STUDENT WINS FULL SCHOLARSHIP TO THE 2007 TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION SOPHOMORE SEMINAR AT MICHIGAN

Six-week program designed for gifted and highly motivated sophomores

BEVERLY HILLS, Mich. — May 30, 2007 — Cristy Miles, a sophomore at Detroit Country Day School, has been awarded a full scholarship to the 2007 Telluride Association Sophomore Seminar (TASS) at the University of Michigan, “Infectious Disease Detectives: Fighting Epidemics Using the Right Tools.” This six-week-long educational program is centered around a college-level seminar for gifted and highly motivated high school sophomores.

How can a community prepare for an epidemic such as bird flu or a bioterror attack? How do scientists investigate a large-scale public health crisis? How do health disparities and the effects of class and race influence infectious disease outbreaks and the public policies used to control them? Can such disparities be overcome? University of Michigan epidemiologist JoLynn P. Montgomery and State University of New York epidemiologist Kristi J. McClamroch will raise such questions and others in *Infectious Disease Detectives: Fighting Epidemics Using the Right Tools*. Through studies of such famous epidemics as bubonic plague in Europe, yellow fever in Philadelphia, cholera in London, influenza, syphilis in the southern U.S., ebola in Africa, HIV, and SARS, students will gain an introduction to the basic tenets of epidemiology, become familiar with common strategies for identifying the causes of disease, and study population-level strategies for disease control.

Admission to TASS is highly selective. Teachers and guidance counselors first nominate promising students for candidacy to TASS. After completing a rigorous five-essay application and submitting an academic recommendation and transcript, TASS finalists are selected from the already competitive group of applicants. Each candidate is personally interviewed by an associate or member of the Telluride Association board, after which a central committee selects the scholarship recipients. TASS Scholars enjoy free tuition, room and board, and books at the seminar for which they are selected.

Telluride Association is an independent not-for-profit educational organization which has offered Summer Programs to high school junior of exceptional promise since 1954. This is the 15th year of Telluride’s Sophomore Seminar. Educators wishing to nominate a student for the 2008 TASS are encouraged to visit the Telluride Association website at [www.tellurideassociation.org](http://www.tellurideassociation.org).

###