

Ten BCC students earn \$\$\$ for reading

Ten Bladen Community College students have been recognized by Townsend Press for their reading accomplishments during the 2008 – 2009 school year. The company sponsors a reading program that enables students to earn cash awards for meeting reading milestones during a given semester.

Students who elect to participate are given a list of books from which to choose. Those who read 10 of the books earn \$100. For reading 20 of the books, a student can earn \$200, and those who read all 30 of the books in the time prescribed earn \$300.

In the fall semester 2008, eight students took home cash awards for their reading accomplishments. Sandra Chavis, Anita Clark, Marquita Gentry, Amanda Mintz and Charlene Williams were awarded \$100 each. Kayla Jacobs, Amanda Masters and Leon McKiver were awarded \$200 each.

In the spring semester two additional students were awarded \$100 each, Titneka Council and Michelle Vereen. In addition, Amanda Masters was awarded an additional \$100 for reading the remaining 10 books she had not read in the fall semester, bringing her total awards to \$300 in the program. Three Hundred dollars is the maximum a given student can be awarded in the program.

BCC reading award recipients have on numerous occasions given their testimony regarding the value of the competition in helping them succeed in college. Many have stated that the program significantly improved their reading skills and helped them to reach their goals in college.

BCC Instructor Twyla Davis who heads the program says that the success stories from past students who have participated in the program have been one of the reasons she is such a strong supporter. She points out that the program can be very beneficial to students who are willing to take the challenge.

Davis is required to verify that the student has read the book before he or she receives credit for it.

Townsend Press, an educational publisher of a series of reading, vocabulary and writing text books as well as other educational material, has provided the cash incentives program for a number of years.