Subject: In Recognition of National First-Gen College Student Celebration Day

Preview text: Opportunity. That one word is so powerful.

Dear (insert first name),

Opportunity. That one word is so powerful. For our Machen Florida *Opportunity* Scholars, the opportunity to attend a Top 5 public university as a reward for their academic dedication, resilience and determination inspires us.

We are passionate about promoting education for all, especially to those deserving students who have difficulty in obtaining access to a college education due to financial constraints. This program not only allows these qualified students to gain an education, but it gives them the ability to become successful in their chosen careers and lead fulfilling lives.

Yesterday was National First-Generation College Student Celebration Day. Each year on November 8, colleges and universities across our nation paused to honor and commend trailblazers. Our 1,250 current Machen Florida Opportunity Scholars, hailing from families that make an average of $19,689 a year and who are blazing the trail to become the FIRST to graduate with a college degree push us all to Go Greater at UF.

We are proud of them and know you are too.

Whether you are a parent of a Machen Florida Opportunity Scholar or someone who wants to contribute to their success today, and every day, join us in investing in these outstanding students. Gifts of all amounts, even a few dollars, help us reach our goal of providing full scholarships to each deserving Machen Scholar.

Together, we strengthen The Gator Nation by providing access and encouraging success of some of the best and brightest scholars. Your investment today will help scholars afford the costs of college and allow them an opportunity to fully participate in all of the great experiences UF offers.

Thank you and go Gators!

Suresh Raja & Nisha Bhardwaj

Co-Chairs, [UF Parent & Family Philanthropy Council](https://www.uff.ufl.edu/familygiving/council/)