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## News Release

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### **Buffalo-area student golfer wins national contest and trip to PGA Tour**

*14-year-old The First Tee winner attending Wells Fargo Championship in Charlotte, N.C.*

BUFFALO, N.Y. - April 24, 2018 – Wells Fargo and The First Tee® today announced that Dawson Miller, a 14-year-old from East Amherst, was a national winner of the [Succeeding Together<sup>SM</sup>](#) essay contest, which celebrates the positive impact The First Tee, a national youth sports organization, has on students across the country. Miller, a member of The First Tee of Western New York, is a promising student golfer who mentors and empowers other students living with a rare genetic disorder to succeed in golf competitions.

“The First Tee [of Western New York] has helped me with golf, goal setting, sportsmanship, character traits...and life skills; skills that I can see and apply in my school, friendships, and in my golf game,” said Miller. “I have certainly grown in my golf game, thanks to my coaches...they have supported me and helped build a confidence within me through their time and efforts.”

As one of four first-prize winners, Miller will receive a four-day/three-night trip for two to Charlotte, N.C., to attend the [2018 Wells Fargo Championship](#) and experience the excitement of a PGA TOUR event from inside the ropes. Wells Fargo created the contest specifically for the 30,000+ teenage participants of The First Tee, which introduces kids to the game of golf and its inherent values at more than 150 chapters across the U.S. The contest asked participants to write about the importance of having and being a part of a “Go-To Team,” a core life skill of The First Tee that fosters partnership and teamwork in all areas of life. Miller says, he “is really looking forward to being inside the ropes and seeing how the PGA pros play and consider each of their shots” and hopes this will help him in his own golf game.

Together we'll go far





“Dawson is someone who always leads by example. He brings a unique combination to our program as both a competitor and a leader who represents all the core values of our organization. We are extremely proud of Dawson and we know he will be an outstanding representative for The First Tee of Western New York” said Tim Frank, Executive Director for the First Tee of Western New York.

A panel of judges from Wells Fargo, The First Tee, and the Wells Fargo Championship tournament office chose four winners from the written submissions. Shabazz Hashmi, 17, from The First Tee of Greater San Antonio, was named the grand prize winner. Along with Miller, Kharynton Beggs, 17, from The First Tee of Greater Charleston; and Grace Kehoe, 17, from The First Tee of Greater Charlotte were named the first prize winners. East Amherst is 16 miles from downtown Buffalo.

“Dawson demonstrates exemplary leadership through his focus, discipline, collaborative spirit and dedication to his sport,” said Deborah Smith, a senior vice president and the head of Wells Fargo Foundation for New York, Connecticut and New Jersey. “He showcases how he has achieved great things in the classroom, on the golf course, and in our communities. We’re excited to have a *Succeeding Together* contest winner in Western New York, and we are really proud of how Dawson shared such an inspiring story through his essay.”

In 2015, Wells Fargo deepened its relationship with The First Tee by becoming a national Trustee and further supporting the organization, its participants and volunteers – recognizing that little by little, we can join together to make a huge difference in the lives of so many kids.

More information about Wells Fargo’s *Succeeding Together* community program and the contest is located at: <https://thefirsttee.org/succeedingtogether>.



### **About The First Tee®**

The First Tee ([www.thefirsttee.org](http://www.thefirsttee.org)) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit youth sports organization whose mission is to impact the lives of young people by providing programs that build character and instill life-enhancing values through the game of golf. With its home office at World Golf Village in St. Augustine, Fla., The First Tee reaches kids on golf courses, in elementary schools and at youth centers around the country. Since its inception in 1997, The First Tee has grown its network to deliver programs in all 50 United States and select international locations. In 2017, The First Tee reached more than 5 million kids through the game of golf. The First Tee's Founding Partners are LPGA, the Masters Tournament, PGA of America, PGA TOUR and the USGA. Johnson & Johnson is its Legacy Partner. Former President George W. Bush serves as honorary chair. As a National Trustee of The First Tee, Wells Fargo is proud to support the mission and values of The First Tee nationally and through support of select chapters across the country.

To learn more about The First Tee, please visit:

[www.thefirsttee.org](http://www.thefirsttee.org)

[www.facebook.com/thefirsttee](https://www.facebook.com/thefirsttee)

[www.twitter.com/thefirsttee](https://www.twitter.com/thefirsttee)

[blog.thefirsttee.org](http://blog.thefirsttee.org)

### **About Wells Fargo**

Wells Fargo & Company (NYSE: WFC) is a diversified, community-based financial services company with \$1.9 trillion in assets. Wells Fargo's vision is to satisfy our customers' financial needs and help them succeed financially. Founded in 1852 and headquartered in San Francisco, Wells Fargo provides banking, investments, mortgage, and consumer and commercial finance through 8,200 locations, 13,000 ATMs, the internet ([wellsfargo.com](http://wellsfargo.com)) and mobile banking, and has offices in 42 countries and territories to support customers who conduct business in the global economy. With approximately 265,000 team members, Wells Fargo serves one in three households in the United States. Wells Fargo & Company was ranked No. 25 on Fortune's 2017 rankings of America's largest corporations. News, insights and perspectives from Wells Fargo are also available at [Wells Fargo Stories](#).

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