



Contact: William Wille, (800) 942-7124, ext. 3216; will.wille@ilcusys.org

For Immediate Release

Illinois League announces statewide award winners

Naperville, IL., November 23, 2009 – The Illinois Credit Union League (ICUL) is pleased to announce the recipients of its statewide Desjardins, Dora Maxwell and Louise Herring awards.

The Desjardins Youth Financial Education Award recognizes leadership within the credit union movement on behalf of youth financial literacy. Naming the award after Alphonse Desjardins emphasizes the movement's long-time commitment to youth. In the Illinois state Desjardins award competition, the winners were:

- Financial Plus CU (Ottawa, IL): First Place, \$75 - \$250 million asset category;
- GCS FCU (Granite City): Honorable Mention, More than \$250 million;
- NuMark CU (Joliet): Honorable Mention, \$75 - \$250 million;
- Prairie Trail CU (Joliet): First Place, \$35 - \$75 million; and
- Scott CU (Collinsville): First Place, More than \$250 million.

The Dora Maxwell Award honors credit unions for their outstanding efforts in community projects and activities. In this competition, the following credit unions have been honored:

- Community Trust CU (Gurnee, IL): Honorable Mention, \$100 - \$200 million asset category;
- Consumers Cooperative CU (Waukegan): Honorable Mention, more than \$500 million;
- Financial Plus CU (Ottawa): Second Place, \$100 - \$200 million;
- GCS FCU (Granite City): First Place, \$200 - \$500 million;
- Great Lakes CU (North Chicago): First place, more than \$500 million;
- NuMark CU (Joliet): Honorable Mention, \$100 - \$200 million;
- Scott CU (Collinsville): Second Place, more than \$500 million; and
- Streator Onized CU (Streator): First Place, \$100 - \$200 million.

Finally, The Louise Herring Award for Philosophy in Action was established in 1990 to commend credit unions that make exceptional efforts to include credit union philosophy in their daily operations and member service. Receiving honors in the Louise Herring Award competition were:

- GCS FCU (Granite City, IL): First Place, more than \$250 million asset category;
- Consumers Cooperative CU (Waukegan): Honorable Mention, more than \$250 million; and
- Scott CU (Collinsville): Second Place, more than \$250 million.

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Note: The Illinois Credit Union League (ICUL) is the primary trade association for credit unions in Illinois, which provides members with information, legislation and education. Membership is open to any credit union operating in accordance with the Illinois Credit Union Act or the Federal Credit Union Act. There are 411 credit unions in Illinois with more than 2.7 million members.