



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

First Women's Bank and winners of the Chicago Innovation Awards Ring the Nasdaq Closing Bell *Celebrating Innovation in the Chicago Region*

CHICAGO, IL (August 1, 2025)— First Women's Bank, the nation's only bank with a strategic focus on supporting the women's economy and closing the gender lending gap, will join fellow winners of the Chicago Innovation Awards, the Chicago region's foremost annual celebration of innovation, in New York City on Friday, August 1st to ring the Closing Bell of the Nasdaq Stock Market. The event will emphasize the surge of innovation that is occurring in the Chicago region, and shine a spotlight on the organizations that make up its vibrant economy.

"Chicago Innovation Award winners cut across all industries and represent the best in new product and service development from large companies, startups and non-profits," said Luke Tanen, President and CEO of Chicago Innovation. "Their winning innovations are solving a range of unmet needs in the marketplace, and we're proud to celebrate their successes on a global stage by ringing the Nasdaq Bell."

Joining First Women's Bank will be other winners of the 2024 Chicago Innovation Awards. The full list of 2024 winners includes Abbott, Ascent Integrated Tech, the Center for Advancing Safety of Machine Intelligence, Chicago Chefs Cook, Cook County Manufacturing Reinvented, DeVry University, Dimension Inx, Disability Lead, Feeding America, First Women's Bank, HDVI, LanzaJet, Medline, OpenMarkets, Rapunzl, REACH Pathways, Rush University System for Health, Springrose, The African American Heritage Water Trail, True Star Media, United Way of Metro Chicago and Valent BioSciences.

"We are so honored to be recognized for the Bank's pivotal role in addressing critical gaps within the women's economy," said Marianne Markowitz, CEO of First Women's Bank. "It's this type of recognition, and moment at NASDAQ with Chicago Innovation, that elevate our mission of closing the gender lending gap."

About First Women's Bank

First Women's Bank is the only commercial bank in the country with a strategic focus on supporting the women's economy and closing the gender lending gap. The Bank serves a national lending and deposit market from its flagship location in Chicago. First Women's Bank is a Member FDIC and Equal Housing Lender. For more information, visit www.FirstWomens.Bank.

About Chicago Innovation and the Chicago Innovation Awards

Chicago Innovation, established in 2002, has grown from a single awards ceremony to a year-round series of events and programs to educate, connect and celebrate all innovators in the Chicago region. Chicago Innovation's vision is to ensure that innovation is for everyone. The Chicago Innovation Awards celebrate the most innovative new products, services and organizations in the Chicago region, cutting across all industries, large corporations and startups, for profits and non-profits, high tech, low tech and no tech. For more information, visit <http://www.chicagoinnovation.com>.