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**EMILY COURIC
LEADERSHIP FORUM**

Ten area high school women recognized for leadership and awarded college scholarships by the Emily Couric Leadership Forum. Distinguished UVA Medical School Alumna, Vivian W. Pinn, M.D., to speak at virtual event on April 14th.

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA — The Emily Couric Leadership Forum is celebrating Women’s History Month by announcing over \$100,000 in college scholarships as investments in the next generation of women leaders. This year’s awards bring the total given by the Forum to more than \$1 million over twenty years. Ten female high school seniors nominated by Charlottesville and Albemarle schools will receive college scholarships ranging from \$7,000 - \$35,000 this year. The young women will meet virtually with the winner of the annual Women’s Leadership Award, Vivian W. Pinn, M.D., an alumna of UVA Medical School. Dr. Pinn, among other career accomplishments, founded the Office of Research on Women’s Health at the National Institutes of Health and broke barriers throughout her career as a pioneer in medicine.

The virtual April 14th awards event is open to members of the public who can register free of charge at www.emilycouricleadershipforum.org. The program will feature a live keynote address by Dr. Pinn, remarks by Aditi Prakash from Albemarle High School (winner of the top Emily Couric Leadership Scholarship), tales of life early in medical school shared by Dr. Pinn and her classmate, local physician Ken Greer,

and recognition of the college scholarship winners and supporters who have sponsored scholarships.

Scholarship Awards

Aditi Prakash of Albemarle High School will receive the \$35,000 Emily Couric Leadership Scholarship. Aditi is heading to Stanford in the fall and plans to become an educational policy maker. She hopes to continue to foster a love for science fields among economically and educationally disadvantaged students.

The winner of the 2021 Joshua J. Scott Merit Award (\$15,000) is Rachel Field of Monticello High School. Rachel has conducted research in neurodegeneration through an internship at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals and also developed novel ways to tutor young students in Hebrew through her synagogue.

The other scholarship winners, nominated by their high schools, each receiving \$7,000 are:

Cindy Buezo-Sanchez, The Covenant School
Lauren Dugger, Charlottesville High School
Sophie Farr, Tandem Friends School
Elsa Ferguson, Renaissance School
Sophie McClung, Miller School of Albemarle
Ellie Powell, St. Anne's-Belfield School
Mia Scheiner, Murray High School
Kimball Sheehan, Western Albemarle High School

Videos featuring the scholarship winners are available on Emily Couric Leadership Forum YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-19t-6pzjSs-TQkcc6qEg>).

“We are so grateful to sponsors and donors who are investing in the future of women’s leadership. We regret that we are unable to gather face-to-face at our traditional annual luncheon but are certain you will

be inspired and uplifted by the free virtual event (www.emilycouricleadershipforum.org) and the video messages from our winners,” said Colette Sheehy, Chair of the Board. “We are confident these exceptional students will go on to demonstrate they are worth every bit invested in their futures.”

It is not too late to donate to the scholarship fund, which benefits these young women and future recipients. Donations can be made at www.emilycouricleadershipforum.org.

For additional information and photographs, or to arrange interviews with a board spokesperson or scholarship recipients, please contact:

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