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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BANKERS AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS, MACBOOKS TO YOUNG NEBRASKANS

LA VISTA, NE – May 4, 2018 – The Nebraska Bankers Association (NBA) is pleased to announce the 2018 recipients of the Nebraska Bankers Educational Foundation (NBEF) William B. Brandt Memorial Scholarship Fund. The nine \$2,000 scholarships have been awarded through a statewide scholarship program to assist students pursuing business-related degrees at state or private colleges in Nebraska. The scholarship winners and nominating bankers were recognized at the NBA Annual Convention held May 2-4 at the Embassy Suites in La Vista.

- ◆ **Braxtyn M. DeGolyer**, Dunbar, Nebraska Wesleyan University
Nominated by Robert Brandt, Countryside Bank, Syracuse
- ◆ **Evan C. Marshall**, Seward, Nebraska Wesleyan University
Nominated by Duane Miner, Cattle Bank & Trust, Seward
- ◆ **Ashley L. Minnick**, West Point, Wayne State College
Nominated by David Steffensmeier, First Community Bank, Beemer
- ◆ **Katelin L. O'Connor**, Grand Island, Nebraska Wesleyan University
Nominated by Tom Gdowski, Equitable Bank, Grand Island
- ◆ **Lauren N. Schmidt**, Deshler, Doane University
Nominated by Linda Fangmeyer, Midwest Bank, Deshler
- ◆ **Murphy E. Sears**, Crete, Concordia University
Nominated by Mariana Garcia, Union Bank & Trust Co., Crete
- ◆ **Trace J. Strotheide**, Chadron, Chadron State College
Nominated by Clayton Riesen, Farmers State Bank, Chadron
- ◆ **Colton E. Stull**, Bridgeport, Creighton University
Nominated by Christopher Kalkowski, First National Bank of Omaha, Omaha
- ◆ **Andrew J. Wade**, McCook, Bellevue University
Nominated by Mark Graff, McCook National Bank, McCook

These scholarships have been awarded in memory of William B. Brandt, a long-time friend of the Nebraska banking industry. Brandt was a banker, state senator, and NBA general counsel. Students interested in applying for a Nebraska Bankers Educational Foundation Scholarship must have at least a college junior- or senior-level status with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 and

must be pursuing a business-related degree at a state or privately funded Nebraska college or university (excluding the University of Nebraska). Students, parents, and educators can learn more about the scholarships by contacting Sheila Scheinost at the NBA at 402-474-1555 or sheila.scheinost@nebankers.org. Information is also available under *Scholarships* at www.nebankers.org. The next deadline to submit applications is January 31, 2019.

Engaging Youth in the Bank On Nebraska Challenge

To connect with the next generation of Nebraskans, the NBA this year launched the Bank On Nebraska Challenge. This statewide competition challenged our state's high school students to submit 60-second videos highlighting the important role Nebraska banks play in their communities, schools, and families. With 125 qualified entrants, nearly 35,000 visits to BankOnNE.com, and almost 12,000 votes, the campaign was highly successful at reaching today's teens.

During the NBA Annual Convention, the following top five finalists received a MacBook and \$529 to assist with future college expenses.

- 1) **Contestant: Joseph Bieker** Teacher: Father David Oldham
School: Falls City Sacred Heart Catholic High School, Falls City
Bank: F&M Bank, Falls City

- 2) **Contestant: Emma Bjork** Teacher: Tim Isaacs
School: SDA Public Schools, Syracuse
Bank: FirstBank of Nebraska, Syracuse

- 3) **Contestant: Lydia Brown** Teacher: Sarah Harms
School: Norris High School, Firth
Bank: Adams State Bank, Adams

- 4) **Contestant: Wyatt Ehlers** Teacher: Gina Pospichal
School: Chambers Public Schools, Chambers
Bank: Chambers State Bank, Chambers

Wyatt Ehlers received the most online votes for his video and received the grand prize of \$2,000. As a result, Chambers Public Schools also received \$2,000 in unrestricted funds. In addition, Ehlers took home the \$1,000 funniest video award.

- 5) **Contestant: Leigh Jahnke** Teacher: Stephanie Holdsworth
School: West Point Public Schools, West Point
Bank: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., West Point
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The Nebraska Bankers Association (www.nebankers.org), founded in 1890, is the voice of Nebraska's \$72 billion banking industry, which is composed of small, regional, and large banks that together employ more than 14,000 people, safeguard nearly \$59 billion in deposits, and extend more than \$53 billion in loans, all within the state of Nebraska.