

Harlem Educational Activities Fund (HEAF) Announces Inaugural Recipients of Alexandra Korry Scholarship

New York, NY – January 12, 2021 - Harlem Educational Activities Fund (HEAF) is proud to announce the recipients of the inaugural Alexandra Korry Scholarship: St. John's University Senior Elise Brockenberry and Stonybrook University Junior Jaida Fisher.

The Alexandra Korry Scholarship was established in 2020 by HEAF to honor the extraordinary legacy of Alexandra Davern Korry, a trailblazing lawyer, educator, and civil rights champion, who chaired HEAF's Board of Directors during some of the organization's formative years.

The award will be granted annually to one or more promising HEAF college students who are interested in pursuing a career in law, social justice, public service, or a related field, and who have demonstrated academic excellence and a commitment to social justice and under-served communities on and off campus. The scholarship includes a stipend towards law school or graduate school.

“HEAF is committed to bridging academic and opportunity gaps for some of New York City's most deserving students,” said Ruth Rathblott, President & CEO, Harlem Educational Activities Fund. “Our 30-plus year history includes many successes that were championed by our former Board of Directors Chair, Alexandra Korry. Her passion for social justice was rivaled only by her passion for our HEAF students. We feel her loss deeply, but we also feel her inspiration all around us and are honored to name HEAF students Elise Brockenberry and Jaida Fisher the first Alexandra Korry Scholarship recipients. They surely will blaze trails lit with the embers of Alexandra's legacy.”

Elise Brockenberry is a senior at St. John's University in Staten Island, NY, majoring in psychology and social justice. She is an intern with the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and has a keen interest in contributing to solutions for equitable access to services and care among low income communities. Ms. Brockenberry has been a HEAF student through middle school, high school and throughout her college career. Her younger sister, Eden, is a high school senior and HEAF student as well.

“Throughout my years as a HEAF scholar and later as a HEAF alum, I have always felt supported by the HEAF community, both academically and on a personal level,” said Elise. “Being awarded this scholarship not only provides me with the resources to attend graduate school, but also motivates me to continue to invest in myself in the same way that HEAF has always invested in me.”

Jaida Fisher is a junior at Stonybrook University in Stonybrook, NY studying sociology. During the summer of 2020, Jaida partnered with a peer to develop an online dialogue series, “No Justice, No Peace” which featured speakers including students, educators, artists, lawyers and mental health professionals to engage youth in conversations around racism, stereotypes and the role of the media in amplifying or disrupting norms. Ms. Fisher has been a HEAF student through middle school, high school and throughout her college career.

“I am so grateful and honored to be a recipient of the Alexandra Korry Scholarship,” said Jaida. “Receiving this award has given me peace of mind and confidence that there are people beside me

who believe in me and support my efforts to reach my educational goals. Thank you for investing in me and for recognizing my potential to do great things.”

Scholarship awardees will be mentored by the prominent lawyers, judges and community leaders who comprise the Alexandra Korry Scholarship Selection Committee, whose goal is to build on Ms. Korry’s legacy of excellence and public service, and to inspire the next generation of leaders with her passion for social justice and education.

The Alexandra Korry Scholarship Selection Committee includes:

- Tracy High, Partner, Sullivan & Cromwell
- John Jacobsson, Executive Vice President, Related Companies & Chair, HEAF Board of Directors
- Robert Katzmann, Chief Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- Karen Spencer Kelly, Founder, KESK LLC
- Jonathan Knipe, EVP, General Counsel & Secretary, Silverstein Properties
- John Lynch, Partner, Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz
- Ken Myers, Partner, Fenwick & West LLP
- Robin Panovka, Partner, Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz
- Evelyn Perez-Albino, Director, Employment & Labor, JetBlue Airways
- Danielle Rose, Partner, Kobre & Kim LLP
- Calvin Sims, Executive Vice President of Standards and Practices, CNN
- Michael Winograd, Partner, Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP
- Sheena Wright, President and CEO, United Way of New York

About Alexandra Korry

Alexandra was a top partner at the law firm of Sullivan & Cromwell for many years, and one of the leading M&A lawyers in the United States. She was among the first women senior partners of a major Wall Street firm and worked tirelessly to break barriers and create opportunities for women and other under-represented groups. Alexandra chaired the New York Advisory Committee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights, which credited her with an outsized impact in advancing civil rights, including helping to end solitary confinement of youth in New York and working on police accountability and educational equity. For many years, Alexandra also taught an introductory law class to HEAF students, and led its legal mentorship efforts, among her many other philanthropic and educational endeavors. Additional information on Alexandra can be found [here](#).

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>.

