



Mike Beebe  
*Governor*

Department  
of Career Education

William L. "Bill" Walker, Jr.  
*Director*

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## News Release

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### **Gov. Beebe to Address Scholarship Banquet for Students with Disabilities**

LITTLE ROCK – Gov. Mike Beebe will be the keynote speaker during the Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities (GCPD) Annual Scholarship Banquet presented by the Arkansas Department of Career Education's Arkansas Rehabilitation Services Division beginning at 4:00 p.m. today at the Governor's Mansion Grand Hall. Sonseeahray Tonsall of KARK-TV will serve as the evening's emcee.

The GCPD will award 20 recipients with \$1,000 scholarships for the 2009-2010 school year. The students were chosen from more than 100 applicants based on achievement, community involvement, and the goals and challenges each student faces. In addition to the scholarships, four honorees will be randomly selected to each receive a \$250 book scholarship donated from Off-Campus Bookstores.

This year's honorees are Bethany Baldwin of Maumelle, Jordan Fix of Greenbrier, Jade Haycraft of Hot Springs, Katelyn Haynes of Charleston, Roderick Kidd of Elkins, Kevin Leon of Siloam Springs, Morgan Love of Little Rock, Jake Martin of Little Rock, Robert Miller of Little Rock, Edwin Mitchell of Cabot, Elizabeth Pettis of Magnolia, Brittany Richardson of Rison, Max Roy of Little Rock, Paul "PJ" Smith of Paragould, Seth Sumners of Hector, Ashley Tennis of Greenbrier, Lindsey Upshaw of Sheridan, Zachary Vaught of Fayetteville, Jesse Watson of Greenwood, and Jacob White of Benton.

"This year's selection process was very competitive," GCPD Executive Director Leonard A. Boyle said. "The scholarship committee worked diligently for more than three months to grade the applications. All of the applicants worked very hard, and it was difficult to narrow things down."

"We are thrilled that our governor will be a part of such a rewarding evening," Department of Career Education Director William L. "Bill" Walker, Jr. said. "These honorees are an exciting example of the future of our state, and I know Gov. Beebe is just as proud of them as I am."

The Arkansas Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of Arkansans with disabilities by promoting advocacy, educating, creating independence and celebrating life. For additional information, contact the office at 1616 Brookwood Drive, Little Rock, AR 72203 or call (501) 296-1637. The Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities is a program of the Arkansas Department of Career Education's (formerly the Arkansas Department of Workforce Education) Arkansas Rehabilitation Services Division.