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ONEUNITED BANK ANNOUNCES 13TH ANNUAL "I GOT BANK" 2023 YOUTH ESSAY & ART CONTEST WINNER

2023 Themes More Positive than Previous Years

Boston, MA (August 31, 2023) – OneUnited Bank, the largest Black-owned bank in the U.S., is proud to announce the winners of its 13th annual "*I Got Bank!* Youth Essay & Art Contest." Each of the ten (10) youth winners are awarded a \$1,000 <u>savings</u> account.

The 2023 winners are **Zoey Bradley**, 9, Columbia, MD, **Jada Current**, 12, Buckeye, AZ, **Kailee Marie Friend**, 8, Hawthorne, CA, **Taelyn Johnson**, 9, Dorchester, MA, **Sue Lee**, 12, Los Angeles, CA, **Ian Robinson Jr.**, 11, Middletown, DE, **Cailyn Sanders**, 11, Miami Lakes, FL, **Aydin M. Soner**, 9, Columbia, SC, **Katalyn Wiley**, 11, Conway, AR, **Tatyana Wright**, 12, Columbia, SC. Each winner expressed the importance of financial literacy and savings. The panel of judges included **Teri Williams**, the bank's President & Chief Operating Officer and **Sherri Brewer**, the bank's Senior Vice President, Chief Retail Officer.

President Williams stated, "Interestingly, this year the most prevalent themes in the submissions were more positive with a focus on thriving rather than overcoming economic challenges. We believe the more positive themes may be a result of a stronger employment market for their parents. We congratulate our winners, their families and all participants in the contest." Ms. Williams wrote the book *I Got Bank! What My Grandad Taught Me About Money* (Beckham), after she discovered the lack of books geared toward educating urban youth about financial literacy.

The "I Got Bank!" youth essay & art contest is part of a larger OneUnited Bank initiative to make financial literacy a core value of the Black community. To learn more about past I Got Bank winners, please visit the OneUnited Bank Financial Literacy Blog.

OneUnited Bank also offers its robust <u>Financial Education Center</u> with online playlists on Financial Basics, Major Life Decisions, Starting a Career, Small Business and Preventing Elder Fraud. OneUnited Bank hopes its efforts will improve the financial skills of children and adults throughout the country.

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OneUnited Bank

OneUnited Bank (<u>www.oneunited.com</u>) is the largest Black-owned bank in America, the first Black internet bank, a Minority Depository Institution, and a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI).

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