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**my529 celebrates College Savings Month with Make Your Mark contest***Original student artwork will be selected for \$1,000 college savings scholarships*

**(Salt Lake City)** Art and literature meet college savings in the annual my529 Make Your Mark bookmark design contest, sponsored by my529 and StepUp to Higher Education during National College Savings Month in September. Eight Utah students in kindergarten through grade 12 will each receive a \$1,000 college savings scholarship for their winning designs.

my529, formerly named the Utah Educational Savings Plan, holds the Make Your Mark competition during College Savings Month to raise awareness among Utah families about the importance of investing for future college or vocational school expenses.

A panel of judges, including Utah Gov. Gary Herbert and First Lady Jeanette Herbert, will select two winning bookmark design entries from each of four grade categories. Scholarship recipients will be notified in mid-October. All decisions by the judges and my529 are final.

In addition to receiving \$1,000 my529 college savings scholarship accounts, each winner may see his or her artwork professionally reproduced and distributed statewide at my529 events.

“Encouraging a child to enter the Make Your Mark competition is a great way to begin—or continue—the conversation about preparing for college, including planning for future education costs,” said Lynne Ward, my529 executive director.

“When families invest with a tax-advantaged my529 account, it will not only help cover educational expenses, but it can also help children build a college-bound mindset. Every dollar saved is one dollar that won’t need to be borrowed and paid back with interest, and starting early gives your investment more time for potential growth,” Ward said.

The contest runs September 1 through October 1, 2018. Utah students are eligible to enter if they are enrolled in a Utah school or are home-schooled. Parents are not required to own a my529 account.

Entrants must submit an original bookmark design on the official entry form found at [my529.org](http://my529.org). Address information and a complete set of contest rules and restrictions are detailed on the back of the official entry form. Only one entry per student is allowed.

my529 must receive all entries no later than October 1, 2018, at 5 p.m. MT. Submit entries by mail, courier, or hand delivery.

The contest is not open to previous Make Your Mark winners or children of an adult employed or affiliated with the Utah State Board of Regents, Utah Higher Education Assistance Authority, my529, StepUp to Higher Education, or their advertising agencies.

### **About my529**

my529, Utah's official nonprofit 529 college savings plan, is highly ranked by Morningstar Inc., and recognized by *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* magazine, *Money* magazine, CBS MoneyWatch.com, and consumer expert Clark Howard for its low fees and industry innovations such as its customized allocation investment options.

Accounts are free to open, and my529 requires no minimum deposit or account balance. my529's user-friendly website, [my529.org](http://my529.org), makes it easy to open, manage, and contribute to an account online.

To learn more about my529, visit [my529.org](http://my529.org), call my529 toll-free at 800.418.2551, or send an email to [info@my529.org](mailto:info@my529.org).

### **About StepUp to Higher Education**

StepUp to Higher Education is an outreach initiative of the State of Utah that empowers 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students and their families to prepare for college. StepUp believes every Utah student should pursue education after high school, whether that be a one-year certificate, two-year degree, four-year degree, or more. StepUp provides programs and resources to encourage college preparation and success, as well as training materials for school counselors.

### **Important Legal Notice**

*Investing is an important decision. Read the Program Description in its entirety for more information and consider all investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses before investing. Call 800.418.2551 for a copy of the Program Description or visit [my529.org](http://my529.org).*

*Investments in my529 are not insured or guaranteed by my529, the Utah State Board of Regents, the Utah Higher Education Assistance Authority or any other state or federal agency. Your investment could lose value. However, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance is provided for the FDIC-insured accounts. Please read the Program Description to learn about the FDIC-insured accounts.*

*my529 does not provide legal, financial, investment, or tax advice, and the information provided in this document does not contain legal, financial, investment, or tax advice and cannot be construed as such or relied upon for those purposes. You should consult your own tax or legal advisor to determine the effect of federal and state tax laws on your particular situation.*

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