



For Immediate Release

Contact: MRAA Educational Foundation
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MRAA and ABYC Partner to offer Scholarships

The MRAA Educational Foundation and the American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) announced today that they have partnered to provide scholarships to attend any one of eight (8) ABYC technical workforce training and certification courses offered throughout the United States and Canada. These scholarships will be available to any and all MRAA members in good standing, and will include course fees; the study guide and the certification examination free of charge to those awarded the scholarship. A total of ten (10) scholarships worth up to \$849 each will be awarded and will be honored through December 31, 2010.

Ed Lofgren, MRAA Educational Foundation president, commented, "The ABYC technical workforce training and certification courses are 'just what the doctor ordered' for our industry. These courses will provide much needed training opportunities for technicians and others in the recreational marine trades, resulting in improved levels of expertise and subsequently, improved performance on the job. MRAA is delighted to participate with ABYC in providing these scholarships."

ABYC's President, Skip Burdon stated "We are both honored and proud to work with the MRAA Education Foundation in offering these industry technical workforce certification course scholarships." He continued, "I know the value both MRAA and its Education Foundation place on having a technically proficient workforce and we know this scholarship opportunity will assist industry towards achieving that goal."

To apply for the scholarship visit the MRAA website at www.mraa.com and look under Foundation. If you have any questions contact the MRAA Foundation at 708-763-9210

The MRAA Educational Foundation provides financial support for education, training and professional development in the recreational marine trades. MRAA recognizes the need to provide for the growth of the retail dealerships and the professional development of the dealership employees. MRAA and the MRAA Educational Foundation are dedicated to the growth of the recreational marine industry through workforce development.

ABYC offers technical training courses that progress from basic to advanced, and includes eight

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marine industry workforce certifications for marine technicians and professionals. To schedule an On-Site course, or to receive more information on customized training programs, scholarship partnership opportunities contact Michael New at (410) 990-4460, ext. 31 or via email at mnew@abycinc.org.

For a listing of regularly scheduled ABYC Certification courses and other training programs, please visit www.abycinc.org.

ABYC has been developing, writing and updating the safety standards for boat building and repair in the United States for 55 years. ABYC is actively involved with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) as well as certification programs for marine technicians. These standards are available on CD-ROM, in printed form and 24/7 online using either WebSTIR or *RuleFinder*. Membership and general information can be requested by calling (410) 990-4460 or by visiting the ABYC web site at www.abycinc.org.

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