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**COLONY BANK CELEBRATES GRADUATION OF 40+ STUDENTS FROM
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
Participants Awarded Scholarships to Advance Their Education**

SAVANNAH, GA. (November 22, 2024) – Forty-four high school students from across Georgia graduated from Colony Bank’s Colony Leadership Academy during a ceremony at The Westin in Savannah on November 16. In recognition of their achievements, each student received up to a \$1,000 scholarship to the college or university of their choice.

Founded in 2021, Colony Leadership Academy is a unique, yearlong program that equips students with leadership skills, career insights, and community connections to prepare them for future success. To date, the program has invested more than \$150,000 in scholarships to 156 participants. This initiative underscores Colony Bank’s commitment to investing in Georgia’s future by nurturing the next generation of leaders.

This year’s program included hands-on experiences through visits to key regions across Georgia, including Albany, Moultrie, Warner Robins, and Savannah. Students explored topics such as healthcare, economic development, public safety, and the arts while connecting with local leaders and learning about the unique challenges and opportunities in their communities.

In addition to experiences in the communities visited, students also received leadership training from the University of Georgia’s J.W. Fanning Institute for Leadership Development. Participants were selected based on academic performance and extracurricular achievements, representing counties across the state.

“At Colony Bank, we believe in building stronger communities by investing in our youth,” said Heath Fountain, CEO of Colony Bank. “Colony Leadership Academy reflects our commitment to empowering students to develop leadership skills and tackle community challenges. We are incredibly proud of this year’s graduates and look forward to seeing their contributions as they lead Georgia into the future.”

Colony Leadership Academy provides a unique platform for students to explore future careers and develop skills in teamwork, problem solving, and civic engagement. For more information about the program, visit colony.bank/leadership.

About Colony Bank

Founded in 1975 and headquartered in Fitzgerald, Georgia, Colony Bank operates locations throughout Georgia and has expanded to serve Birmingham, Alabama, as well as Tallahassee and the Florida Panhandle. At Colony, we offer a range of banking solutions for personal and business customers. In addition to traditional banking services, Colony provides specialized solutions including mortgage, government guaranteed lending, consumer insurance, wealth management, and merchant services. Colony Bank is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Colony Bankcorp., Inc. Our common stock is traded on the NYSE under the symbol “CBAN.” For more information, please visit www.colony.bank. You can also follow the Company on social media.

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