



New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation (NHHEAF)  
New Hampshire Higher Education Loan Corporation (NHHELCO)  
Granite State Management & Resources (GSM&R)  
NHHEAF Network Educational Foundation (NNEF)

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EDITORS: A photo of Patrick Martin is available by contacting Erin Hathaway.

## **Pinkerton Academy Senior Wins \$1000 College Scholarship**

**Concord, N.H.** — Three local high school students will be awarded college scholarships for their entries in the *Destination College*<sup>SM</sup> Speech Contest held by the NHHEAF Network Organizations. The top prize of \$1000 was awarded to Patrick Martin, a senior at Pinkerton Academy. He will present his speech to a crowd of more than 1,400 high school juniors and their parents at the March 28<sup>th</sup> event at Southern NH University.

Every year the NHHEAF Network Organizations offers this scholarship opportunity to New Hampshire high school seniors that have recently finished the college application process. The keynote speaker traditionally offers tips and advice about the college planning process to younger students who are preparing to start the process themselves.

In his speech, Patrick offers students advice about the importance of visiting colleges they are interested in, "If you're part of the 99.9% of the population who didn't start looking at colleges before they were allowed to see R-rated movies, don't worry, you're normal. Now is the perfect time to start." Parents and students at the event will benefit from the pointers that Patrick offers about the lessons he learned while applying for admission and financial aid. The runner-up for the speech contest is Ross Glover of Souhegan High School. Ross will receive a \$500 college scholarship for his speech titled, "The Ride of Your Life". Third place and winner of a \$250 college scholarship is Kristina Pervanas, a senior at Manchester West High School. In her speech titled, "College...I've Got Plenty of Time", she touches on her realization that starting the college planning process late is a struggle for many.

*Destination College*<sup>SM</sup> is coordinated by the NHHEAF Network Organizations' Center for College Planning (CCP) to create a forum for students and parents to learn from local college experts and receive information on important resources that will ease the confusion and frustration that sometimes accompanies this process. Because the event is hosted on a college campus, Southern NH University, families also have the chance to check out the University's state of the art facilities including athletic buildings, classrooms, student activity areas and technology centers. "We congratulate Patrick and all of those who entered the speech contest," said Michael DeBlasi, member of the *Destination College*<sup>SM</sup> committee and chair of the NHHEAF board. "*Destination College*<sup>SM</sup> continues to be an outstanding resource for those navigating through the college process."

To learn more about the free college planning services offered by the NHHEAF Network Organizations, contact the Center for College Planning at 1-800-525-2577 x119 or by e-mail at [collegeplanning@nhheaf.org](mailto:collegeplanning@nhheaf.org). Log on to [www.destinationcollege.org](http://www.destinationcollege.org) for more information.

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The NHHEAF Network Organizations are comprised of four 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that provide students and families with the resources and funding to pursue higher education aspirations. Funds generated by the Organizations make their charitable mission possible as student loan earnings are reinvested in programs and services that benefit citizens of New Hampshire. For more information, visit [www.nhheaf.org](http://www.nhheaf.org).