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Nebraska Cooperative Council Education Foundation Awards Nine Scholarships

Lincoln, NE (June 10, 2019) – The Nebraska Cooperative Council Education Foundation (NCCEF) has awarded nine scholarships totaling \$21,500 for the 2019/20 academic year to students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (NCTA) at Curtis, and the University of Nebraska-Kearney.

The NCCEF scholarship program was initiated for the 1993/94 academic year with funding from voluntary contributions from the agricultural cooperatives which are members of the Nebraska Cooperative Council. Since the program's inception, 198 scholarships totaling \$220,600 have been awarded.

To be eligible for the scholarships, students must be majoring in agricultural business/economics at UNL, agribusiness or ag production systems at NCTA, or agribusiness at UNK. Eligibility is restricted to sons or daughters of a parent or legal guardian who has been an active member, director, or employee for at least the prior three years of a cooperative which has been a member in good standing of the Council for at least five years. Other criteria are used by UNL, NCTA and UNK.

The recipient of a \$2,500 NCCEF Scholarship in Honor of Robert C. Andersen is:

- ✧ **Austin Harthoorn**, son of Barry & Sue Harthoorn of Ainsworth, will be a senior at UNL majoring in agricultural economics. The Harthoorn's are members of Farmers/Ranchers Co-op headquartered in Ainsworth and CVA headquartered in York and customers of Farm Credit Services of America headquartered in Omaha.

The recipients of NCCEF Scholarships in Honor of Michael S. Turner include 6 recipients of \$2,500 scholarships at UNL, 1 recipient of a \$1,500 scholarship at NCTA, and 1 recipient of a \$2,500 scholarship at UNK:

- ✧ **Elizabeth Yrkoski**, son of Joseph & Mary Yrkoski of Fullerton, will be a junior at UNL majoring in agricultural economics. The Yrkoski's are members of CVA headquartered in York.
- ✧ **Callie Dethlefs**, daughter of Gary & Darlene Dethlefs of Rockville, will be a junior at UNL majoring in agribusiness. The Dethlefs' are members of Farmers Co-op Association headquartered in Ravenna.
- ✧ **Kyle Leners**, son of Scott & Laurie Leners of Filley, will be a junior at UNL majoring in agribusiness. The Leners' are members of Farmers Cooperative headquartered in Dorchester.

- ✧ **Brent Miller**, son of Roy & Sarah Miller of Oakland, will be a senior at UNL majoring in agribusiness. The Miller's are members of CVA headquartered in York.
- ✧ **Maria Harthoorn**, daughter of Barry & Sue Harthoorn of Ainsworth, will be a sophomore at UNL majoring in agricultural economics. The Harthoorn's are members of Farmers/Ranchers Co-op headquartered in Ainsworth and CVA headquartered in York and customers of Farm Credit Services of America headquartered in Omaha.
- ✧ **Valerie Bohuslavsky**, daughter of Jeffrey & Dawn Bohuslavsky of David City, will be a freshman at UNL majoring in agribusiness. The Bohuslavsky's are members of Frontier Co-op Company headquartered in Brainard, CVA headquartered in York, and Aurora Co-op Elevator Company headquartered in Aurora.
- ✧ **Ethan Aschenbrenner**, son of Gary & LaDonna Aschenbrenner of Scottsbluff, will be a 1st year student at NCTA majoring in ag production systems. The Aschenbrenner's are members of WESTCO headquartered in Alliance and the Panhandle Co-op Association headquartered in Scottsbluff.
- ✧ **Drew Hofman**, son of Brent & Deb Hofman of Indianola, will be a sophomore at UNK majoring in agribusiness. The Hofman's are members of Ag Valley Co-op headquartered in Edison and Frenchman Valley Farmers Co-op headquartered in Imperial.

"The Nebraska Cooperative Council Education Foundation is honored to provide students with financial support, allowing them to be able to study agricultural business/economics. Education is one of the fundamental cooperative principles, and this program continues to be an important part of our efforts to help youth understand the cooperative way of doing business and interest them in pursuing careers in the agricultural industry here in Nebraska," according to Gerald Schmidt, Foundation Board Chairman.

The purposes of the Nebraska Cooperative Council Education Foundation are to promote and encourage high school graduates to pursue higher education in the agricultural and agribusiness fields through scholarships and the implementation of school-to-work programs with participating Nebraska cooperatives; to encourage high school graduates to remain in Nebraska in agricultural pursuits all of which will result in community betterment; and the preservation of agriculture as a way of life.

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