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Nebraska Bankers Association Awards Alice Dittman Trailblazer Award for Women in Banking to Kristy Bartak

LINCOLN, Neb. — Oct. 27, 2026 — The Nebraska Bankers Association announces Kristy Bartak, executive vice president/CFO at Nebraska State Bank & Trust Company (NSB) in Broken Bow, as the recipient of the 2026 Alice Dittman Trailblazer Award for Women in Banking. The award was presented at the NBA's Women in Banking Conference.

Named in honor of Alice Dittman, a trailblazing leader in Nebraska's banking and business communities, the award recognizes a young, female banker who demonstrates exceptional leadership, professional achievement and community service. Nominees are evaluated based on their impact within their bank, contributions to their community and commitment to the banking industry and the Nebraska Bankers Association.

As executive vice president/CFO, Bartak has played a pivotal role in helping NSB navigate regulatory changes, evolving technology and information security demands, and sustainable growth initiatives, while maintaining a strong focus on soundness and customer service. Through her disciplined approach to financial planning and risk management, she provides trusted guidance that strengthens decision-making and drives results. Beyond her operational impact, Kristy is a dedicated mentor and leader who invests in the development of others, fostering a culture of collaboration, accountability, and professional growth across the organization.

NSB President, CEO, and Chairman Stuart Fox nominated Bartak for the award. "Her accomplishments are impressive, but the best measure of her leadership is the trust she has earned from directors, coworkers, bankers and community leaders," Fox said. "She has already made a lasting impact on Nebraska State Bank & Trust Company and the communities we serve, and I am confident that her influence on Nebraska banking will continue to grow."

Bartak's commitment to her community is reflected in her active leadership and service. She serves on the Board of Directors for both the Custer Economic Development Corporation and the Anselmo-Merna Foundation, helping support economic growth and community development initiatives. She also volunteers with the TeamMates Mentoring Program, investing her time and experience to make a positive impact on the next generation.

As part of the award, recipients receive \$1,000 to be donated to a charity of their choice. Bartak has chosen to direct her donation to the Anselmo-Merna Foundation.

Bartak served on the NBA Operations Advisory Committee, is a member of the NBA Leadership Class of 2018, and a graduate of the Graduate School of Banking at Colorado. She also currently serves on the NBA Board of Directors.

"Kristy's leadership, dedication, and commitment to excellence have made a lasting impact on both her institution and her community," said Richard Baier, president and CEO of the NBA. "She leads with integrity, invests in the development of others, and exemplifies the qualities of a strong community banker. We are proud to recognize her achievements and the example she sets for future women leaders in Nebraska banking."

About Alice Dittman

Alice Dittman was a true trailblazer in Nebraska's banking and business arenas. She began her career at Cornhusker Bank in Lincoln in 1948, where she held various roles, eventually serving as president, CEO and chair of the board. Dittman was the first woman to chair the Nebraska Bankers Association and led both the Lincoln and Nebraska Chambers of Commerce Boards of Directors. Renowned for her generosity and dedication to mentoring, she inspired many young women to pursue careers in banking, finance, and business.

For more information about the Alice Dittman Trailblazer Award, visit nebankers.org/dittman