FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT WITH LIFELONG DREAM TO BUILD WINS JERE W. THOMPSON JR. SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

PLANO, TX – July 20, 2016 – The North Texas Tollway Authority has awarded its annual Jere W. Thompson Jr. Scholarship to a first-generation college student with a special interest in architecture.

Tran Duong is a civil engineering student with plans to graduate in 2017. She attends the University of Texas at Arlington, where she participates in the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Society of Women Engineers and the Golden Key Honor Society.

While in school, Duong tutors math and engineering and is planning to participate in next year’s Steel Bridge Competition sponsored by the American Institute of Steel Construction and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

“I get mesmerized every time I look across a big city’s skyline,” Duong said. “By observing all the great engineering works around every day, I feel motivated as an aspiring engineer to learn more, work harder and explore.”

The Jere W. Thompson Jr. Scholarship Fund, administered by The Dallas Foundation, provides recipients up to $2,000 per semester with a maximum award of $8,000 combined for four semesters. Each year’s recipient also is offered a summer internship with NTTA or one of its corporate partners.

The scholarship assists engineering students who may not otherwise be able to continue their education or pursue their professional aspirations. NTTA established the scholarship in 2001 to ensure that high-caliber candidates continue to graduate from engineering programs at Texas colleges and universities.

Since then, the Authority and its corporate partners have awarded more than $90,000 in scholarships.

For more information about the Jere W. Thompson Jr. Scholarship Fund or to make a donation, contact The Dallas Foundation at 214 741-9898.

About the NTTA
The North Texas Tollway Authority, a political subdivision of the state of Texas, is authorized to acquire, construct, maintain, repair and operate turnpike projects in the north Texas region. The nine-member board is comprised of Chairman Kenneth Barr; Vice Chairman Bill Moore; and Directors William D. Elliott, Matrice Ellis-Kirk, Mojy Haddad, John Mahalik, Michael Nowels, George “Tex” Quesada and Jane Willard.

NTTA serves Collin, Dallas, Denton and Tarrant counties and owns and operates the Dallas North Tollway, President George Bush Turnpike, Sam Rayburn Tollway, Addison Airport Toll Tunnel, Lewisville Lake Toll Bridge, Mountain Creek Lake Bridge and Chisholm Trail Parkway. NTTA is able to raise capital for construction projects through the issuance of turnpike revenue bonds. NTTA toll projects are not a part of the state highway system and receive no direct tax funding. Tolls are collected to repay debt and to operate and maintain the roadways.