



**LOCAL NEWS  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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CenTrust Bank 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 CBAI Foundation for Community Banking to increase public awareness of locally owned banks and their contributions to the community.

A scholarship 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 by an Illinois high school senior. Up to 12 additional \$1,000 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.

CenTrust Bank invites seniors to submit short essays on the theme: ***What I like most about my community bank.***

Information on the contest is available at the bank; entries must be submitted to the bank by February 1, 2010. The bank will then submit selected entries to the CBAI Foundation to be eligible for the statewide competition.

CBAI is a professional association that represents approximately 480 Illinois-chartered banks and thrifts throughout Illinois. CenTrust Bank is an independent bank with a community focus. The bank is dedicated to providing exceptional service to its customers through their highly skilled and knowledgeable team of banking and financial professionals. They offer a broad range of financial and credit services to personal and business customers.

For more information, call Cathie Lovacheff 847-267-1331.  
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