

**THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**

---

Office of Public Relations  
Pomona, NJ 08240

## **Stockton College Awards Berkman-Chipkin Scholarships to Seven Graduate Students**

*Recipients Include Four New Jersey and Three Out-of-State Students*

### ***For Immediate Release***

Friday, September 26, 2008

**Contact: Tim Kelly  
Stockton Public Relations  
(609) 652-4950**

**GALLOWAY TWP., NJ** – The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey has named the 2008-09 awardees of the Joseph Berkman and Michael and Sara Chipkin Holocaust/Genocide Studies Scholarships, established to honor the memory of Sarah and Michael Chipkin and Joseph Berkman, victims of the Nazis during World War II and the Holocaust.

Stockton is home of the nation's first Master's program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies, a program that is attracting students from throughout the country. The students who were selected for these scholarships are all enrolled in this program.

The College also integrates Holocaust and Genocide Studies into its undergraduate curriculum, and provides teacher training in Holocaust and Genocide Education each year through its Holocaust Resource Center.

The scholarships honor Joseph Berkman who was murdered by the Nazis in 1942 in the "Killing Fields of Ponary", in Lithuania. The late Sarah and Michael Chipkin were Holocaust Survivors. They immigrated to the United States following the war and established a successful business. The Berkman-Chipkin Scholarships for 2008-2009 were awarded to outstanding graduate students who plan to or are currently pursuing teaching careers.

The Berkman-Chipkin Scholarships have been awarded annually since 1999 and are made possible through the continued generosity of Don and Nan Berkman and their family. Their endowment gift of \$100,000 generates income each year to support scholarship awards for Stockton's best and brightest students to study the Holocaust and other genocides. The College matches funds each year that are made available through the endowment, increasing the funds available for students.

The recipients include Patricia Chiappine of Hammonton, NJ; Shawna Beals of Seabrook, NJ; Maria Hoover of Sicklerville, NJ; Ida Malloy of Trenton, NJ; Trinity Rufus of Bellefontaine, Ohio; Sheila Solhtalab of Toledo, Ohio; and Nicole Straub of Asheville, NC.

**-more-**

**Stockton's Berkman-Chipkin Scholars/ page 2**

**Patricia Chiappine**

### **Stockton's Berkman-Chipkin Scholars/ page 3**

Stockton students also won recognition through The Harry Kejzman Scholarship Holocaust & Genocide Studies Graduate Award:

**Joyce Parkey** lives in Richmond Virginia. Joyce has a BS in Computer Science from East Carolina University in December 1990. She also completed a BA in Religious Studies at the Virginia Commonwealth University in December 2005. She currently is a Senior Programmer/Analyst at Dominion Resources Services in Richmond, Virginia and has expressed an interest in teaching. Joyce began her studies in the MA Program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies as a non-matriculated student in the Summer of 2005 and matriculated into the program in the Spring of 2006.

**Erica Psaltis** lives in Brookeville, Maryland. Erica completed her undergraduate degree with a BA in Social Sciences at Washington State University in May 2005. She currently works for Starbucks while attending school. She began her studies in the MA Program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies in the Fall of 2007 with aspirations to go into teaching but changed her career goal to pursue a career in human rights working against genocide with an NGO.

**Sheila Solhtalab** lives in Toledo, Ohio. Shelia completed a dual undergraduate degree with a BA in History and Psychology and a minor in Criminal Justice at the University of Toledo in May 2008. She will begin her studies in the MA Program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies in the Fall of 2008. Her goal is to teach at the University level and continue her research on the Holocaust.

The Stockton College Scholarship Program provides merit awards to outstanding freshmen, upperclassmen, and transfer and graduate students. The program is supported by private gifts to the Richard Stockton College Foundation and institutional funds made available by the College. Students may apply to the Scholarship Program on an annual basis. Successful applicants exhibit high academic achievement as well as leadership and service to the College and community. Award recipients maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.0 and are fully matriculated students.

# # #