



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Omya to Award \$10,000 in Academic Scholarships**

**Florence, VT (March 6, 2009)** - Omya announces its fifth annual academic scholarship program. The program awards four \$2,500 scholarships to graduating area high school students who plan to pursue a post-secondary degree in a field of science or engineering.

The Omya Scholarship Program began five years ago with the goal of bringing young talent back to the area to work. Several of the past awardees have returned to Omya for summer internships to gain career experience.

*“The talent we see each year is amazing,” states Pierre Masuy, Omya Verpol Plant Manager. “These students are clearly motivated to be productive and generous leaders.”*

High school seniors attending Rutland and Addison counties schools are eligible to apply for the scholarships. Omya employee dependents are also encouraged to apply. The applicant must be accepted in an accredited college or university. The deadline date for applications and all required supporting materials is April 24, 2009.

The winner's guidance counselors will be notified by May 8, 2009 and a congratulatory letter will be mailed for presentation at their high school awards ceremony or graduation. Applications are available at area high school guidance offices, or by calling Jill Blanchard, Administrative Assistant (802) 770-7500.

Omya is a leading global producer of industrial minerals; mainly fillers and pigments derived from calcium carbonate and dolomite and a worldwide distributor of chemical products. The company's major markets are the paper, plastics, paint/coatings/adhesives industries as well as construction, environment, agriculture, food and pharmaceuticals. Founded in 1884, Omya has a global presence extending to more than 100 locations in over 50 countries and 6,000 employees. For more information visit the company's Vermont website at [www.OmyaInVermont.net](http://www.OmyaInVermont.net)

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