

AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLARS RECEIVE TRAINING

The District's four Ambassadorial Scholars destined for overseas travel in 2008-09 have successfully completed Rotary training for their year abroad. District Scholarship Chair Donna Landry and PDG Noel Bajaj accompanied four of the five to a multi-district outbound scholar training session in Austin, Texas, in early January.

Among those participating in this year's training were Sarah Berard, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Baton Rouge for study at Universidad de Valencia in Spain; Paola Durango, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Algiers (D6190) for study at Universita per Stranieri in Italy; Heather Kirk, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Baton Rouge Sunrise for study at the Universite de Nice in France; and Don Phan, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Lafayette-Pinhook for study at the National University of Singapore.

Scholarships afforded Heather and Paola are privately funded by PDG Lou Capozzoli and his wife Laura Broussard Capozzoli. District funds contributed to The Rotary Foundation fund other annual scholarships, the value of which is up to \$23,000 each.

Outbound scholar training consists of a weekend of presentations on program requirements, Rotary facts and figures, tips for living and studying abroad and experiences of former scholars.

This year's session gathered outbound scholars from more than two dozen Rotary districts, in addition to their Rotary counselors and other Rotarians and guests. Both Donna and Noel were among featured speakers for the two-day session, as were former District 6200 Ambassadorial Scholars Brennan Arden, who studied at James Cook University in Australia, and Erica Zimmer, who studied at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland.

Applications are now being taken for students interested in studying abroad as Rotary scholars in 2009-10. Completed applications must be sent with a Rotary Club endorsement to Donna Landry, 106 Touraine Circle, Lafayette, LA, 70501 no later than March 2, 2007. Interviews and selections are expected by mid-April. For more information, visit the District website or the www.rotary.org website or call Donna at 337-354-1339 (office) or 337-237-1323 (home).