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1,464 Top High School Seniors Awarded Full Four-Year Scholarships and Admission to Top Colleges

Palo Alto, California (December 1, 2020) – QuestBridge is proud to announce the results of the 2020 QuestBridge National College Match, a national program that connects high-achieving high school seniors from low-income backgrounds with full four-year scholarships to the nation's top colleges. Out of over 18,500 applicants, QuestBridge selected 6,885 Finalists to be considered for the QuestBridge National College Match Scholarship (Match Scholarship). This year, QuestBridge's 42 college partners matched with a record number of 1,464 Finalists, who are recognized as Match Scholarship Recipients.

"The achievements of our 2020 Match Scholarship Recipients are particularly exceptional in the midst of a year marked by challenging circumstances." said Ana McCullough, CEO and Co-Founder of QuestBridge. "The fact that our college partners awarded a record number of scholarships this year bolsters our hope for a brighter, more equitable future."

Match Scholarship Recipients are admitted early to QuestBridge college partners with full four-year scholarships that are provided by the colleges and universities, ensuring for these students and their families that an education at a top college can be affordable. QuestBridge's 42 college partners include top liberal arts colleges such as Amherst, Pomona, and Williams and exceptional research universities such as Columbia, Duke, UChicago, Stanford, and Yale. The Match Scholarship is offered as part of a generous financial aid package provided by the college that covers the full cost of attendance, including tuition, room and board, books and supplies, and travel expenses.

This year's Match Scholarship Recipients come from 48 states, including the District of Columbia, as well as the territories of Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Puerto Rico.

These outstanding high school seniors have an average unweighted GPA of 3.93, and 94% are in the top 10% of their graduating class. Of the students who reported standardized testing, 82% scored above 1260 on the SAT and 84% scored above 27 on the ACT. Financially, 95% come from a household with an annual income under \$65,000, and 87% qualify for free or reduced-price school meals. The majority of these new QuestBridge Scholars — 78% — are among the first generation in their families to attend a four-year college in the United States.

Since 2003, the QuestBridge National College Match has successfully connected over 8,850 students with full scholarships at college partners. These 2020 Match Scholarship Recipients become the first QuestBridge Scholars for the Class of 2025. Based on previous years, it is estimated that over 2,000 Finalists will be admitted to QuestBridge college partners later in the year through Early and Regular Decision processes.

All Finalists who ultimately matriculate to QuestBridge college partners join the QuestBridge Scholars Network, which provides ongoing support and engagement opportunities through campus communities. The QuestBridge Scholars Network and Alumni Association now include over 19,000 current college students and graduates worldwide.

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 to 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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