

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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10 Colorado grandparents win college scholarships for grandchildren
Colorado's CollegeInvest awards \$25,000 in scholarships through essay contest

All grandparents have big hopes and dreams for the future of their grandchildren. Those dreams just came closer to reality for 10 Colorado grandparents when they each won \$2,500 in college money through an essay contest sponsored by CollegeInvest, Colorado's not-for-profit higher education financing resource.

Nearly 800 entries were received for the statewide CollegeInvest Grandparents Scholarship Contest. Entrants submitted an essay answering the question: "What are your hopes or dreams for your grandchild(ren) and how would a college education help make that possible?"

A total of 10 winners were selected from around Colorado, earning their grandchild a \$2,500 college savings plan from CollegeInvest, which is a division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education.

When the grandchildren are ready for college, they can use the money in these accounts for college expenses including tuition, fees, room and board, or even textbooks at any eligible public or private college, university or vocational school nationwide.

"Grandparents from all over Colorado entered the contest and their powerful entries really spoke to the importance of higher education," said Jennifer Robinson, chief marketing officer of CollegeInvest. "Grandparents can play a big role in helping to pay for higher education expenses for their grandkids. A CollegeInvest college saving account, known as a 529 plan, offers unique gift tax and estate planning benefits."

The winners of the scholarships are:

- Betty Walters of Boulder
- Deborah Schukar of Littleton
- Marilyn Leff of Denver
- Erma Zartman of Lakewood
- Ki Tribbett of Longmont
- Kathy Hurley of Strasburg
- Michael Warren of Colorado Springs
- Bernell Riccatone of Trinidad
- Randy Reynolds of Carbondale
- Terry Pickens of Grand Junction

As a division of the state, ColleeInvest offers the only college savings plans that also provide a Colorado income tax deduction for all contributions. Accounts can be opened for as little as \$25.

For more information about how to open a 529 college savings plan go to www.collegeinvest.org or call 1-800-448-2424.

To contact the winners please contact Luke Carleo at ColleeInvest (303-376-8804 or lcarleo@collegeinvest.org).

About ColleeInvest

ColleeInvest is a not-for-profit division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. Since 1979, ColleeInvest has helped more than half a million families break down the financial barriers to college by providing expert information, simple planning tools, scholarships, college savings plans, and low-cost student and parent loans. For more information, visit www.collegeinvest.org or call 1-800-448-2424 or contact your financial advisor.

Important Considerations

To learn about ColleeInvest's 529 program, its objectives, risks, charges, limitations, restrictions and qualifications regarding the Plans' benefits and potential tax advantages, please read the Program Disclosure Statements (PDS) available at www.collegeinvest.org. Also, check with your home state to learn if it offers tax or other benefits for investing in its own plan. ColleeInvest and the ColleeInvest logo are registered trademarks. Administered and Issued by ColleeInvest.

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