



Megh Mehta was selected as a Recipient of the 2018 Julian & Jan Hester Memorial Scholarship

(Atlanta, GA) – **Megh Mehta**, a recent graduate at Oconee County High School, Watkinsville, was recently selected as a recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship for the Julian and Jan Hester Memorial Scholarship which is sponsored by the Community Bankers Association of Georgia (CBA), and funded by CBA and its membership.

CBA awarded four \$1,000 scholarships to this year's winning candidates for the Julian & Jan Hester Memorial Scholarship. Applications were submitted to the Association through a CBA member community bank. Mr. Mehta was sponsored by **Neil Stevens, President/CEO, Oconee State Bank.**



Pictured Megh Mehta & Neil Stevens

The scholarship is named for the late Jan Hester, daughter of Lalia and the late Julian Hester, long-time CEO of the CBA. The scholarship program began in 1991 and is based on merit. To compete, students must write a short essay on the characteristics of a community bank, and the continuing benefits they offer to their home communities. In addition to supporting community banking, this scholarship fund is an opportunity to pass on the positive qualities both Julian & Jan Hester exemplified to further the development of tomorrow's generations.

“CBA is proud of these students and wish them well as they continue to further their education,” stated **Rob Braswell**, President & CEO of CBA. “Each winner demonstrated outstanding scholastic achievement and community service. This was no easy task for the judges, who took their responsibility very seriously. The quality of applications was extraordinary with students who excelled in academics, athletics, community involvement and more – really an impressive group of high school seniors.

“Thanks to the generosity of our bankers and associate members, the Education Foundation is fully funded which means the Scholarship Program is completely self-sufficient, giving support to generations of Georgia's students in the future,” explained Mr. Braswell.

The CBA also thanks the panel of judges which included Paul Black, Vinings Bank, Smyrna; Terri Bunten Guthrie, First Landmark Bank, Marietta; Elyse Kellert, CBIZ Benefits & Insurance Services, Inc., Atlanta; Ashli Matson, Crescent Mortgage Company, Atlanta; and, Dr. Don Sabbarese, Kennesaw State University (ret.).

Mr. Mehta plans to attend the University of Georgia and major in molecular biology with a goal to attend medical school.

About Oconee State Bank

Oconee State Bank is a leading financial institution with a vision to be essential to the lives, businesses and communities we serve. With more than 58 years of service in the banking industry, we continuously strive to create remarkable experiences that significantly mark the lives of others. We are proud to provide an unparalleled commitment to personalized service, innovative products and solutions, and to bringing exceptional value to our customers through local ownership, involvement and decision-making.

About Community Bankers Association of Georgia

The Community Bankers Association of Georgia is a non-profit organization serving community banks throughout Georgia for over 45 years to enhance their profitability and growth. The CBA was founded in 1969 by a group of Georgia community bankers to protect the political interests of locally-owned community banks. Representing 160 community banks and nearly 200 associate member companies, the CBA offers services in four distinct areas which include political affairs, education, products & services and networking. For more information about the Association, visit www.cbaofga.com or call (770) 541-4490.