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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**IOWA 4-H FOUNDATION AND HILLS BANK AND TRUST COMPANY ANNOUNCES
LEADERSHIP GRANTS FOR 2015**

The Iowa 4-H Foundation and Hills Bank and Trust Co. announce the 2015 leadership grant program for current high school juniors.

AMES, Iowa- The Iowa 4-H Foundation and Hills Bank and Trust Company announce the 2015 Leadership Grants for current high school juniors. For the past 15 years, Hills Bank & Trust Company has partnered with the Iowa 4-H Foundation to provide college scholarship opportunities for Iowa youth who reside in the bank's service area.

In 2002, Hills Bank established a permanent scholarship endowment, which now provides 20 - \$1,000 grants for high school seniors to attend any accredited Iowa college, university, or community college. Applicants apply during their junior year in high school and must attend at least nine hours of leadership training sponsored by Hills Bank to qualify for the award. The qualifying students will be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship their senior year of high school.

Hills Bank and Trust Company Leadership Grants are available to students planning to attend any of Iowa's accredited colleges, universities, or community colleges. Students must reside or attend school in Benton, Cedar, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Keokuk, Linn, Louisa, Muscatine, or Washington counties in Iowa. Applicants do not need to be 4-H members.

"The leadership training gives these scholarship recipients some great tools for success in college and in their future careers," said Albert Grunenwald, Executive Director of the Iowa 4-H Foundation. "We also appreciate the investment that Hills Bank is making in Iowa's future through this unique program."

Information and applications for the Hill Bank Leadership Grants are available through the Iowa 4-H Foundation at: www.iowa4hfoundation.org/scholarships. Applications must be submitted online no later than 11:59 PM, February 1, 2015 for consideration.

For question regarding the Hills Bank and Trust Leadership Grants, or to further explore establishing a scholarship with the Iowa 4-H Foundation, please contact Taci Lilienthal, Iowa 4-H Foundation Scholarship Coordinator at taci@iastate.edu or (563)343-1144.

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The Iowa 4-H Foundation provides the private financial resources to develop and deliver quality 4-H youth programs throughout the state of Iowa. These opportunities help young people enhance their ability to use critical thinking, leadership, communication, and social skills – tools that will give them a competitive edge in their future endeavors.