



**OneUnited**  
BANK

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## ONEUNITED BANK EXPANDS ITS 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL “I GOT BANK” URBAN YOUTH FINANCIAL LITERACY CONTEST

*Ten Middle School Age Children Are Eligible to Win \$1,000 for Essays or Art!*

**Boston, MA – March 20, 2017 – OneUnited Bank**, the nation’s largest black-owned bank, is expanding its **7<sup>th</sup> Annual “I Got Bank!” Financial Literacy Contest** to include ten winners, up from three. The contest has also evolved to include the best essays and the best art projects that represent the “I Got Bank!” theme. OneUnited Bank is partnering with BMe Community to expand the contest and celebrate more youth contest winners.

Middle school students from across the country between the ages of 8 and 12 are encouraged to read a financial literacy book of their choosing, and either write a 250-word essay or create an art project to show how they would apply what they learned from the book to their daily lives. Submissions must be emailed or postmarked by **June 15, 2017**. The Bank will choose ten winners: one from the following eight cities (Akron, Baltimore, Boston, Detroit, Los Angeles, Miami, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh); and two from other locations in the U.S. Each winner will be awarded a \$1,000 OneUnited Bank savings account by **August 31, 2017**. For more information, please visit:

[www.oneunited.com/book](http://www.oneunited.com/book).

**Teri Williams**, OneUnited Bank President and author of “I Got Bank!” wrote the book when she found that there weren’t any books geared toward educating urban youth about finances. “We are very excited to partner with **BMe Community** to expand our financial literacy contest to include more winners and to include art,” said **Williams**.

“OneUnited and BMe Community are committed to building on the strengths of our communities,” said **Trabian Shorters**, CEO of BMe Community. “That includes our children and the over 160 dedicated black men we call ‘BMe Leaders’ whose businesses and charitable organizations fuel our ‘asset-framed’ movement for prosperous communities.” Learn more at [www.BMeCommunity.org](http://www.BMeCommunity.org).

The “I Got Bank!” Essay Contest is part of a larger OneUnited Bank effort to educate urban youth about smart money management. The Bank has seen its efforts increase awareness of this important subject and improve the financial skills of children and adults throughout the country.

2016 winners were: **Alyssa Coleman**, 12, of Kansas City, MO, **Kalia Marie Sky Gibbs**, 12, of Los Angeles, CA and **Addison Williams**, 9, of Fort Worth, TX.

“*I Got Bank! What My Granddad Taught Me About Money*” is published by The Beckham Publications Group, Inc. (Beckhamhouse). For more information about the official contest rules, please visit: [www.oneunited.com/book](http://www.oneunited.com/book).

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### **About OneUnited Bank**

OneUnited Bank is the premier bank for urban communities, the largest Black-owned bank, the first Black internet bank and a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI). Its mission is to provide affordable financial services to support economic development in urban communities and maintain superior financial performance to maximize shareholder value. OneUnited is an FDIC insured bank and an equal housing lender.

### **About BMe Community**

BMe Community is an award-winning network of influential leaders inspired by black men to treat people as assets and then grow the assets of those people. April is “Black Genius Month” sign up in advance for online events and activities at [www.BMeCommunity.org](http://www.BMeCommunity.org).

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