

# ***Scholarships Available***

## **Scholarship Program Celebrates Diversity**

(NAPSA)—There is good news for outstanding African-American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander-American, and Hispanic-American students who face financial barriers to obtaining higher education.

The Gates Millennium Scholars program, funded by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and administered by the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) was established in 1999, to promote academic excellence and provide an opportunity for thousands of outstanding students with significant financial need (federal Pell Grant-eligible) to reach their fullest potential.

The goals of the scholarship are:

- To reduce the financial barriers for African-American, Hispanic-American, American Indian/Alaska Native and Asian Pacific Islander American students with high academic and leadership promise who are at a significant economic disadvantage,

- To increase the representation of students in these target groups in the disciplines of mathematics, science, engineering, education and library science, where these students are severely under-represented,

- To develop a diversified cadre of future leaders for America by facilitating successful completion of bachelors, master's and doctoral degrees, and

To reach, coordinate and support the students targeted by the program, UNCF has partnered with the American-Indian Graduate Center Scholars, the Hispanic Scholarship Fund and the Organization of Chinese Americans to assist with implementing the program.

There are three interdependent components of the GMS scholar-



**The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has created a scholarship program aimed at high achieving minority students.**

ship nomination process: a Nominee Personal Information Form to be completed by the student (Nominee); a Nominator Form to be completed by an educator; and a Recommender Form to be completed by an adult familiar with the Nominee's community service and leadership activities. Nominees must be nominated by principals, teachers, guidance counselors, tribal higher education representatives or other professional educators acting in their personal capacity. Students are allowed to submit a Nominee Personal Information Form on their own and may secure a Nominator afterwards; however he or she must ensure that all materials are submitted before the deadline. Nominees must possess outstanding academic qualifications, be entering a U.S. accredited college or university as a full-time-degree-seeking freshman in the fall of the program year and meet the federal Pell Grant eligibility criteria.

Nominees should also have strong leadership potential and a demonstrated commitment to community service.

To learn more visit [www.gmsp.com](http://www.gmsp.com).