

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

National Scholarship Providers Association Announces 2014 Scholarship Providers of the Year

BOULDER, CO. (October 22, 2014) – The [National Scholarship Providers Association \(NSPA\)](#) announced the 2014 Scholarship Provider of the Year (SPOY) Award Winners at the NSPA conference in Pittsburgh, PA. This year’s recipients are the Red Rocks Community College Foundation and the Jeannette Rankin Women’s Scholarship Fund. Two outstanding scholarship providers are selected for this honor each year and each receives a \$2500 cash prize sponsored by [Fastweb](#), the nation's recognized leader in helping students pay for school and a top site in the [Monster Worldwide](#) network. NSPA and Fastweb have collaborated on this award for 15 years. The awards were presented by 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. Along with scholarships, 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 Red Rocks Community College Foundation (RRCC) provides more than \$600,000 in support to the college each year. The flagship programs are Scholarships, Mini-Grants, and the Teaching Chair Award. Over the last 20 years, the foundation has awarded more than 2,700 scholarships totaling over \$4 million and has granted an additional \$3.7 million in program support. The RRCC Foundation’s goal is to remove the financial barrier and help students of all income levels to have access to higher education. Key outcomes for the Scholarship Program include retention, graduation, and transfer to four-year institutions, as well as placing an emphasis on semester and cumulative GPA. The RRCC Foundation was voted the 2013 Best of the Best Local Non-Profit by readers of the Arvada Press.

The Jeannette Rankin Women’s Scholarship Fund honors the name and legacy of an American woman of incredible spirit and determination by providing much needed aid to women with the same attributes. Jeannette Rankin was a proponent of women’s rights and was the first woman elected to the United States Congress in 1916. Jeannette Rankin Fund’s mission is to empower women to build better lives through college completion. Poverty affects the economic health and well-being of individuals, families and communities in the United States. While impacting poverty on the macro level requires policy work and large-scale social change, Jeannette Rankin Fund is actively combating poverty on the individual level by providing scholarships and support to directly improve the lives of low-income women. The Scholarship Fund was established in 1976 and has awarded more than \$2 million in scholarships to more than 750 women.

###

[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 2015 NSPA Conference will be held October 12-14, 2015 in Charleston, SC and it anticipates more than 300 scholarship professionals in attendance for three days of learning and networking. In the 2013-2014 academic year, NSPA members awarded over \$1.1 billion in scholarships to more than 180,000 students. For additional information about the NSPA visit www.scholarshipproviders.org and follow on Twitter [@NSPA_Tweets](#).

About Fastweb:

[Fastweb](#), a top site in the [Monster Worldwide](#) (NYSE:MWW) career 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 www.fastweb.com and follow on Twitter at [@PayingForSchool](#).