

*For Immediate Release
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Connecticut Building Congress Recognizes Young Scholars at the 2018 CBC Project Team Awards Banquet!

HARTFORD, Conn –

The Connecticut Building Congress Scholarship Fund presented renewable scholarships to five of Connecticut's graduating high school seniors at its 22nd Annual Project Team Awards Banquet. Three \$2,000 and two \$3,000 scholarships were awarded at the event held at the Bond Ballroom in Hartford on Tuesday, June 12.

The awards are based on academic merit, extracurricular activities, career potential and financial need. Applications are accepted only from Connecticut residents who will be studying towards a two- or four-year degree related to the design and construction industry.

The 2018 Connecticut Building Congress Scholarship Fund recipients are:

Yael Canaan
College: Carnegie Mellon
Major: Architecture
High School: Wilbur Cross High School
Hometown: New Haven

Tessa Carty
College: Cornell
Major: Civil Engineering
High School: Norwich Free Academy
Hometown: Norwich

Tanya Gianitsos
College: Roger Williams
Major: Architecture
High School: Old Saybrook High School
Hometown: Old Saybrook

Morgan Daley
College: Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Major: Civil Engineering
High School: Northwestern Regional 7 High School
Hometown: Norfolk

Mathieu Letendre
College: Washington University at St. Louis
Major: Architecture
High School: University High School of Science and Engineering
Hometown: Berlin

Thomas DiBlasi, President of the Connecticut Building Congress Scholarship Fund, and president of DiBlasi Associates, a structural engineering firm based in Monroe, commenting on the value of the scholarships, said, "Encouraging young people to enter the design and construction industry is very important to the success of the state and national economy. We currently are experiencing a workforce shortage on nearly every level. Engineering, architecture and construction management, in particular, compete for students with high tech, science and medical fields."

"Our industry is also battling a stigma associated with being a skilled construction laborer, such as an electrician, plumber or mason," explained DiBlasi. "This is where the industry has the biggest need right now. That is why we are looking into expanding our scholarships offerings to technical schools for high school

graduates and adult learners. We realize college isn't for everyone. You can earn a great living and support a family as a skilled laborer, without incurring the skyrocketing costs of a conventional college education.”

The Connecticut Building Congress Scholarship Fund, founded in 1973, is financed through generous donations from CBC members and the annual Connecticut Building Congress Golf Outing Fund raiser. Tax-deductible donations may be made payable to The Connecticut Building Congress Scholarship Fund, Inc., PO Box 107, Rocky Hill, CT 06067. The 2018 Golf Outing is slated for Monday, September 24, 2018, at Shuttle Meadow Country Club in Kensington. Registrations and sponsorships will be listed at www.cbc-ct.org.

The **Connecticut Building Congress** creates a forum for building professionals to connect, learn, and grow. Since 1952 CBC has been the premier organization for Connecticut's building professionals to develop strong industry connections.

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CBC Scholarship Fund Vice President John Hawley with CBC's 2018 Scholarship Recipients (Tanya Gianitsos, Morgan Daley, Mathieu Letendre, Tessa Carty, and Yael Canaan)