



Nadace  
Zdeňka Bakaly

February 2014

# May 31

## is the deadline for applications for SCHOLARSHIP program



Karolína Křelinová

### The President of the Bakala Scholars Will Soon Return to the Czech Republic

The votes are in. The Bakala Scholars have elected Karolína Křelinová as their President and Eva Michálová as Vice President for 2014. What are the new leaders' plans? Karolína, who is currently pursuing a degree in comparative political science and cultural anthropology at Dartmouth College, says: "In July, I am returning to Prague to work for 'People in Need'. Also, I will have more time to bolster the support system for newly accepted scholars who have not yet decided on a university, degree program, or even continent. The best way to absorb newly acquired knowledge is to share it with others." Eva, a student at the University of Pennsylvania, added, "Team organization is one of the pillars of my studies. I am in a team responsible for a Facebook page for Bakala Scholars. And I have dozens of ideas on how to encourage people to cooperate, and how to give other students in the Czech Republic access to useful facts and tips about study abroad."

### "Give it a try!"

#### A Letter from Bakala Scholars to Students

Several years ago, we were in the same situation as you are now. We wanted to study what we enjoyed, preferably at the world's top institution. We were determined and courageous. The only things we lacked were practical knowledge and, of course, money. Maybe you have the same problem. In the Zdeněk Bakala Foundation's SCHOLARSHIP program, we found not only the information that we needed, but also a potential source of financing to cover our tuition fees and living expenses. So we filled out our application forms, wrote our English essays, and asked our teachers for letters of recommendation. Then we faced interviews with the selection committee. It was all rather demanding. But it was an unforgettable experience. And the payoff – the opportunity to study at universities like Columbia, Harvard, Stanford, Dartmouth, the London School of Economics, Oxford, and Cambridge – was invaluable. Is this the kind of opportunity that you are seeking? Apply to the scholarship program by May 31, 2014. In the meantime, do not hesitate to request more information about studying abroad – whether from an academic, personal, or financial perspective. Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/bakalascholars](http://www.facebook.com/bakalascholars), or contact us directly at [info@nadacezb.cz](mailto:info@nadacezb.cz).



Eva Michálová

### Bakala Scholar Playing First Fiddle

Matouš Michal, who received the Zdeněk Bakala Foundation scholarship in 2010 to support his studies at the prestigious Juilliard School of Music in the US, has been appointed concertmaster of the Juilliard Orchestra. "This is a huge step up on my career ladder. As the orchestra's leader, the concertmaster is responsible for guiding and encouraging the rest of the players – and that demands excellent leadership skills. Whenever the conductor has any objections or suggestions for improvement, he turns to the concertmaster for advice. The concertmaster must then communicate the message to all orchestra members." What is Matouš's advice for students who hope to attend Juilliard? "Practice, practice, practice. But besides that, the most important thing about the interviews is to make an impression as a personality and artist who has – and stands by – his or her own views. It is also vital that students not underestimate the comprehensive preparation for the exams, and that they learn in advance exactly what the admission procedure entails. If you are admitted to Juilliard, you will face tough competition, but you will also enjoy a wonderful atmosphere with mutual artistic enrichment and influence among students." Matouš will perform in the Czech Republic in late May and early June.



Matouš Michal