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FIRST GENERAL BANK ANNOUNCES \$10,000 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

LOS ANGELES — On July 17, 2020, <u>First General Bank</u> congratulated the inaugural awardees of the <u>First General Bank Scholarship Program</u> during a virtual Meet and Greet event. Selected through a competitive process, each of the four college students received a \$2,500 scholarship to cover tuition costs this fall.

The First General Bank Scholarship Program was open to incoming low-income college juniors and seniors in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Feedback from school faculty was encouraging, with many noting that typically scholarships are limited to college freshmen. Bank employees across Southern California were involved in reviewing and scoring applicant essays. First General Bank then analyzed the applications, recommendations, and scores before final selection. For more about the First General Bank Scholarship Program: www.apcf.org/first-general-bank.

"First General Bank believes in investing in young people and their dreams, especially during these uncertain times," said **Cliff Hsu, Chief Executive Officer of First General Bank**. "We are glad to support these extraordinary students as they continue their studies in the midst of a global pandemic that has caused hardships for many families in our community. In response, we've increased our support for local community-based organizations providing food, shelter, and other services for families and small businesses."

On behalf of the First General Bank Scholarship Program, Wilson C. Mach, Senior Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer of First General Bank, thanked the Asian Pacific Community Fund (APCF) for its assistance as the administrator for the scholarship program. Chun-Yen Chen, Executive Director of APCF, was also online to extended congratulatory messages to the scholarship recipients. Held virtually for the health and safety of attendees, the event was an opportunity for each student to meet with First General Bank's scholarship review committee. The students expressed their gratitude for the Bank's generosity and shared their plans and goals after graduation. The four outstanding scholarship awardees are as follows:





- Jeremy Argueta of Granada Hills attending California State University, Northridge
- Brandon Le of Northridge UCLA transfer from LA Pierce College
- Angela Li of Los Angeles attending UCLA
- Jon Andre Parrilla of Los Angeles attending UCLA

First General Bank and their response to COVID-19

<u>First General Bank</u> is a full-service commercial bank, with an emphasis on developing a business and professional clientele within the Southern California area. First General Bank focuses on personalized service, combined with a full range of traditional and online core consumer and commercial banking products and cash management services for small to medium sized businesses and individuals residing or doing business in Southern California. As one of approximately 120 commercial banks certified as Community Development Financial Institution across the United States, First General Bank is committed to reaching out and providing access to capital/financial services to its community, including those who are unserved/underserved, and lending to minorities. Its products and services are designed to create sustainable impact in our community.

Amid the COVID-19 outbreak, the Bank works with and provides assistance to customers and communities affected by COVID 19. First General Bank has reached out to, and increased its support for local families in need and small business assistance. The Bank has donated to community organizations that help provide food and shelter services to those most in need. As of June 30, 2020, First General Bank has processed and approved about 450 Payment Protection Program loan applications totaling approximately \$41 million, enabling local small businesses retain an estimated 5,695 employees and maintain operations.