

Carl's Jr. Honors Founders by Offering up to \$60,000 in Scholarships

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Applications now open for 17th annual Carl N. and Margaret Karcher Founders' Scholarship program

CARPINTERIA, Calif.--(<u>BUSINESS WIRE</u>)--Carrying on its commitment to advancing education, Carl's Jr.[®] is pleased to announce tomorrow's kickoff of the 17th annual Carl N. and Margaret Karcher Founders' Scholarship program. Carl's Jr. will award up to 60 deserving students a \$1,000 scholarship toward attending the two- or four-year college or vocational school of their choice this upcoming academic year. The scholarship application is now available at <u>www.carlsjr.com/scholarship</u>. Submissions must be postmarked by Feb. 15, 2016 for consideration.

Carl's Jr. founder Carl N. Karcher and his wife Margaret established the scholarship program in 1999 to reward hardworking youth. The Karchers started Carl's Jr. as a young married couple in 1941, believing they could earn success through their commitment to faith, service and hard work. Now, more than 70 years later, Carl's Jr. is proud to honor its late founders' commitment to the community and the people its restaurants serve with the annual scholarship program. Since the inception of the program, Carl's Jr. has granted \$745,000 in scholarships.

Scholarship winners will be selected based on academic record, school and community leadership and participation, work experience and future goals. Financial need and other family circumstances, as well as an outside appraisal will also be considered. "In tough economic times, scholarship programs like this are invaluable to the community," said Andy Puzder, chief executive officer of CKE Restaurants. "Giving back to hardworking youth in need is part of the core values of Carl's Jr."

Applicants for the Carl N. and Margaret Karcher Founders' Scholarship must be high school seniors or graduates, age 21 or younger, who are planning to enroll for the first time in full-time undergraduate study at an accredited two- or four-year college or vocational school for the entire upcoming academic year. Applicants must be residents of the states in which Carl's Jr. operates restaurants: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington or Wyoming.

Complete information about the Carl N. and Margaret Karcher Founders' Scholarship application process and a downloadable application are available on the Carl's Jr. website at www.carlsjr.com/scholarship.

The Carl N. and Margaret Karcher Founders' Scholarship is administered by Scholarship Management Services[®], a division of Scholarship America[®]. Scholarship Management Services is the nation's largest designer and manager of scholarship and tuition reimbursement programs for corporations, foundations, associations and individuals. Employees, affiliates and franchisees of Carl Karcher Enterprises LLC, Scholarship America, affiliated agencies and their immediate families are not eligible to receive a scholarship pursuant to this program.

About CKE Restaurants Holdings, Inc.

CKE Restaurants Holdings, Inc. ("CKE") is a privately held company headquartered in Carpinteria, Calif. Through its subsidiaries, CKE owns and licenses Carl's Jr. ® and Hardee's ® quick-service restaurants. CKE operates Carl's Jr. and Hardee's as one brand under two names acknowledging the regional heritage of both banners. After opening its first restaurants in New York and New Jersey this spring and recent international openings in Canada, Colombia and Guatemala, CKE now has a total of 3,652 franchised or company-operated restaurants in 44 states and 36 foreign countries and U.S. territories. Known for its one-of-a-kind premium menu items such as 100 percent Black Angus Thickburgers ®, Made from Scratch[™] Biscuits, Hand-Breaded Chicken Tenders[™] and Fresh Baked Buns, as well as an award-winning marketing approach, the Carl's Jr./Hardee's brand continues to deliver substantial and consistent growth in the U.S. and overseas. The Carl's Jr./Hardee's system is now 92 percent franchised, with international restaurants representing 18 percent of the system. For more information about CKE, please visit <u>www.ckr.com</u> or its brand sites at <u>www.carlsjr.com</u> and <u>www.hardees.com</u>.

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Contact:

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