

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ST. JOHN GRAD AWARDED FIRST FUQUA SCHOLARSHIP

Shawn Batten was named the recipient of the Robert L. Fuqua Applied Science and Technology Scholarship. Batten will receive \$1,000 for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Batten is a 2009 graduate of St. John High School, the son of Stephen and Tammy Batten of St. John. He plans to major in Mechanical Engineering at Harding University in Searcy, Arkansas. Batten has held leadership positions in many high school organizations and has been awarded numerous honors and awards while maintaining a 3.9 grade point average. "Eventually I would like to come back to a small town and open my own production shop. I plan to design and produce things that will help us to be more energy efficient and environmentally friendly," says Batten. We are so pleased to award Shawn this scholarship," states Denise Unruh, executive director of South Central Community Foundation.

Robert L. Fuqua graduated from St. John High School in 1967. After earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering, he served as an intelligence analyst with the United States Air Force for four years and thirty years as a civilian with the National Security Agency. Always keenly interested in education, he eventually served as the Dean of the Center for Cryptology at the National Cryptologic School. He established this scholarship in 2005 for students who demonstrate outstanding knowledge, interest and ability in applying science and technology to solve problems.

The Fuqua Scholarship is awarded to Batten through the South Central Community Foundation, a regional foundation managing charitable funds for seven south-central counties. For more information about the foundation, please call 620-672-7929.