## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## VAN METER OFFERING FIVE 'SPARK YOUR SUCCESS' ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY SCHOLARSHIPS

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa – (Dec. 3, 2024) – Van Meter is again sparking the future of the electrical industry with its <u>Spark Your Success Scholarship</u>. The \$2,000 scholarship supports up to five individuals who have completed a high school degree or GED and are pursuing a field related to the electrical trades.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics projects <u>employment for electricians to grow by 11%</u> from 2023-2033, which is much faster than the 4% average growth rate for all occupations. According to Danielle Monthei, Van Meter's Community Impact Manager, this scholarship is an investment in the future of the industry.

"We're supporting a growing need for workers in the electrical industry and awarding these scholarships to our future customers, suppliers and co-workers," she said. "This is a chance for us to support the people who will one day support our business and power our world."

Van Meter announced the first ever Spark Your Success Scholarship earlier this year and <u>awarded the scholarships to four students</u> in May. Hundreds of students applied, and for Monthei, it was overwhelming to narrow it down to just four deserving candidates. Supporting organizations in its communities is one of Van Meter's core values, and the ideal scholarship applicants should be passionate about bettering their community in addition to establishing their career in the trades.

"There are so many students doing great things to prepare for their future and better their communities," said Monthei. "We're so excited to be able to award five scholarships this year and help more people pursue their passions."

Scholarship applicants can be enrolled in an apprenticeship program or an associate or undergraduate degree program for fields like engineering, supply chain management, information technology, solar installation, construction management and electrical distribution.

Van Meter is accepting scholarship applications through March 1, 2025. Applicants must complete an application form and submit a letter of recommendation at <a href="mailto:vanmeterinc.com/scholarship">vanmeterinc.com/scholarship</a>. Van Meter will announce scholarship recipients in May.

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Headquartered in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Van Meter is an award-winning workplace and the nation's 15th largest electrical distributor with twenty-five locations in seven states. The 100-percent employee-owned company provides electrical and automation products and services to contractor, industrial and commercial customers. Van Meter's offering encompasses lighting, data communications, utility, automation, power transmission, renewable energy, core electrical components and more. To learn more visit <a href="https://www.vanmeterinc.com">www.vanmeterinc.com</a>