

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kevin Langin
402-602-3541**First National Bank of Omaha Continues Support of Nebraska FFA Foundation***Donations will provide funding for new FFA education program and support for local chapters, while serving as an investment in the future of agriculture*

OMAHA, Neb. March 19, 2018. – First National Bank of Omaha is continuing its partnership with the Nebraska FFA Foundation by sponsoring a new agricultural education program and providing donations to local FFA chapters across the state, announced Tom Jensen, Sr. Vice President, Correspondent and Agribusiness Banking. The bank donated \$12,500 to support the Nebraska *Launch!* Program, a year-long program that will serve as a catalyst in entrepreneurship-based education for agriculture students. In addition, First National Bank donated \$4,300 to local FFA chapters across Nebraska as part of the bank's broader efforts to celebrate National Agriculture Week.

Students participating in the Nebraska *Launch!* Program will receive in-person training focused on planning, launching and running School-Based Enterprises (SBE's) within their agriculture programs/FFA chapters. An SBE is an opportunity to create a new source of income for an agriculture program, provide hands-on agribusiness experience to students and generate support and involvement in a local community. A School-Based Enterprise also provides an additional option of serving as a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) for students, a required component of a student's total agricultural education program. In 2016, First National Bank began its relationship with Nebraska FFA by funding development of the SAE initiative that became the *Launch!* Program.

"As one of the largest Agribusiness lenders in the nation, First National Bank and our affiliates are proud to recognize the contributions of the agriculture industry and support the next generation of farmers through our partnership with the Nebraska FFA Foundation," added Jensen. "We've supported development of the *Launch!* Program since its inception and are excited to see it become a reality today."

For more information about the Nebraska FFA Foundation and *Launch!* Program, visit:

<http://www.neaged.org/launch.html>. First National Bank is also donating to the Colorado FFA Foundation and local FFA chapters in Illinois and South Dakota.

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First National Bank of Omaha is a subsidiary of First National of Nebraska. First National of Nebraska is the largest privately owned banking company in the United States. First National of Nebraska and its affiliates have more than \$21 billion in assets and 5,000 employee associates. Primary banking offices are located in Nebraska, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, South Dakota and Texas.

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