

NOVEMBER 2020

Bankers Needed: Promote Socially Distanced Personal Finance—With Videos!

ABA Foundation's signature video contest may be moving to February, but thanks to new contest sponsor VantageScore, we are still awarding up to \$5,000 for the top self-made video from your local teens. From credit scores to paying for college, if your bank is ready to put local students' financial know-how to the test, [sign up to host a free Lights, Camera, Save! contest](#). Want to know more about what's new for 2021? Listen to this [free informational webinar recording](#). Questions? [Contact Jeni Pastier](#).



Last Participation Call for 2020 Financial Education

On **December 4**, ABA Foundation will be closing the books on 2020 participation in Get Smart About Credit, Safe Banking for Seniors, and Teach Children to Save. [Sign in](#) to enroll or update your registration record to reflect your bank's outreach efforts. We appreciate how banks have adapted to bring personal finance into their communities this year during the pandemic and will be opening registration for all financial education initiatives in early January 2021. [Update your registration numbers](#).

Building Inclusive Communities During a Pandemic

This year's Community Development Tour went virtual! Amid challenges with COVID-19, instead of an on-the-ground in-person bus tour, ABA Foundation recorded a panel discussion that aired during ABA's Unconventional Convention. [The 30-minute discussion](#) featured a panel of experts from Eastern Bank, the Planning Office for Urban Affairs, and Nuestra Comunidad Development Corporation, highlighting strategies for meaningful community development—before and during the pandemic. To hear about resiliency, battling injustice, and the importance of fostering community collaborations to lead lasting improvements, [check out the video and related clips](#).

New Consumer Resource Page: Choosing a Safe and Affordable Account

In support of ABA's commitment to financial inclusion, ABA Foundation has created a consumer resource page to help consumers understand that banks are here to support their needs. The resource page helps consumers identify the right bank products and services, get the most out of their banking experience, and learn about the requirements for opening an account, including an overview of BankOn-certified accounts and how to find them. [View the Page](#).

ABA, Industry Groups Launch Mortgage Forbearance Awareness Campaign

ABA joined a broad coalition of mortgage industry stakeholders and consumer groups to launch a new national campaign to help raise awareness about consumers' forbearance options. This effort is intended to augment the successful outreach efforts already underway by mortgage servicers and housing counseling groups nationwide and is supported by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

As part of the [COVID Help For Home](#) campaign, ABA is making creative materials available to member banks to help them reach borrowers who may have missed one or more mortgage payments due to the pandemic and who may be eligible for assistance under the CARES Act or other mortgage payment relief. Banks participating in the campaign can access a downloadable toolkit that includes customizable communications materials and templates that can be adapted for social media and other advertising platforms. Additionally, you can access other consumer-oriented information through ABA Foundation's [Consumer Resources webpages](#).

ABA Banking Journal Podcast: Believing in What Banking Can Do

After a long career as a commercial banker in St. Louis, Alex Fennoy joined MidWest BankCentre over a decade ago. He helped transform the community bank into one that has won awards—including a 2019 ABA Foundation Community Commitment Award—for its responsiveness to local needs. This year, he was co-winner of the [George Bailey Distinguished Service Award](#), ABA Foundation's highest individual honor.



On the ABA Banking Journal podcast, Fennoy shares his own career story and discusses how he and MidWest BankCentre have pioneered partnerships to expand access to financial services in unbanked areas of the St. Louis region, including co-locating a MidWest BankCentre branch in a historically Black church. [Listen to the podcast.](#)