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Name: Luis Aita
Bank: First Bethany Bank
City: Bethany
Position: SVP Lending
How long in position: 10 years
How long in banking: 10 years
Emerging Leaders Academy graduation year: 2021
Community Involvement: New Hope United Methodist Church Council Chair, 2018-Present; Volunteer Coach at various sports for i9sports and YMCA, 2013-Present
Brief Description: <p>I participated in the 2020-2021 Emerging Leaders and enjoyed the structure and content. I believe that serving in this capacity will help me to grow my leadership abilities, making me an asset to my bank and my community.</p> <p>I have a calm demeanor, well-suited for collaboration and discussion. I am able to listen and provide relevant feedback and solutions when a problem is brought to my attention. At the same time, I try to recognize the talents of those who I work with, incorporating the strengths of others into effecting a resolution when an issue arises.</p>

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Name: Tyler Grey
Bank: BancFirst
City: Guthrie
Position: Executive Vice President
How long in position: 3.5 years
How long in banking: 10 years
Emerging Leaders Academy graduation year: 2020
Community Involvement: United way Logan County Subcommittee
<p>Brief Description:</p> <p>I am a father, husband, son, and community banker. I have been a lifelong Oklahoma Resident. I truly believe in the word community and that without community banks our cities and state would not be what it is today nor will it be as strong in the future.</p> <p>I would like to serve as the Chair of the Emerging Leaders Division because I can bring a unique perspective to the young emerging bankers and the OBA Board. I am from northwestern Oklahoma and have a perspective of small-town communities as well as my career being primarily in the OKC metro, I understand the growing markets.</p> <p>In my youth I was a competitive athlete which helped me understand the concept of working as a team. From athletics I also learned how to be a leader. I was consistently a team captain and took that responsibility seriously. From that I have always enjoyed roles where I could mentor and teach.</p> <p>I think my small northwestern upbringing and life in the OKC Metro will make me well adapted to mentor young bankers from diverse areas of our state. As the OBA states they "Make Banks Better", I would like the opportunity to "Make Bankers Better".</p>

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Name: Simeon Hamidi
Bank: NBC Oklahoma
City: Oklahoma City
Position: Treasury Management Rep.
How long in position: 1.5 years
How long in banking: 6 years
Emerging Leaders Academy graduation year: 2022
Community Involvement: Food Bank of OKC, Western Avenue Association, Donations to United Way and Children's Hospital
<p>Brief Description:</p> <p>I have been in banking for 6 years, and having worked in multiple departments gives me a thorough understanding of how banks operate and what they need to run. I work hard to encourage others, and make everyone feel heard, no matter where they are in life or banking.</p> <p>I would like to be the next Emerging Leaders Chair, to help myself and others in the banking world. I have had the pleasure of speaking with the current Chair, Brandon Bixler, who has brought to light the great work that can be done through this position. Being able to support the next Emerging Leaders class, along with learning from, and helping the Board make this a wonderful opportunity for whoever is lucky enough to be chosen.</p> <p>I consider my strongest skill set to be listening to people, and coming to solutions that fit their needs. I am also very driven, especially when working with others, or in a team setting, I have found that even though I may not know the answer at the time, a good team alongside you can always help you find one. Lastly, I consider myself a good teacher, not because I have a high level of knowledge, but because I understand, that everyone learns in their own way and at their own pace.</p>

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Name: Justin Henry
Bank: Valliance Bank
City: Oklahoma City
Position: SVP
How long in position: 6 months
How long in banking: 10 years
Emerging Leaders Academy graduation year: 2014
Community Involvement: Board Member A Chance to Change, volunteer Positive Tomorrows, United Way, Ducks Unlimited, Other Civic Involvement such as little league volunteer and Christ The King Church
<p>Brief Description:</p> <p>I am self-motivated professionally and deeply value my family and the career I have chosen in banking. I plan to make community banking a lifelong endeavor and hope to somehow impact my customers and industry when I do retire.</p> <p>A trait that describes me is my confidence and my willingness to make a decision and own it. I believe a person's strength can be their biggest weakness. Because I am aware of that I sometimes find myself listening more than speaking to not seem and be overbearing to the people around me.</p> <p>I believe as a community banker it is not only our job to help our customers and the bank that employees us but to better the community we serve. I was taught at this point in my career I should find one civic, industry, and nonprofit to serve with my additional time and skill set from banking. Because of these items described above I believe I would be a good, younger asset for up-and-coming bankers to hopefully continue to keep our key services relevant.</p>

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Name: Missy Johnson
Bank: Citizens Bank of Ada
City: Ada
Position: VP/Mortgage Loan Officer
How long in position: 13years
How long in banking: 16 years
Emerging Leaders Academy graduation year: 2020
Community Involvement: Habitat for Humanity Board, Chamber of Commerce Board, Wear Red for Women Planning Committee, Ada Retail Committee, Pontotoc Co. Women's Conference Planning Committee, Ada City Schools Foundation Board, etc.
Brief Description: I absolutely love being a banker and can't imagine doing anything else. Although my primary role is in consumer real estate, I aspire to be a "well-rounded banker"--taking in all that I can to learn as much as possible. I feel like self-reflection and growth are a very important part of being and maintaining success. I've taken several leadership courses to practice this myself -- a few examples are the Global Leadership Summit (4 years), Leadership YOUniversity, OBA's Emerging Leaders, ABA's Virtual Emerging Leaders Summit, etc.

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Name: Harrison Muegge
Bank: State Exchange Bank
City: Lamont
Position: Loan Officer
How long in position: 4 months
How long in banking: 1.75 years
Emerging Leaders Academy graduation year: 2012
Community Involvement: Community events volunteer, Muegge Rental Properties Owner, Lamont Real Estate Development, City Church member
Brief Description: I have loved my experience in the Emerging Leaders program, and I would like to advocate for the program as its chair. I have been an active participant in every session, which has yielded great connections and development of personal skills. Personally, I tend to ask more questions than give answers, which allows me to be a soundboard to others, and I learn from their perspectives. I enjoy planning events and reviewing current systems to see where they can be improved. I believe I have great energy when speaking to and working with groups.

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Name: Julie Stovall
Bank: American Exchange Bank
City: Henryetta
Position: Market President
How long in position: 3 years
How long in banking: 25+ years
Emerging Leaders Academy graduation year: 2017
Community Involvement: Okfuskee County Industrial Authority Board, Okemah Community Steering Committee, Okemah Chamber of Commerce, AEB Food Drive, Conduct "Reality Check" at 10 difference schools, OBA GRC, OBA Commercial Lending Board
<p>Brief Description:</p> <p>I am applying for the Emerging Leaders Chair position because of my passion for banking and the program itself. This program provides a solid foundation to help bankers develop their leadership skills and more importantly-find their leadership voice.</p> <p>I graduated from the Emerging Leaders Academy in 2017. The relationships built with the bankers from the first Emerging Leaders Academy have become resources that I lean upon to this day.</p> <p>Since I've been Market President, I have sent two of my employees through the Emerging Leaders Academy. I am enjoying watching them flourish into various leadership roles in my bank. It is not only helping grow our location, but helping us make a name as "the" community bank in town. This reminds me of a quote used by UCO's PLC, which is, "Developing Self to Empower Others." I want to be known as the leader in our industry that develops other leaders. I want to help others reach their full leadership potential while teaching them how to advocate for issues in the banking industry. As I become engaged in my own leadership development, I can spark an interest in others to reach the same level.</p>

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Name: Eric Vickers
Bank: McClain Bank
City: Purcell
Position: SVP/COO/Cashier
How long in position: 6 years
How long in banking: 18 years
Emerging Leaders Academy graduation year: 2019
Community Involvement: Noble Chamber of Commerce, Noble Rose Rock Festival Committee
<p>Brief Description:</p> <p>I started working at McClain Bank after graduating high school in 2002 as a part-time teller. I have worked in various capacities and positions at the bank over the years. My current role is Chief Operations Officer. I oversee daily operations as well as assist with 'CFO' duties including financial and regulatory reporting and investment management. One of my key duties is researching, configuring and implementing new products and services. In the last 9 months we have implemented a completely new online/mobile banking system and added Zelle as a service to our customers.</p> <p>I really appreciated my time in the Emerging Leaders Academy. I believe that one of the best resources we have in this industry is our peers and this program is a great way to start building those relationships and learning from each other. Thank you for considering my application to serve!</p>

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Name: Cody Zimmerman
Bank: Liberty National Bank
City: Elgin
Position: AVP
How long in position: 1 years
How long in banking: 2 years
Emerging Leaders Academy graduation year: 2022
Community Involvement: Voting board member of Camp Shout Out, an organization for youth and teens who stutter. I also have three children who are active in sports and FFA, which puts me at many events.
<p>Brief Description:</p> <p>I consider myself to be very outgoing and an active member of the community, both locally and nonlocally, as one board I serve on is in Michigan.</p> <p>I grew up in a rural area working at a local vet clinic, while going to college to receive a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree. I spent three years as a teacher and a coach, teaching Special Education and coaching football and baseball. My Master's degree was in Educational Leadership, earning the credentials to become a high school principal. Venturing out of education, I owned and operated a commercial HVAC and plumbing company for one year prior to owning and operating two apartment complexes for the next decade, transitioned into a role of a credit analyst for a year and then my current role as a lender.</p> <p>I believe my diverse background gives me a unique and diverse view for this opportunity to serve as the emerging leaders board representative for the OBA.</p>

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