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**Extra Credit Union awards \$6,000 in scholarships
to high school graduates**

Seven local high school graduates will get a bit of a head start on their college tuition payments this fall, thanks to a scholarship from Extra Credit Union.

The financial institution recently announced the winners of its Richard J. Spence Scholarship Program with a surprise visit from members of Extra Credit Union's marketing team bearing a lawn sign and large fake check.

Seven winners were chosen this year rather than the annual five recipients, totaling \$6,000 in awards.

"We know that this year was tough for a lot of seniors who missed out on a lot of their traditional rites of passage the last few months of school," said Ruthann Varosi, marketing manager at Extra Credit Union. "We wanted to spread a little extra joy to the Class of 2020 by awarding some extra college funds to help them kickstart their post-high school education."

ECU's Richard J. Spence Scholarship Program has been awarding students with additional college funding since 2005 in honor of the financial institution's former president/CEO.

Congratulations to the 2019-20 winners:

- **Luke Kaferle:** \$2,000, Warren Woods Tower High School, will be attending University of Michigan Dearborn for Engineering
- **Brooke Hines:** \$1,000, Berkley High School, will be attending Grand Valley State University for pre-dental
- **Kiara Dunklin:** \$1,000, Fitzgerald High School, will be attending Macomb Community College for Business Administration
- **Catharine Carlson:** \$500, Stevenson High School, will be attending Kettering University for Electrical Engineering
- **Ethan Winiarski:** \$500, Lakeview High School, will be attending Grand Valley State University studying Exercise Science on a path to Physical Therapy
- **Emma LaMothe:** \$500, Henry Ford II High School, will be attending Grand Valley State University studying Exercise Science on a path to Physical Therapy

- **Ryan Laurain:** \$500, Eisenhower High School, will be attending Lawrence Technological University for Architecture

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Extra Credit Union (www.extracreditunion.org) was founded in 1954 by a group of educators with \$856 in assets. Today, with two full-service offices in Warren and Sterling Heights, Mich., Extra Credit Union (ECU) has nearly 20,000 members and \$238 million in assets. Extra Credit Union works with the local community and educators to provide hands-on learning, financial fundamentals, and customized services to help students and educators make good financial decisions. In addition, ECU provides solution-based lending and credit education programs to open lending possibilities to people of all credit backgrounds in Macomb, Oakland, St. Clair and Wayne counties. Deidra M. Williams serves as President/CEO, leading the credit union in its mission.