ICRI established a scholarship program to assist qualified applicants who plan to pursue post-secondary education in undergraduate college, university, and vocational programs directly related to a curriculum of study in concrete, concrete repair, architecture, or engineering studies (structural and civil).

For 2011, ICRI awarded a total of $5000 to six qualified and deserving applicants. The following is an introduction to five of these outstanding students—a little bit about who they are and their plans for the future. The sixth recipient was not able to provide any biographical information.

**Ian Hyde** was born and raised in Memphis, TN, and graduated from Christian Brothers High School. He is currently beginning his junior year at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU), working to earn his degree in concrete industry management (CIM). Hyde has completed an internship already, doing small commercial work in Memphis. Working for three summers in a row, he feels confident that he has obtained a good bit of hands-on experience. For the summer of 2011, he chose to seek an internship with a larger company that would have more of a regional or national presence.

When he graduates, Hyde hopes that his career will take him all over the country managing projects or doing quality control work. He is currently a member of the American General Contractors (AGC), the American Concrete Institute (ACI), and ICRI. Hyde chose his major because he strongly believes that the concrete industry and concrete itself is something he can be interested in for many years to come. He also believes that some of his passion for the industry comes from the professors and faculty in the CIM program at MTSU.

**Wilton Arellano** was born in Oman and spent most of his life in Toms River, NJ. He is working toward his Bachelor’s of Engineering Technology with a major in concrete industry management at the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT). He currently works as a Resident Assistant in the NJIT dorms. During the summer, Arellano interned at Hycrete, Inc., a company that specializes in waterproofing admixtures for concrete. He spent his time in the Marketing & Business Development Department but wore many hats during the summer. His assigned tasks ranged from market research and the creation of product literature to lab testing and managing pour schedules. His aspirations lie in the area of marketing and business development within the construction industry. While Arellano enjoyed the technical aspects of being in the field and the lab, he feels that his leadership skills are strong and that he will thrive in the development side of the business.

Arellano is currently a member of the NJIT ACI student chapter, in which he serves as Vice President; the Innovation Acceleration Club; and the Korea Campus Crusade for Christ. Through his ACI student membership, he has had the opportunity to enter several competitions, such as the design of a fiber-reinforced polymer (FRP)-reinforced beam, the egg crate contest, and the design of pervious concrete cylinders.

**Blake Knight** grew up and still lives in Ball Ground, GA, a small town about 30 minutes north of Atlanta. Growing up, Knight used to really enjoy going to work with his dad, a commercial subcontractor. Some of his favorite days were when his dad took him to a job site at a skyscraper and explained how much work they were doing on the site. The combination of getting to work on megastructures and idolizing his dad sparked his interest in the construction industry.

Knight is now a senior at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) majoring in concrete industry management with a focus on production, sales, and services. He wants to get into the production or quality control part of the concrete industry. Knight decided to aim in this direction after interning for Ready Mix USA for three summers. He spent one summer as a Lab Intern and the other two as a Quality Control Field Technician. Knight believes that the most enjoyable part of his experience was the knowledge of the part he played in the building of megastructures that will be in the city for many years to come.
During his time in college, Knight tried to get as involved as he could to get as much as he could out of his college experience. He has been a member of a college ministry, Alpha Omega, for 4 years and was chosen for the 2011 leadership team. He’s also been highly involved in the MTSU American General Contractors (AGC) student chapter, where he was recently elected Vice President. Knight was also a member of the MTSU ACI student chapter. Between his involvements and his GPA, Knight is proud to say that he has received numerous scholarships and awards, including National Honor Society membership and Dean’s List honors for all six semesters.

Jannelle Chaviano is from Miami, FL, but both of her parents were born in Cuba and immigrated to the U.S. in the 1980s. Currently, Chaviano is a junior at the University of Miami majoring in civil engineering. Upon graduation, she would like to continue her studies at the University of Miami and pursue her master’s degree in civil engineering.

Chaviano’s main student leadership role is with the University of Miami’s student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). She was recently chosen to be Vice President of External Affairs for the current school year. Chaviano is extremely passionate about her career choice and is thrilled to have received a scholarship from ICRI.

Christopher Worthington is a senior studying concrete industry management at the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT). He is the President of the NJIT ACI student chapter, commuting to school from his hometown of Sayreville, NJ. Worthington plans to graduate from the NJIT program in either the summer or fall of 2012.

This summer, he held an internship with Jenna Concrete in its quality control lab, where he was able to perform aggregate gradations and assist in lab mixture trials. Upon graduation, he would like to remain in quality control, preferably within the ready mix concrete industry.