

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Press Release February 14, 2023 FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT Kelsey Smith, Marketing and Communications Director Iowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI) 515.235.0571 | ksmith@iowaabi.org

Leadership Iowa 2023-24 Nominations Due April 1

The deadline to nominate lowans in your community for Leadership lowa's 2023-24 class is fast approaching. Leadership lowa is our state's premier issues-awareness program provided by the lowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI) Foundation.

Forty lowa leaders are selected annually to participate in the program, which takes place October through June. The group observes eight, two or three-day monthly sessions throughout the state. Each session provides class members with a wide range of first-hand insight exploring the opportunities and challenges facing lowa. The program provides resources for motivated lowans to effect change within lowa's organizations and communities. More than 1,300 lowans have graduated from Leadership lowa in its 41 years.

"Leadership Iowa has been one of the greatest personal growth experiences of my life," said Matt Doty, chief operating officer at Weaton Companies in Fairfield, Iowa, and 2021-22 program participant. "This program allowed me the opportunity to really get to know people with vastly different life experiences than my own, and in the process, learn about important issues facing our great state."

Each Leadership lowa class is carefully selected to be representative of a wide variety of industries, professions, backgrounds, civic engagement, and geographic locations in our state. The outcomes of Leadership lowa are far greater when diverse participants can connect across industry and county lines. These invaluable connections forged through program participation often result in future collaboration and lasting friendships.

Workplaces and communities across the state benefit from representation in the program, as the ideas and inspiration gained through their participants can often be applied locally in a number of ways. Leadership lowa is one way that companies can retain talent and invest in the personal and professional development of their employees.

Nominations will be accepted through April 1 for the upcoming class, which begins early October 2023 and concludes June 2024. Individuals must first be nominated in order to apply for the program. Self-nominations are allowed and encouraged. To nominate individuals and learn more about the program, visit <u>www.Leadershiplowa.com</u>.

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The lowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI) Foundation is a statewide nonprofit organization with a mission to provide valuable shared experiences that positively impact lowans, communities, organizations, and our state. The ABI Foundation fosters personal and professional development through its statewide programs, and promotes multigenerational civic engagement and leadership across lowa.