

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## *my529 sponsors 13<sup>th</sup> annual Make Your Mark scholarship contest*

Students design bookmarks for chance to win \$1,000 college savings scholarships

**(Salt Lake City)** Shake off the end of summer blues and get ready to create. my529's 13<sup>th</sup> annual <u>Make Your</u> <u>Mark contest</u> offers students an artistic opportunity that could net them a \$1,000 scholarship.

Make Your Mark, sponsored by my529 and the Utah System of Higher Education, raises awareness of saving for future educational expenses. The contest lets Utah students display their talents by creating an original bookmark design for a chance to win the college savings scholarship.

Eight Utah students in kindergarten through grade 12 will each receive a \$1,000 college savings scholarship for their winning bookmark designs. In addition to the scholarship account, each winner may see their artwork professionally reproduced in my529 advertisements and other outreach materials.

The contest runs September 1 through October 3, 2022.

Utah Gov. Spencer J. Cox has designated September as College Savings Month for the state of Utah, in conjunction with the national observation. Each year, my529 sponsors Make Your Mark in celebration.

"Make Your Mark is a chance for students to demonstrate their creativity while also planning ahead," said Richard Ellis, my529 executive director. "Families can take advantage of the opportunity to prepare for the costs of college, technical college or trade school now to ease those future expenses."

"my529 is thrilled to help provide scholarships that can make a difference," Ellis said.

my529 has made more than \$129,000 in scholarships available to Make Your Mark participants over the life of the contest.

Students are eligible to enter if they are enrolled in a Utah school or are home-schooled in Utah. Parents or guardians are not required to own a my529 account. There is no purchase necessary to enter. Scholarship accounts can be used at any higher education institution—including universities, colleges, trade and technical colleges in the United States or abroad—that is qualified to participate in federal student aid programs. (Visit https://studentaid.gov for a list of eligible schools.)

"A successful future is our goal for every Utah student," said Gov. Cox. "Saving toward postsecondary education helps families plan ahead for the training and education needed to create opportunities."

## About my529

my529, Utah's official nonprofit 529 educational savings plan, is highly rated by Morningstar Inc.

Accounts are free to open, and my529 requires no minimum deposit or account balance. my529's userfriendly website, my529.org, makes it easy to open, manage, and contribute to an account online.

To learn more, visit my529.org, call toll-free at 800.418.2551, or email info@my529.org.

## **About Utah System of Higher Education**

The <u>Utah System of Higher Education (USHE)</u> is governed by the <u>Utah Board of Higher Education</u> and is comprised of Utah's 16 public colleges and universities. The CEO of USHE is the <u>Commissioner of Higher</u> <u>Education</u>. For more information, visit <u>ushe.edu</u>.

## **Important Legal Notice**

Investing is an important decision. The investments in your account may vary with market conditions and could lose value. Carefully read the Program Description in its entirety for more information and consider all investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing. For a copy of the Program Description, call 800.418.2551 or visit my529.org.

Investments in my529 are not insured or guaranteed by my529, the Utah Board of Higher Education, the Utah Higher Education Assistance Authority Board of Directors, any other state or federal agency, or any third party. However, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance is provided for the FDIC-Insured investment option. In addition, my529 offers investment options that are partially insured for the portion of the respective investment option that includes FDIC-insured accounts as an underlying investment.

The state in which you or your beneficiary pay taxes or live may offer a 529 plan that provides state tax or other benefits, such as financial aid, scholarship funds and protection from creditors, not otherwise available to you by investing in my529. You should consider such benefits, if any, before investing in my529.

my529 does not provide legal, financial, investment or tax advice. You should consult your own tax or legal advisor to determine the effect of federal and state tax laws on your particular situation.