy Weinstein, Executive Director of the NSPA.

The CU-Boulder Guardian Scholars Program launched in 2008, and is designed to assist former foster youth to earn their undergraduate degree. Guardian Scholars assists students with personal and academic growth and equips them with skills and resources to become graduates of CU-Boulder. Guardian Scholars Program provides annual scholarships, mentoring and support in various areas, year round availability to on campus housing, community service and outreach opportunities and post-graduation career planning and assistance. For more information please visit www.colorado.edu/guardianscholars.

The WGA's Evans Scholars Foundation, (WGAESF) established in 1930, champions education through golf and provides full housing and tuition scholarships to deserving caddies across the country. This is a renewable scholarship for up to four years. Students must demonstrate financial need, outstanding character, excellent grades and have a strong caddie record for consideration. Most Evans Scholars attend one of 14 universities where the Foundation maintains a Scholarship House. An Evans Scholar is asked to maintain a strong academic record, be actively involved in house and campus affairs, and more. For more information please visit www.wgaesf.org.

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About the National Scholarship Providers Association

The NSPA is a non-profit membership association that brings together private foundations, public charities, colleges and universities, corporate giving programs, and government agencies from across North America that provide scholarships for higher education. Its mission is to advance the collective impact of scholarship providers and the scholarships they award. NSPA supports its 345 member organizations through professional development

opportunities, industry best practices and research, issue education and policy advocacy. The 2014 NSPA Conference will be held October 14-16, 2014 in Pittsburgh, PA and anticipates more than 300 scholarship professionals in attendance for three days of learning and networking. In the 2012-2013 academic year, NSPA members awarded over \$851 million in scholarships to more than 180,000 students. For additional information about the NSPA visit www.scholarshipproviders.org.

About Fastweb:

<u>Fastweb</u>, a top site in the <u>Monster Worldwide</u> (NYSE:MWW) network, is the nation's recognized leader in helping students pay for school, by providing scholarship and financial aid information, as well as information on jobs and internships. One out of three college-bound seniors use the site, and more than 50 million users have benefitted from Fastweb's information and services. Fastweb lets students create personalized profile that can be matched against its expansive databases of colleges and scholarships. As the oldest and most popular free online scholarship matching service, the database has more than 1.5 million scholarships totaling over \$3.4 billion. To learn more about Fastweb, visit <u>www.fastweb.com</u> and follow on Twitter at @PayingForSchool.