



## CONNECTICUT STUDENT LOAN FOUNDATION

525 Brook Street | P.O. Box 1009 | Rocky Hill, CT 06067 | 800.237.9721 | 860.257.4001

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: President's Office – 1(800) 237-9721, ext. 204

### **Connecticut Student Loan Foundation Announces Recipient of 2008 Scholarship Monica Dias named as the 2008 CSLF/TFTCT Scholarship Recipient**

**Rocky Hill, CT – May 27, 2008** - For the third consecutive year, the Connecticut Student Loan Foundation (CSLF) has joined with The First Tee of Connecticut (TFTCT) to award a local scholarship. This year's recipient is TFTCT member Monica Dias. Monica will receive \$2,500.00 to be used toward her college tuition.

The CSLF/TFTCT Scholarship is awarded to students who participate in The First Tee of Connecticut program, demonstrate academic excellence, are actively involved in their communities, and plan to continue their education at the college level. The scholarship will be presented to Ms. Dias at the 2008 Travelers Championship Family Day at TPC River Highlands in Cromwell, CT on June 17.

Monica Dias, a resident of Bridgeport, CT and a senior at Bridgeport Central High School (Bridgeport, CT), has been a member of The First Tee at Fairchild Wheeler for over five years. She has been a long-time member of The First Tee Team, RBS Mentoring Program, Travel Team and has attended many local field trips and events. Monica has also attended several national events including the Life Skills Academy in Kansas and the Disney Leadership Forum in Florida. She was named as a semi-finalist for The First Tee/RBS Achiever of the Year award, where she received a \$1,000.00 scholarship award, and was named The First Tee Scholar, one of only 40 or so students around the country to earn such a distinction. When she's not participating in the program herself, Monica can be found at Fairchild Wheeler Golf Course assisting the staff with beginner youth programs and overall administrative help.

"I am very grateful to the Connecticut Student Loan Foundation and The First Tee of Connecticut for naming me as their scholarship recipient. The First Tee has impacted my life in many ways. It has brought me many firsts – first time on an airplane, first time to New York. Without all of these wonderful people and marvelous experiences, I would not have had the faith in myself to believe I can succeed. The First Tee has made me who I am today," said Ms. Dias.

CSLF is pleased to recognize Monica Dias for her many achievements. For additional information about The First Tee of Connecticut, visit [www.thefirstteeconnecticut.org](http://www.thefirstteeconnecticut.org).

***ABOUT CSLF** – The Connecticut Student Loan Foundation (CSLF) is a national, non-profit agency that administers, guarantees, and finances loans within the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) and alternative student loan programs. CSLF has more than 40 years of experience providing assistance to students and parents seeking to finance a higher education. CSLF promotes access to higher education by helping families plan for and pursue a postsecondary education and by assuring that low-cost funding options remain available to eligible students and parents. Learn more about CSLF at [www.cslf.com](http://www.cslf.com).*

***ABOUT TFTCT** – The First Tee of Connecticut reaches thousands of youth each year through a variety of programs including In-School Instruction, Group Lessons and Teams. Along with golf instruction, The First Tee of Connecticut teaches a Life Skills curriculum that is based on a set of nine core values: Honesty, Integrity, Sportsmanship, Respect, Courtesy, Judgment, Confidence, Responsibility and Perseverance. Learn more about TFTCT at [www.thefirstteeconnecticut.org](http://www.thefirstteeconnecticut.org).*