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Press Release

CNB is Now Accepting Submissions for the 2024 CBAI Foundation for Community Banking Scholarship Program

IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Carlinville, IL., Monday, November 6, 2023

CNB Bank & Trust, N.A. announces a scholarship competition that enables Illinois high school seniors to enter a statewide essay-writing contest. It is all part of a program sponsored by Illinois community banks and the Community Bankers Association of Illinois (CBAI) Foundation for Community Banking to increase public awareness of locally owned banks and their contributions to the community.

CNB is a member of CBAI which formed the Foundation in 1996. A monetary award in the amount of \$1,000 a year for up to four years of higher education will be awarded to the author of the best essay submitted to the CBAI Foundation by a participating Illinois high school senior. Up to 11 additional first-place \$1,000 awards and 12 second-place \$500 awards are available in each of the regions of the state. An additional \$500 will be awarded to the high school of the overall winner.

The Bank is working with local high schools to invite seniors to submit a one-page essay on the theme: *What is a community bank and how does it affect the economy?*

Length of the essay is not to exceed one page on the theme; double spaced, using Times New Roman font, and 10-12 point size.

Information on the contest is available at the bank and the school; essays must be submitted to the Chapin branch of CNB by February 16, 2024. The bank will then submit selected essays to the CBAI Foundation to be eligible for the statewide competition.

CNB Bank & Trust has 18 locations to better serve its customers: Alton; Brighton; Carlinville; Carrollton; Chapin; Clayton, MO; Edwardsville - Glen Carbon; Hillsboro; Jacksonville (2); Jerseyville; Litchfield; Oak Forest; Palos Heights; Pittsfield; Taylorville; Tinley Park; and Virden. In addition to a wide variety of traditional banking services, CNB also offers farm management, investment, and trust services. For more information about CNB and its unique community-centered approach to banking, visit <u>www.cnbil.com</u>.

Based in Springfield, CBAI is a professional association that represents approximately 300 Illinois-chartered banks and thrifts throughout Illinois.

