



## **THE HOME DEPOT PLEDGES MORE THAN \$300,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO SUPPORT FUTURE LEADERS IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES**

*More Than 600 Students to be Rewarded through National Trade Scholarship Program*

**ATLANTA, April 20, 2009** – The Home Depot<sup>®</sup>, the world’s largest home improvement retailer, today established its first-ever Trade Scholarship Program. Through the program, the Company will award more than 600 students enrolled in building and construction trade programs \$500 to help offset the cost of tuition, fees, books and supplies. In total, more than \$300,000 in scholarships will be awarded to support the future leaders of the building and construction industries this fall.

Starting today, The Home Depot Trade Scholarship Program is open to students nationwide currently enrolled in a building and construction trade school program at a college, university or accredited educational institution who will be entering into the final year or term of their degree or career program. Winners will be selected based on academic performance, leadership and work experience. English and Spanish applications are available online at [www.homedepot.com/tradescholarship](http://www.homedepot.com/tradescholarship). The application deadline is June 20, 2009. Winners will be announced in September 2009.

Professional contractors and tradespeople are important customers for The Home Depot. Every day, The Home Depot works to meet the needs of trade professionals through dedicated customer service programs, deeper inventory selections, job lot pricing and more.

“The Home Depot has always been committed to its Pro customers, and through this scholarship program, we are working to meet the needs of the next generation of building and construction trade professionals,” said Chris Waits, vice president of sales and services at The Home Depot. “We know that there are thousands of students at colleges and trade schools across the country who are preparing themselves for a career in this field. We recognize the hard work that it takes to complete these education programs, and we want to provide scholarship assistance to defray some of the cost.”

For more information or to apply for The Home Depot Trade Scholarship Program, please visit [www.homedepot.com/tradescholarship](http://www.homedepot.com/tradescholarship) or call 1-877-7HD-LEARN (1-877-743-5327).

### **About The Home Depot**

The Home Depot is the world's largest home improvement specialty retailer, with 2,278 retail stores in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, 10 Canadian provinces, Mexico and China. In fiscal 2008, The Home Depot had sales of \$71.3 billion and earnings from continuing operations of \$2.3 billion. The Company employs more than 300,000 associates. The Home Depot's stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: HD) and is included in the Dow Jones industrial average and Standard & Poor's 500 index. HDE

**For more information, contact:**

Mandy Hunsicker  
MS&L for The Home Depot  
404-870-6815 (office), 404-558-8636 (mobile)  
[mandy.hunsicker@mslworldwide.com](mailto:mandy.hunsicker@mslworldwide.com)

Paula Drake  
The Home Depot  
941-488-1289 (office), 941-284-4999 (mobile)  
[paula\\_drake@homedepot.com](mailto:paula_drake@homedepot.com)