

VALDOSTA - LOWNDES COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Leading Businesses.
Leading Communities.™



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For Immediate Release

Business plan competition set in motion

VALDOSTA—The 2011 Guardian Bank Business Plan Competition is underway! The competition, sponsored by Guardian Bank, is an initiative of the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Valdosta State University's Small Business Development Center and Wiregrass Georgia Technical College to foster new business development that will raise the per capita income and quality of life in Lowndes County.

The competition is open to anyone who has a business idea and is free of charge. The business must be located in Valdosta-Lowndes County and plan to employ university or technical college graduates. The competition is an eight month process where competitors are offered FREE educational workshops to assist in fully developing their business plan before submitting it for judging. Business plans may also be critiqued at the workshops to ensure a quality submission.

Now is the time for entrepreneurs or anyone who has a great idea for a business to participate in the competition. Seize this chance to win \$15,000 in start-up capital provided by Guardian Bank and a prize package valuing more than \$35,000 of in-kind services donated by Chamber member professional consultants. Do not miss this opportunity to make your business dream a reality!

Registration Packets for the 2011 Guardian Bank Business Plan Competition are now available at all three Guardian Bank locations, VSU's Small Business Development Center, Wiregrass Georgia Technical College and the Chamber. Packets can also be downloaded at the SEEDS Business Resource Center website www.SeedsBusinessResourceCenter.com or www.ValdostaChamber.com. Registration forms must be turned in to the Chamber by April 6 at 5 p.m.

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