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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mayor Small Announces Winners of Year 3 of His \$3M Scholarship Program for Atlantic City Residents

Atlantic City, N.J. (June 18, 2025) – City of Atlantic City Mayor Marty Small, Sr., along with Superintendent of Atlantic City Public Schools Dr. La’Quetta Small and members of the ‘Mayor Marty Small, Sr. Scholarship’ selection committee, announced some of the winners of the third year of the scholarship program this morning at Atlantic City High School. This year, 113 scholarships of up to \$10,000 each (half of the money is for the fall 2025 semester and half is for the spring 2026 semester) were awarded. Mayor Small made this three-year, \$3 Million commitment to the residents of Atlantic City back in 2023. The money comes from the Addressing Educational Disparity category of American Rescue Plan funds Atlantic City has received. For the first time, scholarships were available to all Atlantic City residents regardless of what high school they currently attend or attended. The previous two years of the program candidates had to attend Atlantic City High School to be eligible. Typically, the plan is to award 100 scholarships each year, but this year 113 were awarded because additional money was left over. Mayor Small notified the winners who are just graduating high school yesterday. The rest of the winners will be notified in the coming days.

The scholarship breakdown for the third year of the program is as follows:

- **44 Scholarships** – Atlantic City residents graduating from high school this spring who will be attending college this fall
- **52 Scholarships** – Atlantic City residents currently in college who will be sophomores, juniors or seniors this fall

- **11 Scholarships** – Atlantic City residents who are currently pursuing a Masters or Doctorate Degree
- **6 Scholarships** – Atlantic City residents graduating from high school this spring who plan to attend Trade School this Fall

“There is no education like an Atlantic City education, and I am proud of each and every one of these students, who are being rewarded for their hard work and dedication,” said Mayor Small. “We have heard a lot of success stories since this scholarship program began, including one of our first scholarship winners who has already landed a job with the City of Atlantic City, and we expect many more success stories with our latest award winners. While this marks the final year of a three-year commitment, rest assured the Small administration will find a way to continue this program and invest in our future.”

“We are extremely proud of our students’ accomplishments. The district is grateful that the City of Atlantic City provided this monumental scholarship for our students,” said Dr. Small. “This \$3 Million commitment is more than a financial contribution—it is an investment in the dreams, resilience, and future success of Atlantic City’s next generation. It sends a powerful message to our students: your hard work matters, your goals are achievable, and your community stands behind you. This partnership between the City of Atlantic City and the Atlantic City Public Schools is proof of what we can accomplish when we work together for the good of our children.”

With close to 300 applications submitted, more students applied for scholarships this year than in the previous two years. The ‘Mayor Marty Small, Sr. Scholarship’ selection committee reviews the student applications and essays before making their selections on the winners. Mayor Small is not part of the selection process. Students who applied previously, who once again met the eligibility requirements, were allowed to apply again this year. Representing the scholarship committee at this morning’s news conference were Nadirah Anderson, Pam Fields, Christna Noble, Tasha Devonish, Richard Ney and Milton Chowdhury. Each graduating Atlantic City High School student who received a scholarship was acknowledged this morning by Mayor Small, Dr. Small and the selection committee.

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