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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NVE Bank, A Division of Ion Bank Celebrates 17 Years of Supporting Local Students with Scholarship and Savings Awards

Englewood, NJ – NVE Bank, A Division of Ion Bank, continues its longstanding tradition of investing in the future of local youth, awarding scholarships and savings awards to 18 exceptional students this year. Now in its 17th year, the program has provided over 315 awards to graduating high school seniors and eighth-grade students across Bergen County.

To celebrate the 2025 recipients, NVE Bank, A Division of Ion Bank hosted a special reception at its Main Office on June 12th, bringing together students, their families, school administrators, and bank representatives. Among the attendees were Ion Bank President David Rotatori, Ion Executive Vice President Anne Rivers, Ion First Vice President Kari Jonikas, and Hilary Walsh, Senior Vice President of NVE, A Division of Ion Bank.

The high school scholarships assist graduating seniors in pursuing higher education, while the savings awards, given to eighth-grade students, help jumpstart future college savings. Recipients are nominated by their schools based on academic excellence and financial need.

During the ceremony, Mr. Rotatori shared the inspiring story of Robert Rey, former NVE Bank President, whose legacy of leadership and perseverance is now honored through the newly named **Robert Rey 8th Grade Savings Award and High School Scholarship Program**.

“Rob came to the U.S. from Cuba not knowing English and worked his way up to become a respected leader who helped transform NVE Bank,” Rotatori shared. “It’s important

About NVE Bank

Established in 1887, NVE Bank, A Division of Ion Bank is one of New Jersey’s strongest mutual banks, offering a wide range of personal and business banking products and services through 11 offices across Bergen County. NVE Bank merged with Ion Bank in 2025 and remains deeply committed to community growth and support. Learn more at www.nvebank.com.

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Robert Rey 8th Grade Savings Award Recipients: Hailey Badia, Stephanie Arnulfo Alanzo, Zany Cuautie Rodriguez, Aiden John Fletcher, Noah Travers, David Rotatori, Ion Bank President & CEO, Yerika Lora Castano, Delia Barish

for students to understand that history and mentorship can help guide your path, and investing in yourself is the most important investment of all.”

He also spoke of his personal journey—working at Ion Bank during high school and college—and how mentorship changed the course of his life. He encouraged students to remain open to opportunity, seek guidance, and never stop learning.

This year’s scholarship and award recipients included:

Robert Rey 8th Grade Savings Award Recipients; Zany Cuautie Rodriguez, Latoya Tabb, Aiden John Fletcher, Yerika Lora Castano, Hailey Badia, Stephanie Arnulfo Alanzo, Delia Barish, Noah Travers

High School Scholarship Recipients; James Wilson, Chloe Kim, Michaela Darian, Roy Sung, Alexavier Williams, Alish Gonzalez, Marissa Peter-Nurse, Elise Gracey Mensah, Amali Johnson, Hyunjun Oh

As part of the ongoing commitment to Bergen County, Ion Bank has also established the **NVE Bank Community Foundation**, which will provide dedicated funding for community-based programs throughout the region.

NVE Bank, A Division of Ion Bank is proud to celebrate the achievements of these outstanding students and to help lighten the financial load as they pursue their dreams. Through continued educational support, NVE Bank, A Division of Ion Bank reaffirms its mission to uplift the communities it serves—one student at a time.