



**BANK
OF THE
SIERRA**

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**Sierra Grant Awarded to the
Lyles Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship**

Porterville, CA —Bank of the Sierra is pleased to announce a Sierra Grant in the amount of \$2,000 has been awarded to the Lyles Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship at California State University Fresno (CSUF). The Lyles Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship is a nationally-ranked entrepreneurship center with a successful track record of inspiring students, faculty, alumni, and community leaders to act on ideas that build a prosperous future. The grant funds will support the Lyles Center Student Venture Challenge. This is an annual business idea competition that will reach over 25,000 students throughout CSUF and 11 surrounding community colleges.

The Sierra Grant Program is designed to improve the quality of life for the families, especially the children, who reflect the diversity within Bank of the Sierra branch communities. The Sierra Grant Program is focused on three areas: community services, park preservation, and education. Anyone involved in a non-profit program that is interested in a Sierra Grant can pick up an instructional brochure at any Bank of the Sierra branch, or visit the bank web site at www.bankofthesierra.com.

About Bank of the Sierra

With over \$1.3 billion in assets and strong performance ratios, Bank of the Sierra is the largest independently owned community bank headquartered in Southern San Joaquin Valley's Heartland. The bank serves 17 different communities with 25 branches, two Ag Centers and one SBA Center. For more information visit the web site at www.bankofthesierra.com or call (888) 454-BANK.

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