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'FRIENDS OF WILT' RAISE \$40,000 FOR PHASE II OF HILDENBRAND MEMORIAL AWARD, SCHOLARSHIP

Charter's Kerry Zinger Named Rising Leader; STEM School Highlands Ranch FIRST Members Win Grants

Sept. 3, 2020 (Exton, PA)— The Society of Cable Telecommunications Engineers (SCTE), its global arm, the International Society of Broadband Experts (ISBE), and the SCTE Foundation today announced new funding for, and winners of, the Wilt J. Hildenbrand Jr. memorial scholarships and awards instituted last year.

SCTE•ISBE and the Foundation announced that a campaign by “Friends of Wilt” raised a total of \$40,000 this year, matching the initial donation last year by the YAS Foundation that spurred creation of the Wilt J. Hildenbrand Jr. scholarships and the annual Wilt J. Hildenbrand Jr. Rising Leader award. Friends of Wilt donors include: The Dolan Family; Mike Lajoie; James Blackley; Rouzbeh Yassini; Yvette Kanouff; Mark Hess; Pragash Pillai; Joe Godas; and Kathy Davis.

The Wilt J. Hildenbrand Jr. Rising Leader award, which recognizes a rising cable telecommunications star under the age of 40, is being presented this year to Kerry Zinger, senior manager of software development at Charter Communications. Zinger is a veteran who spent eight years in the Army reserves. Among Zinger’s accomplishments has been the success of Charter’s IP Video Services (IPVS) application. Zinger skillfully addressed operational issues and refactored the application to enable it to orchestrate customer experiences on both QAM and IP delivered video. Today, she manages the IPVS application which helps support millions of video customer experiences daily and is a key component in Charter’s video streaming products, including the highly-rated Spectrum TV App.

This year’s \$20,000 Wilt J. Hildenbrand Jr. scholarship will be shared by five students from STEM School Highlands Ranch: Corbin Baird, Katie Butler, Dylan Homesley, Aedin Elise Sarff and Ben Vigil. All five were First Robotics team colleagues of Kendrick Castillo, who was killed saving the lives of other students during a shooting at the school in May 2020.

“Leadership comes in many shapes and sizes,” said Mark Hess, chair of the SCTE Foundation and senior vice president, business and industry affairs for Comcast Technology Solutions. “We’re grateful to the ‘Friends of Wilt’ donors and the YAS Foundation for leading the charge in funding this memorial, we salute Kerry Zinger for her persistence in problem solving, and we recognize the STEM School student leaders who are blazing their own trails in robotics. More than anything else, however, we are humbled by the courage of Kendrick Castillo who selflessly led by example in preventing greater loss of life when his classmates were under assault.”

“Wilt was blessed with a ranging intellect, perfectly suited for the cable industry he helped build and define,” said Lajoie, former executive vice president and CTO at Time Warner Cable. “Contributing to the growth and education of creative technologists came to him naturally. It is an honor to participate in continuing his legacy.”

Hildenbrand passed away last year at the age of 70 after a lengthy career that included four decades in the Cablevision organization. Hildenbrand joined the company as chief engineer in 1976 and ultimately became executive vice president of technology and engineering. Among his innovations were Cablevision’s rollouts of 100 Mbps residential broadband, downloadable security for digital video services and cloud-based navigation for legacy set-top boxes.

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About the SCTE Foundation

The SCTE Foundation is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to ensuring the continued ability of a diverse workforce to positively impact the community, including in times of crisis. Using funds contributed by individual and corporate donors, the Foundation supports programs that: increase technical workforce skills; attract women, minorities and members of the armed forces to cable engineering careers; promote STEM activities among young people; and underpin cable workforce support for essential communication links that benefit the community in the face of natural or manmade disasters. For more information about the SCTE Foundation, please visit <http://foundation.scte.org>.

About SCTE•ISBE

SCTE•ISBE is envisioning the future of connectivity, today. Through technological leadership and innovation in the cable industry, SCTE•ISBE is creating a more connected world. As a not-for-profit, member organization, SCTE•ISBE moves member companies forward through continuous training for the workforce of tomorrow and by putting leaders into the conversations that matter. In partnership with CableLabs® and NCTA, SCTE•ISBE is building the future of 10G, leveraging its expertise for the acceleration and deployment of technology. SCTE•ISBE is the force behind the annual SCTE•ISBE Cable-Tec Expo®, the largest cable telecommunications and technology tradeshow in the Americas. More at www.scte.org.

SCTE :: Society of Cable Telecommunications Engineers

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