

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: For release November 11, 2022

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KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL TO AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications are now open for Keep Iowa Beautiful's scholarship program. Keep Iowa Beautiful will award three \$1,000 scholarships to Iowa high school seniors in 2023 who plan to enroll in an Iowa college or university.

The scholarships are in honor of three pioneers in Keep Iowa Beautiful's 22-year history: **Bob Byers--Educator**. Through Bob's leadership, KIB's Litter-Free School Campus program was started in NW Iowa. His dedication to young people and environmental concerns was a driving force encouraging young people to help improve their community.

William Fultz—Keep Iowa Beautiful Founding Board Member and artist. Bill started an advertising agency that became the largest agricultural advertising agency in the world.

Gerald Schnepf—Keep Iowa Beautiful Founding Executive Director. Gerry's career spanned 50 years of making Iowa a better place to live, work and raise a family.

The Byers scholarship is supporting high school students who plan to enroll and study environmental science, community development, landscape architecture or architecture (historical emphasis) or community planning and sustainability.

The Schnepf scholarship will be awarded to a senior who has a record of community service and a desire to continue to support and contribute to the enhancement of the place they live and work. College programs could include community & regional planning and volunteer management.

The Fultz scholarship will be awarded to a senior planning on studying communications, public relations and/or marketing.

"Keep Iowa Beautiful strives to foster positive values in younger generations, instilling the importance of caring for your community. Throughout our programming, especially through <u>Hometown Pride</u>, we encourage respect for home, neighborhood, community and state," said Andy Frantz, Keep Iowa Beautiful Executive Director, "Awarding scholarships to youth who intend to continue caring for their Iowan communities during their collegiate lives helps us foster this passion while giving back to those who call this state home."

Since the founding of the scholarship program, Keep Iowa Beautiful has awarded \$54,000 to 64 students. Applications are due February 10, 2023 with notification in March.

For more information or to apply online go to: <u>https://keepiowabeautiful.org/grants-awards/scholarship/</u>

About Keep Iowa Beautiful

Keep Iowa Beautiful was established in 2000 by Governor Robert D. Ray and Donald F. Lamberti becoming the 23rd State Affiliate of Keep America Beautiful. The organization is 501c3 charitable organization working with citizens, neighborhoods and communities in improving the vitality and cultural health of the state of Iowa. Keep Iowa Beautiful is helping build stronger communities to develop sustainable futures. Learn more at <u>KeepIowaBeautiful.com</u>

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NEWS RELEASE

Governor Reynolds Declares November 15 Iowa Recycles Day

Des Moines, Iowa (November 10, 2022) – As part of a nationwide push to encourage more sustainable living, Governor Kim Reynolds signed a proclamation today declaring Tuesday, November 15 Iowa Recycles Day.

In her proclamation, the governor noted that reducing, reusing, and recycling waste is important to "ensure a cleaner, greener state for future generations." Building on that theme, she wrote "on this day we renew our commitment to making environmentally conscious changes in our lives so that our children and grandchildren can live that better, cleaner future."

With the proclamation, Iowa joins other states across the country encouraging sustainability initiatives in honor of America Recycles Day, which is also on November 15. This is the only day nationally recognized to celebrating and promoting recycling in the country.

Governor Reynolds further recognized the Iowa Recycling Association and Keep Iowa Beautiful for playing leading roles in promoting the protection of Iowa's natural resources and quality of life. Both groups applauded the governor for promoting recycling statewide.

"The Iowa Recycling Association strives to advance effective recycling by sharing resources, education, and advocacy opportunities," said Iowa Recycling Association President Elizabeth Mackenzie. "Iowa Recycles Day moves us closer to achieving our vision where every material in the state can be reused or recycled and is put to its best use!"

"Keep Iowa Beautiful is excited to join a nationwide recycling program," said Keep Iowa Beautiful Executive Director Andy Frantz. "Iowa Recycling Day is an opportunity to continue our commitment to clean, strong communities across the state," he added. "Through programs such as Hometown Pride, our commitment to assist communities as they tackle challenges related to littering, recycling, and beautification remains a top priority. We are thrilled to join Iowa Recycling Association's call to end littering, build recycling programs, reduce waste, educate the public on sustainability issues, and make Iowa's communities better to live."

The Iowa Recycling Association is a non-profit organization serving as the voice of recycling in Iowa since 1989 and continues to advance recycling practices statewide through ongoing communication, representation, and education.

Keep Iowa Beautiful, a state affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, empowers Iowans to bring cultural and economic vitality into communities through improvement and enhancement programs.