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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A+FCU Announces Winner in High School Fashion Contest

Austin, TX – Over the past couple of months, fashion design students at four area high schools – Connally, Hendrickson, Round Rock, and San Marcos have been designing and creating their own outfits to win the title of A+ Grand Champion.



Announcing the winner: Erika Herman-King, Carrie Van Hying, Elisa Surina Garay, Daryl Cardosa, Brianna Lopez

A+ Federal Credit Union is excited to announce that Brianna Lopez, Connally High School sophomore, was named the A+ Grand Champion. On April 7, 2017, Lopez was presented with a \$300 gift card for the outfit she created using A+FCU Connally High School t-shirts.

Beginning in February, the Fashion Contest challenged fashion design students to create an outfit using A+FCU school specific t-shirts. The outfits needed to be in dress code, have the school and A+FCU logo visible, use three or less shirts, and be an entire ensemble.

Each school voted and selected an overall first place winner who then went on to compete against the first place winners from the other three schools. The first place winners at each school received a \$100 gift card. The top four outfits were displayed for A+FCU staff to vote. Lopez's design received the most votes and she was awarded a \$300 gift card.

"I'm very interested in fashion. I also like to draw and when I draw people I love to draw all kinds of different clothes. My fashion teacher really inspired me to enter this contest, she gave me confidence. My grandma gave me a little help and let me use one of her sewing machines. I had a lot of fun making this dress and I am really proud of it," Lopez wrote.



Lopez with her winning outfit.



School Winners

Hendrickson High School: Dailia Winn

Winn, 16, is currently a junior at Hendrickson HS. She is president of both the Fashion Club and FDIM Fashion Club. At Hendrickson, she participates in theater and is active in PALS. She would like to become a fashion designer and go to college for fashion. She would also like to be a voice actor.



Round Rock High School: Jules Mara

Mara is currently a junior at Round Rock High School. Aside from being a student, Jules is an artist and dancer. She plans on using her reward towards a dance trip this summer.

San Marcos High School: McKinzey Nothaft

Nothaft is a senior at San Marcos High School. She enjoys Fashion Design and is influenced by her mother who owns a small cottage industry. She is involved in community service through her employer. Her future plans include attaining a job in the Political Field.

A+FCU congratulates all of the students who participated in the contest.



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A+ Federal Credit Union was founded in 1949 by 50 Austin, Texas teachers. Over 65 years later, A+FCU has 133,000 members that include not only educators, students, and their families, but other members of the community as well, over \$1.3 billion in assets and 21 branches. A+FCU continues to have close relationships with local schools and provides free financial education curricula for educators, engaging financial education presentations for students, real-life money management simulations for youth, high school branch locations and unique financial products designed for teachers. Learn more at aplusfcu.org.