## **PRESS RELEASE**



## NBDA AWARDS DEALER SCHOLARSHIPS TO 2009 NATIONAL BIKE SUMMIT

MEETINGS & TOPICS COINCIDE TO BRING MORE DEALERS TO WASHINGTON IN MARCH

This year's National Bike Summit presented by the League of American Bicyclists March 10–12 in Washington, D.C. will have increased support from the National Bicycle Dealer Association and a greater focus on role of the bicycle industry, bike dealers and their importance in the advocacy community.

In addition to being a Silver Sponsor of the Summit, the NBDA has awarded twenty-five scholarships up to \$1000 in value to first-time attending dealers. "Each scholarship winner is supporting the future of cycling in America by coming to Washington for this event," states Fred Clements, NBDA Executive Director. Bike dealers can make a significant impact when speaking with their Congressional representatives, as they are the employers within their communities. "It's true. When we speak, Congress listens, and the more dealers speaking about the benefits of cycling, the more potential our industry has to make real positive change in this country," states James Moore, NBDA board member and owner of Moore's Bicycle Shop in Hattiesburg, MS.

The 2009 NBDA National Bike Summit Scholarship Winners:

In addition to the scholarships, other meeting and topics will bring dealers to D.C. in conjunction with the Summit. The NBDA will host their annual board of directors meeting (open to NBDA board members only) and their annual Member Meeting (open to all NBDA members) within the same building as the Summit— The Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center, prior to the Summit's opening on March 10. And the Bike Summit itself will host a special session focused on the bicycle industry and bicycle retailers titled "*The Role of Bicycle Dealers in National and Local Advocacy*," featuring a panel discussion of retailers who have attended many National Bike Summit events, and who have a special feel for how important the industry voice is when talking about bikes with elected officials and staff members.

The NBDA encourages all retailers and industry personnel to participate at the National Bike Summit. For more information about the event, visit <u>http://www.bikeleague.org</u>. More information on the NBDA and can be found online at <u>http://www.nbda.com</u>, by phone at 949/722-6909 or by email at <u>info@nbda.com</u>.