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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FOUR YOUNG MAGICIANS WIN CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

The Society of American Magicians Magic Endowment Fund Scholarship Chairman, Warren J. Kaps, announced that four young magicians have been awarded scholarships to two magic camps this summer. As part of the Endowment Fund program, one will attend the Sorcerer's Safari Camp in Toronto, Canada, and three will go to Tannen's Magic Camp in suburban Pennsylvania. Here are their names:

SORCERER'S SAFARI Winner:

Mario Seki (age 13)

TANNEN'S MAGIC CAMP Winners:

Sean Burke (age 14)

David Laid (age 13)

Yathundandh R.R. (age 13)

Mario Seki is awarded a full tuition scholarship to Sorcerer's Safari Magic Summer Camp. Mario is 13 years old and has been hooked on magic ever since he attended a live performance of Robert Baxt. He has received magic lessons from Dean Dill Magic for about two years and he practices for hours when he does not have school. Mario is constantly adding

new and innovative magic to his routine. He now tries to do as many free shows he can, including performances at convalescent homes and church carnivals. He also volunteers at the Humane Society.

Mario auditioned to become a Junior Member of the Magic Castle, and was successful on his first attempt. He has been nominated to receive the “Member of the Year” award for the International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring 21.

Mario is motivated, enthusiastic, disciplined in his course work and has good peer relations and problem solving skills. He was elected Vice President of the student body and is always walking around campus performing tricks for his classmates.

He has a passion for his magic, is polished, talented and has a unique gift as a performer. He has an eagerness to learn all facets of magic and is proving himself to be a very accomplished magician. He hopes to travel and perform magic in different states and countries.

The winners of the three full tuition scholarships to Tannen’s Magic Camp at Bryn Mawr College are as follows:

Sean Burke is 14 years old and performed his first stage magic show at the age of 5. His interest for magic started when he saw his first magic show called “Magic By the Sea” when he was two years old. Sean has performed for numerous community events, schools, churches and talent shows over the years, including Highland School Talent Show, Superdome Sports and The Valley Hospital.

Sean has been working with his magic mentor, Jimmy Challes, for the past few years. Magician Paul Marcus Earle has said that he never met a young man with such a passion for the magic art as Sean.

Sean is a member of S.A.M. 25 in Elmwood Park. He is professional in his delivery and does a great job interacting with his audience. He is enthusiastic and hard working; he practices his magic whenever he has free time.

David Laid is 13 years old and has been practicing magic for two years now. He is really into flourishes and is highly developed in the field of sleight of hand. David is becoming an excellent performer and has performed magic at public places, such as cafés and parties. He has also created a series of You Tube videos demonstrating his original handlings for card effects.

He is an important contribution to the Creative Arts and Healing Program. He also volunteers at the local hospital as an entertainer for the sick.

As a student, David is hard working and very intelligent. He displays characteristics of a budding engineer and entrepreneur. His enthusiasm for magic is remarkable and his quest for knowledge is never ending.

Yathundandh is 13 years old and from India. He has been learning magic from Mr. Vadivel at Madras Magic Centre. The Centre considers him to be a very talented and confident performer.

Yathundandh is a budding performer of magic and has shown his talents as a regular performer in school functions. He recently won the second prize at the Inter School Sanskriti Drama Competition.

Soon, Yathundandh will be being performing at a four-star hotel restaurant regularly on weekends. He has performed at the Centre for Humane Services, where his performance was filled with fun and every act was accomplished with agility and competency.

Yathundandh is passionate about the art of magic and has an inborn talent. His sleight of hand skills point to his becoming an excellent patter magician on stage.

The Society of American Magicians Magic Endowment Fund is proud of our achievement and growth, as well as the expansion of our scholarship program that enables deserving youngsters from all over the world to attend magic camps and increase the interest of magic.

Contributions to the Society of American Magicians Magic Endowment Fund are appreciated and allow us to further expand our programs, which not only provide scholarships to magic camps, but also provides:

- a. help to any magician affected by natural disasters;
- b. help to any magician who is ill through the Houdini Hospital Fund;
- c. magic lectures provide free to local magic groups;
- d. support for the publication of magic books.

Contributions should be sent to:

Bradley Jacobs, Board of Trustees
Society of American Magicians – Magic Endowment Fund
234 Towyn Court
Ambler, PA 19002

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