NEW HAVEN, CT — Heri Mulungula has been selected as the 2019 recipient of the Donald B. Wilbur Scholarship, presented by the Liberty Bank Foundation. Established in 2008 in honor of retiring Liberty Bank Chairman Donald B. Wilbur, the $1,000 scholarship is presented annually to an outstanding graduating high school senior who plans to major in engineering or a technology-related field.

Mulungula is a 2019 graduate of James Hillhouse High School and plans to attend the University of Connecticut to pursue studies in computer engineering. Mulungula, originally from Tanzania, began his high school career with little knowledge of English and has since maintained a high honors status.

In 2017, Mulungula was selected for the Yale Information Technology Service Internship where he advanced his skills in software and hardware installation, equipment repair, and troubleshooting.

Mulungula is a member of the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, the soccer and golf teams, and has served as a photographer’s apprentice. In addition to English, he is fluent in Swahili, French, Kibembe, and Kifurero. His recommendation from his English as a Second
Language teacher says, “Heri has taken his tenacity, patience and smile and has turned them into positive academic, personal and professional experiences.”

Donald B. Wilbur became a corporator of Liberty Bank in 1993 and joined the board of directors two years later. He was elected chairman in 2004 and served in that role until his retirement from the board in 2008. He retired in 2002 as plant manager of Unilever HPC, USA in Clinton. A graduate of the University of Connecticut, Wilbur joined Chesebrough-Pond’s USA in 1970 and held various positions over the years at plants in Alabama, Missouri, and Connecticut.

Since its inception in 1997, the Liberty Bank Foundation has awarded over $12 million in grants to nonprofit organizations within Liberty Bank’s market area. The foundation seeks to improve the quality of life for people of low or moderate income by investing in three areas: education to promote economic success for children and families; affordable housing; and nonprofit capacity building. Along with its grantmaking, the foundation strives to foster the convening and collaboration of nonprofits, funders, business, and government to address community issues.

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PHOTO CAPTION

Heri Mulungual of James Hillhouse high school has been selected as the 2019 recipient of the Donald B. Wilbur Scholarship, presented by the Liberty Bank Foundation. He will attend the University of Connecticut.