

# Norwalk Student Earns Citizenship Scholarship From First County Bank

By Karen Tensa



Reyno A. Giallongo, Jr., Richard E. Taber and Karen M. Kelly of the First County Bank Foundation with winning students Vanessa Giraldo, Douglas Raigosa and Allison Tovar. Photo Credit: *Contributed*

STAMFORD, Conn. — Three students from lower Fairfield County have been honored as the recipients of the Richard E. Taber Citizenship Award scholarships given by Stamford-based First County Bank.

This annual award honors high school students living in lower Fairfield County who consistently demonstrate good citizenship at school, at home and in the community. The program awards scholarships to three deserving students and is designed to recognize and encourage young people who are honest, hard-working, helpful and fair.

Each of the following students were chosen to receive a \$5,000 Richard E. Taber Citizenship Award scholarship:

- Vanessa Giraldo from Brien McMahon High School in Norwalk, who will attend Connecticut College and double major in environmental studies and studio art;
- Douglas Raigosa from Staples High School in Westport, who will attend Harvey Mudd College and will major in engineering;
- Allison Tovar from Academy of Information, Technology & Engineering (AITE) in Stamford, who will attend American University and major in film and media studies with a political science minor.

“The Richard E. Taber Citizenship Award provides scholarships to exceptional graduating high school seniors who exemplify good citizenship and service to our local communities,” said Rey Giallongo, chairman and CEO of First County Bank, and president of the foundation. “We are excited to present scholarships to these amazing students, knowing that we are supporting future leaders with a heart towards service.”

The award is named after Richard E. Taber who retired as chairman and CEO of First County Bank in March 2011. It is in recognition of Taber’s 40-plus-year career at the bank and innumerable contributions to the community.

Taber, who is still a member of the board of directors at First County Bank, said, “I am very proud to have my name associated with three such community-minded and talented young adults. With the level of success they have already achieved, I’m certain they will have a successful future.”

Established in 2001 in honor of the bank’s 150th anniversary, the First County Bank Foundation was created to distribute funds annually to nonprofit organizations that support community and economic development for children and families.

As a mutual bank with no shareholders, First County Bank considers contributions made by the foundation a means of paying dividends back to the local communities it serves.

First County Bank, headquartered in Stamford for more than 165 years, is an independent mutual community bank with 15 branches in Stamford, Greenwich, Darien, New Canaan, Norwalk and Westport offering deposit products, mortgages, wealth management, business banking services, mobile and online banking.

For additional information, visit [www.firstcountybank.com](http://www.firstcountybank.com) .