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Hamilton Friends President Invited to Help Select 2010 Coca-Cola Scholarship Winners

The Alexander Hamilton Friends Association is pleased to announce that one of the biggest names in soft drinks, Coca-Cola, has chosen George Cox, President of Hamilton Friends to be a member of the 2010 National Selection Committee of the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation provides college scholarships annually to outstanding young people across the country.

"I am very excited and honored to be chosen," said Cox. "But it is less of a personal recognition than it is a reflection of the work we have done these past five years at Hamilton Friends."

The Coca-Cola Scholarship Foundation awards 450 scholars every year. 250 students receive \$20,000 (\$5,000 per year renewable up to four years) and 200 students receive \$10,000. That amounts to Coca-Cola supporting 1,400 college students each year with annual scholarships totaling 3.4 million. The foundation focuses on students who give back to their communities through volunteering, as well as those who have excelled academically. Coca-Cola sees qualities such as leadership, persistence, and social consciousness in their recipients.

According to J. Mark Davis, president of the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, several Coca-Cola scholarship winners have previously won a Hamilton Award and it has not gone unnoticed. Last year, five of the 2008 Hamilton Award Winners, **Alex Hsu, Cesar Alvarez, Rachel Brill, Warche Downing and Joyce Zhang** were selected from over 80,000 applicants to be Regional Finalists, each receiving a scholarship of \$10,000 to go toward their future college aspirations.

"That's what brought Hamilton Friends to our attention," said Davis. "They are obviously doing something right!"

The Alexander Hamilton Friends Association is a Seattle-based national non-profit organization that recognizes young people all over the nation in their junior year of high school who exhibit the characteristics of the young Alexander Hamilton -- needs-based, high achievers who have shown a strong commitment to public service. Many of the winners are enrolled in the leadership program called the Hamilton Leaders Academy. The Hamilton Leaders Academy is a four year educational program designed to help students develop strong values, goals, leadership skills and successfully transition from high school to college and beyond. For more information on Hamilton Friends visit their Website at www.hamiltonfriends.org.