

## News Release

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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# my529 sponsors 15th annual Make Your Mark contest

Students design bookmarks for chance to win \$2,000 college savings scholarships

**(Salt Lake City)** The French painter Henri Matisse said of making art, "Creativity takes courage." my529 is adding a \$2,000 incentive to bolster the courage of young artists to take part in the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Make Your Mark contest.

The contest, sponsored by my529 and the Utah System of Higher Education, invites Utah students to exhibit their talents by creating an original bookmark design for a chance to win one of eight college savings scholarships.

Make Your Mark, which runs September 1 through September 30, 2024, also raises awareness of saving for future qualified education expenses.

Eight Utah students in kindergarten through grade 12 will each receive a \$2,000 college savings scholarship for their winning bookmark designs. In addition to the scholarship account, winners may see their artwork professionally reproduced in my529 advertisements and other outreach materials.

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

"Through the Make Your Mark Contest, students flex their creativity while preparing for their futures," said Richard Ellis, my529 executive director. "The contest may make them think of possible careers or schools they might attend. Meanwhile, they can prepare for the future costs of college, technical college or trade school."

"my529 is pleased to help provide scholarships to support Utah students in their educational pursuits," Ellis said.

Over the span of the contest, my529 has made more than \$150,000 in scholarships available to Make Your Mark participants.

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.)

## About my529

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

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Accounts are free to open, and my529 requires no minimum deposit or account balance. my529's user-friendly 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 the 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 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 Education Savings Board of Trustees, 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.

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