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Over 900 Exceptional High School Seniors Awarded
Full Four-Year Scholarships and Admission
to Top Colleges through QuestBridge

Palo Alto, California (December 1, 2017) – QuestBridge is pleased to release the results of the 2017 National College Match (“College Match”), a national program that pairs high-achieving, low-income high school seniors with full scholarships to the nation’s top colleges. From a pool of 15,606 applicants, from which QuestBridge chose 5,759 as Finalists, 918 outstanding students have been selected as this year’s College Match Scholarship Recipients. This is the highest number of College Matches to-date for QuestBridge, with a 20% increase over last year’s high of 767.

Students selected for the College Match are “matched” to one of QuestBridge’s highly selective college partners, which means they were admitted early with a guaranteed full, four-year scholarship, including tuition, room and board, and other expenses. QuestBridge’s college partners include top liberal arts colleges such as Amherst, Colby, Hamilton, Pomona, and Williams and exceptional research universities such as Brown, Columbia, Duke, UChicago, Stanford, and Yale.

Since 2003, the QuestBridge National College Match has successfully connected over 5,000 students with full scholarships to college partners. These prestigious, nationally-recognized scholarships are generously provided to recipients by the colleges. Many more National College Match Finalists will be admitted later in the year through Early and Regular Decision processes and all Finalists who ultimately matriculate to a QuestBridge college partner become QuestBridge Scholars. The QuestBridge Scholars Network now includes over 12,000 current students and alumni nationally.

"Thanks to the continuing support of our generous college partners, we have been able to encourage our applicants to dream big," said Ana McCullough, Co-Founder and CEO of QuestBridge. "By eliminating the worry of the cost of education, high-achieving students from low-income

backgrounds can reach confidently for their best college fit — the school of their dreams. We are thrilled to be able to connect such a large group of highly deserving students to outstanding educational opportunities."

The National College Match is a highly competitive process, and this year's College Matches have impressive achievements. Academically, the 918 College Matches have an average unweighted GPA of 3.92. On standardized testing, the middle 50% received between 1350-1490 on the SAT and between 29-33 on the ACT. 95% rank in the top 10% of their class. Financially, their median household income is \$31,674, and 83% qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. The majority of these new QuestBridge Scholars — 76% — are also among the first generation in their families to attend a four-year U.S. college.

About QuestBridge:

QuestBridge, a national nonprofit based in Palo Alto, California, connects the nation's most exceptional, low-income youth with leading institutions of higher education and further life opportunities. By recruiting, developing, and motivating these students — beginning in high school through college to their early career — QuestBridge aims help talented low-income students attend the nation's best colleges and to support them to achieve success in their respective careers and communities.

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