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Contact: Sue Murphy
Liberty Bank Foundation
(860) 638-2959

**LOCAL GRADUATES RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS
FROM LIBERTY BANK FOUNDATION**



Fifteen students were recently awarded \$5,000 scholarships from the Liberty Bank Foundation at a reception at Liberty Bank's main office in Middletown. Also pictured here is Chelsea Corliss, a Bristol resident and graduate of E.C. Goodwin Technical High School, who was awarded the Donald S. Wilbur Scholarship. Left to right: Front row: Chelsea Corliss, Bianca Morales, Kailey Rae LeBlanc, Alicia Waldner, Xiaoxiao Cao, and Willard McRae, chair of the Foundation's sub-committee on educational grants. Back row: Amanda Palladino, Maegan Xue Dyakiw, Jeffrey Barbour, Basil Niccolls, Jr., and Joshua Adams. Not pictured here are Andrea Aliberti, Alexandra Horwitz, Danielle Hunter, Felishia LaPointe, Kathia Maitre, and Connor Oakes.

Middletown, CT — Fifteen recent high school graduates from throughout central, eastern, and shoreline Connecticut were presented with a total of \$75,000 in scholarships at a reception held yesterday at Liberty Bank's main office in Middletown. Each of the 15 students will receive \$2,000 from the foundation toward freshman year expenses, then \$1,000 for each succeeding year, provided they each maintain a minimum GPA of 2.5 and a full courseload.

Following is a list of the students who received the four-year scholarships:

Joshua Adams, Colchester, graduate of Bacon Academy
Attending Clark University to study environmental science

Andrea Aliberti, Meriden, graduate of Francis T. Maloney High School
Attending University of Connecticut to study neuroscience

Jeffrey Barbour, Middletown, graduate of Middletown High School
Attending Central CT State University to study business management

Xiaoxiao Cao, Uncasville, graduate of Montville High School
Attending University of Connecticut to study mathematics

Maegan Xue Dyakiw, Groton, Graduate of Fitch High School
Attending University of Connecticut to study biomedical engineering

Alexandra Horwitz, Cromwell, graduate of Cromwell High School
Attending Salve Regina University to study nursing

Danielle Hunter, Deep River, graduate of Valley Regional High School
Attending Southern CT State University to study nursing

Felishia LaPointe, North Haven, graduate of North Haven High School
Attending University of New Hampshire to study nursing and medical science

Kailey Rae LeBlanc, Willimantic, graduate of Windham High School
Attending Quinnipiac University to study diagnostic imaging

Kathia Maitre, New London, graduate of New London High School
Attending University of St. Joseph to study nursing

Bianca Morales, Meriden, graduate of H.C. Wilcox Technical High School
Attending Quinnipiac University to study nursing

Basil Niccolls, Jr., New Britain, graduate of New Britain High School
Attending Howard University to study journalism

Connor Oakes, Plainville, graduate of Plainville High School
Attending University of Maine to study psychology

Amanda Palladino, Cheshire, graduate of Cheshire High School
Attending Springfield College to study elementary education

Alicia Waldner, Middletown, graduate of Middletown High School
Attending Southern CT State University to study business

An additional student, Chelsea Corliss of Bristol, was presented with Liberty's 2013 Donald S. Wilbur Scholarship, which is a one-time award of \$1,000 presented to a student who is planning to major in engineering or a technology-related field. Corliss will attend the University of Connecticut to study civil engineering.

Since the Liberty Bank Foundation scholarship program was started in 1999, the foundation has distributed more than \$675,000 to 191 students from throughout Liberty Bank's service area. Each scholarship candidate is nominated by a teacher, administrator, or counselor, and is judged by a selection committee on five criteria: financial need, academic achievement, extracurricular and community activities, teacher recommendations, and an essay written by the student. A selection committee consisting of Liberty Bank officers, Liberty Bank Foundation directors, and local educators interviews finalists and chooses the scholarship recipients.

"Many of our nominees faced and overcame serious obstacles to their success in school," said Willard McRae, a member of the Liberty Bank Foundation board and chair of its sub-committee on

educational grants. "All of them are superb students and outstanding citizens, hard-working, and involved in their communities. We're proud to be able to help them make their college dreams a reality."

Since its inception in 1997, the Liberty Bank Foundation has awarded over \$7.6 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 the areas of preventive programming 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.

Established in 1825, Liberty Bank is Connecticut's oldest mutual bank, with more than \$3.5 billion in assets and 47 banking offices throughout central, eastern, and shoreline areas of the state. As a full-service financial institution, its lines of business included consumer and commercial banking, home mortgages, and investment services. Rated outstanding by federal regulators on its community reinvestment efforts, Liberty maintains a longstanding commitment to superior personal service and unparalleled community involvement.

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