

## MEDIA ALERT

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### Harlem Educational Activities Fund to Celebrate Innovators & Disruptors

*Eric Schmidt, Former Executive Chairman & CEO of Google and Co-Founder of Schmidt Futures, and Alexandra Alger, Board Member of HEAF and Alger Funds to be Honored at HEAF Virtual Gala*

New York, NY – October 26, 2020: The Harlem Educational Activities Fund ([HEAF](#)) is celebrating its 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala and is pleased to honor Eric Schmidt, Former Executive Chairman & CEO of Google and Co-Founder of [Schmidt Futures](#), and Alexandra Alger, Board Member of HEAF and [Alger Funds](#) for their exceptional advocacy in education.

HEAF is a 31-year old education non-profit focused on college access and success for underserved minority youth in New York City. The organization has an unparalleled impact: 100% of HEAF's high school seniors graduate from high school on time and gain admissions to college, more than 80% earn bachelor's degrees in six years, and 35% continue to earn advanced degrees.

**WHEN:**

Wednesday, October 28, 2020

6:30 p.m.

**WHO:**

[Fareed Zakaria](#), CNN host, and Washington Post columnist, and Gala Honoree [Eric Schmidt](#), Former Executive Chairman & CEO of Google and Co-Founder of Schmidt Futures, in conversation about innovation and education as catalysts for opportunity.

Gala Honoree **Alexandra Alger**, Board Member of HEAF and Alger Funds, and **Gale Reeves**, Retired NYC DOE Superintendent, Harlem, in discussion about innovation and disruption to drive education forward.

[Roger W. Ferguson](#), Jr., President & CEO of [TIAA](#), joined by [Ursula Burns](#), former Chairman & CEO of Xerox and VEON, Senior Advisor at [Teneo](#), and [Darren Walker](#), President of the [Ford Foundation](#), on the need for disruption to achieve racial equality.

CO-Emceed by **Neil deGrasse Tyson**, Astrophysicist and HEAF Board Member and **Ottis “O.J.” Anderson**, former MVP Super Bowl Winner NY Giants.

With Musical Performances **by Kool & the Gang!** And Remarks from HEAF President & CEO **Ruth Rathblott** and several **HEAF students**.

**WHERE:**

Online! Contact [gabrielle@jvcomms.com](mailto:gabrielle@jvcomms.com) to request a media logon or replay/clips for use in your reporting.

**About HEAF**

The Harlem Educational Activities Fund (HEAF) is a high-impact supplemental education and youth leadership nonprofit that turns motivated but underserved New York City public school students into high-achieving college graduates. HEAF enrolls eligible students in middle school and supports them until they are successfully admitted to and graduate from four-year colleges—an 11-year commitment to students. HEAF offers a variety of after-school, Saturday and summer educational and youth development programs that enable students to develop the intellectual curiosity, academic ability, social values and personal resiliency they need to succeed in school, career and life. For more information about HEAF or to get involved, visit <http://www.heaf.org>.

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