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GTE FINANCIAL OPENS SUBMISSIONS FOR 13TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

TAMPA, FL, February 2024: GTE Financial continues to support education in the Tampa Bay community with its 13th annual student scholarship program. The credit union will grant 26 students \$3,000 each to support student members' education and reward young adults dedicated to academic pursuits and community involvement. Individuals pursuing an undergraduate degree or trade school certificate can apply through June 2, 2024.

"For the past 12 years, GTE Financial has awarded over \$900,000 in scholarships to student visionaries to reach their educational goals," said Brian Best, President and CEO of GTE Financial. "We are honored to be able to support the outstanding students who have dedicated themselves to strengthening their communities and enhancing their futures."

Beginning in 2024, GTE Financial will dedicate a financial scholarship award in honor of David Pizzo and his devotion and commitment to serving the Tampa Bay community.

The GTE Student Scholarship Program assists with tuition, fees, books, supplies, and other equipment to pursue an undergraduate degree or program certificate. Requirements include an essay stating the student's experience helping the local community and the impact of their involvement. A panel of diverse, esteemed community leaders will determine the winners based on academic achievement, demonstration of leadership abilities, and their commitment to community service and activities.

Applicants must be a member of GTE Financial to be eligible. Previous applicants and winners are eligible and encouraged to reapply as long as they meet the eligibility requirements. For more information on how to apply for the GTE Student Scholarship Program, please visit <u>gtefinancial.org/scholarships</u>.

About GTE Financial

GTE Financial is a not-for-profit financial cooperative located throughout West Central Florida with \$2.9 billion in assets and 24 Community Financial Centers. Chartered in 1935, GTE Financial is the official credit union of the Tampa Bay Lightning and is locally owned and operated in the Tampa Bay area, serving more than 230,000 individuals and businesses. For more information on GTE Financial, visit <u>gtefinancial.org</u>.

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