

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Melissa Marscin, I-CAR Education Foundation Assistant Director of Grant Programs

888.722.3787, Ext. 282

melissa.marscin@i-car.com

I-CAR® EDUCATION FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES \$50,000 ULTIMATE COLLISION EDUCATION MAKEOVER PROGRAM

HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL- August 4, 2009- The I-CAR Education Foundation is directly investing in collision education by offering their largest grant award in their 17 year history. "The Ultimate Collision Education Makeover Program" will award one school with a \$50,000 grant to overhaul their current school collision repair program. The winning school will be able to utilize this \$50,000 grant to purchase equipment, curriculum, instructor training, and supplies for their current collision repair program. The I-CAR Education Foundation will also be working together with industry partners who will be providing in-kind product donations to the winning school.

This grant, officially announced to the collision industry at the I-CAR 30th Anniversary Celebrations in Washington D.C., is open to collision repair schools across North America. Applications are currently available at www.ed-foundation.org, and are due by September 30, 2009. The winning school will be announced at NACE during the I-CAR Education Foundation's first annual donor recognition reception on November 4, 2009.

The goal of the Ultimate Collision Education Makeover Program is to be able to honor a school that has been doing an outstanding job in educating students in collision repair, but is in need of financial assistance to improve their program's teaching materials and equipment. The I-CAR Education Foundation is looking to eliminate any financial barriers for the school in order to create the best collision program possible, thereby making a difference in the lives of the students studying collision repair.

"The Ultimate Collision Education Makeover Program will be a lasting investment in the lives and careers of every student who attends the winning collision repair school," said Scott Kruger, I-CAR Education Foundation Executive Director. "School budgets have been under enormous pressure for some time now, and technical education programs seem to bear the brunt of these funding and program cuts. This grant is an opportunity for collision repair instructors to update their equipment and other teaching resources, and it is also a message to schools nationwide from the entire collision industry that technical education is important and worthy of such a commitment."

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“We are starting with one school this year, but we all know that a grant to a single program is not going to ensure the next generation of efficient and productive collision repair technicians. The I-CAR Education Foundation is committed to expanding The Ultimate Collision Education Makeover Program with the help of all our collision industry partners. To secure the resources to expand the program into the future, we welcome donations from all our partners, including direct product and equipment donations that will give future technicians hands on training and experience with the tools and equipment they will use their entire career.”

This grant opportunity, as well as the other scholarships and grants offered by the I-CAR Education Foundation, are funded by the Collision Repair Education Campaign, which is hosted by the I-CAR Education Foundation. The funds for the Collision Repair Education Campaign are provided through donations from all collision industry segments.

If your business would be interested in donating equipment and/or supplies to the winning school, please contact the Education Foundation at 888.722.3787, Ext. 282.

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The I-CAR Education Foundation, founded in 1991, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to securing donations that support philanthropic and collision repair education activities that promote and enhance career opportunities in the industry. For information on how to donate to programs supported by the Education Foundation visit us on the Internet at: www.ed-foundation.org.