FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**[CO-OP NAME] awards $X,XXX in scholarships to local students**

[CO-OP HEADQUARTERS CITY – Today [CO-OP NAME] announced winners of the 2021 Electric Cooperative Creative Writing Competition Scholarship program. XX students from across the co-op’s service area, including XX from [COMMUNITY] were each awarded a $X,XXX scholarship to the college or trade school of their choice.

[STUDENT NAME, SCHOOL] and [STUDENT NAME, SCHOOL] from [SCHOOL] were among this year’s recipients. [INCLUDE DETAILS ON STUDENT PARENTS, FUTURE PLANS, ETC…]

“I am honored to be selected as one of this year’s recipients,” says [WINNER NAME], a student at [SCHOOL]. “I appreciate the opportunity that [CO-OP NAME] has given to me and so many others. It is encouraging to see how they are making real investments in my future and the future of our community.”

Each year, [CO-OP NAME] takes [XX] high school Juniors to Washington, D.C., as part of the Electric Cooperative Washington Youth Tour to learn about history, government and leadership. Health concerns prevented the 2021 trip, so the co-op presented scholarships to this year’s winners.

“Whether it be through the Youth Tour program or scholarships, supporting the future of these students and the communities they represents is an investment that will create a brighter future for us all,” says [CO-OP LEADER, TITLE]. “We are excited to see them grow their talents and knowledge. The entire team at [CO-OP NAME] is rooting for their success, and we are confident they will each find ways to impact our communities in the future.”

Students from across the co-op’s service area could enter the contest by writing a creative short story about the various ways [CO-OP NAME] is investing in a brighter future for the communities it serves.

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**ABOUT [CO-OP NAME]**

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**ABOUT THE TENNESSEE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION**

The Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association provides leadership, advocacy and support for Tennessee’s 23 electric cooperatives and publishes *The Tennessee Magazine*, the state’s most widely circulated periodical. Visit tnelectric.org or tnmagazine.org to learn more.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

[LOCAL CO-OP MEDIA CONTACT INFO]

Trent Scott | Vice President of Corporate Strategy | 615.515.5534 | tscott@tnelectric.org