PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ALPFA and the University of Phoenix Award 10 Full-tuition Scholarships for a Master's Degree Program

Los Angeles, CA – ALPFA, the premier business organization for expanding opportunities for Latino leadership in the global market, in partnership with the University of Phoenix, has awarded ten (10) outstanding ALPFA professional members with a full-tuition scholarship for a master's degree through the ALPFA Professional Leadership Scholarship. This is the first time ALPFA has awarded scholarships to professionals to assist them in continuing their education. The overwhelming success of the program attracted applicants from across the country.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, in 2005 only 2.4 percent of Hispanics had a master's degree. ALPFA and the University of Phoenix understand the importance of making higher education accessible for students of all ages and backgrounds, particularly Latinos. It is ALPFA's intent, through this scholarship program, to help increase the number of Latinos with a graduate degree while making it affordable and convenient. University of Phoenix is particularly adept at helping working professionals complete their education by designing programs around their busy careers. The scholarship recipients will have the opportunity to attend a University of Phoenix on-ground campus or can attend University of Phoenix online.

"This is an exciting milestone for ALPFA as we have expanded our educational efforts beyond students," said Geraldine Contreras, ALPFA's Director of Student Affairs. "We hope to continue this partnership with University of Phoenix so we can give more Latino working professionals an opportunity to obtain a master's degree."

The scholarship recipients are:

Yesenia Cabrera, Flemington, N.J., Master in Accounting Manuel R. Espinoza, Washington D.C., Master of Management/Public Administration Cid Rolando Leiva, El Dorado Hills, Calif., Master of Science in Accountancy Luis R. Nieves Concepcion, Pearl City, Hawaii, Master of Information Systems Carlos Renato Oliva, Rockville, Md., Master of Business Administration Orlando Rodriguez, Southbridge, Mass., Master of Business Administration Lisbeth Salinas, Oakland, Calif., Master of Business Administration Salvador Serrano, San Bruno, Calif., Master of Business Administration Carla Villacorta, Newton, Mass., Master of Public Administration Daniel J. Yip, Miami, Fla., Master of Business Administration

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ABOUT ALPFA

In 1972, ALPFA became the first national Latino professional association in the United States. Since then ALPFA, a non-profit organization has provided unique and valuable programs, services, and benefits to its members and corporate partners. Currently there are 39 chapters and over 15,000 members.

VISION: ALPFA is the premier business organization for expanding opportunities for Latino leadership in the global market.

MISSION: ALPFA creates opportunities, adds value, and builds relationships for its members, the community and its business partners while expanding Latino leadership in the global workforce. For more information visit: <u>www.alpfa.org</u>