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10-2009

## Press Release - 2009-10 June S. Stillman Memorial Endowed Scholarship Winner

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## **Recommended Citation**

UCF Libraries and Libraries Dean's Advisory Group, "Press Release - 2009-10 June S. Stillman Memorial Endowed Scholarship Winner" (2009). *Libraries' Documents*. 344.







## **UCF Libraries Awards Stillman Scholarship**

## For Immediate Release

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ORLANDO, October 26, 2009 – Ms. Malinda Ashford Watkins, UCF junior majoring in Foreign Language education (Spanish), was honored at a celebration held in the UCF Library on October 26, 2009. She is the recipient of the 2009 June S. Stillman Memorial Scholarship for Libraries Student Assistants and USPS Staff awarded through the UCF Libraries in the fall semester in the amount of \$2,000.

Ms. Watkins is from Gainesville, the eldest of the four daughters of Jerome and Katrina Watkins, and a first generation college student. In addition to her studies she is a leader of the young adult fellowship at her church and is on the executive board of Women's Prayer Band, a UCF organization that strives to build women of purpose, prayer, and power. She is an active volunteer in the Orange County Public Schools and Clarita's House, a local nonprofit organization that provides assistance for the homeless. Last summer Ms. Watkins was privileged to attend a short



term Study Abroad cultural awareness trip to Spain, Morocco, and England. Her goal is "not only to instill academic soundness within my students, but to provide life principles that will propel them into a wonderful destiny that eagerly awaits." Her plans for the future include starting an organization that will provide assistance for children across the globe and motivate them into active pursuit of their dreams and aspirations. Her own favorite quote: "Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land amongst the stars."

This scholarship, named for a truly remarkable woman, was established in 1999. June S. Stillman was one of the first librarians hired when the UCF (then Florida Technological University) Library was opened in 1968. She retired from UCF in December 1996 and tragically lost her life to an assailant in March 1998. Her friends and family established the June S. Stillman Memorial Scholarship in her honor. She is remembered as the consummate professional, the epitome of gentility and compassion, and a true and loving friend.

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