



CAL MARITIME

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CAL MARITIME CADET BRANDI NICOLE LAKEY NAMED 2010 HEARST SCHOLARSHIP WINNER



(Vallejo, CA – September 21, 2010)... Brandi Nicole Lakey, a Cal Maritime Global Studies and Maritime Affairs major from Shasta, CA, has been named as Cal Maritime's 2010 recipient of a William Randolph Hearst/CSU Trustees' Award for Outstanding Achievement. The award is given each year to a student from each of the CSU campuses "who have demonstrated financial need, experienced personal hardships, and have attributes of merit, including superior academic performance, exemplary community service, and significant personal achievements." Ms. Lakey is being honored along with awardees from the other 22 California State University campuses in ceremonies today at CSU Headquarters in Long Beach. She was always been a dedicated student,

but greatly missed the mentorship she once enjoyed from her great-grandmother. Life presented her with many obstacles, including losing her uninsured home to a forest fire, a mother dependent on drugs and alcohol, and the loss of her father to pancreatitis.

She began her higher education at Shasta Community College at the age of 16 after acceptance to a high school program called College Connections helped her realize she could aspire to higher education. After graduating high school with an unweighted 4.50 GPA, she transferred to San Jose State University. Within a year her father's death brought her back home, but she had long dreamed of attending California Maritime Academy. A late admission proved a perfect fit for her life-long passions concerning environmental protection. Today, Brandi works to fund her education, finds time to do beach and trail cleanup, and maintains a 3.70 GPA. She recently completed a prestigious summer internship with the California State Lands Commission, and is currently seeking environmentally proactive career opportunities. "For the first time in my lengthy college career I have a set graduation date, and it feels amazing! I truly feel that I am on the right course because of the educational opportunities I have been able to pursue and her constant assurance that I had the ability to succeed."

More information about the Hearst program and profiles of all of the 2010 recipients can be found at

<http://www.calstate.edu/foundation/hearst/> ##