



PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT:

Nikki Daruwala, Executive Director, Loudoun Laurels Foundation (703) 771-0927
nikki@loudounlaurels.org <http://www.loudounlaurels.org>

May Family Foundation Offers \$500,000 in Matching Funds to Bolster Endowment of Loudoun Laurels Scholarship Program

The Honorable Joe T. May, chairman of the Loudoun Laurels Foundation, recently announced that the May Family Foundation will contribute up to \$500,000 in matching funds to grow the endowment of the Loudoun Laurels scholarship program by as much as \$1 million on the tenth anniversary of its launch in 2013. In those 10 years, 27 Loudoun County Public School (LCPS) students have each received, or are receiving, \$40,000 scholarships, disbursed in \$10,000 annual increments, to help defray the cost of attending a Virginia state college or university of their choice.

The scholarship recipients are typically among the first generation in their families to attend college and are selected for their demonstrated academic potential; just as importantly, for their creativity, special skills, work ethic, and willingness to help others. The Loudoun Laurels Foundation, known for its annual naming of “Laureates” who have contributed greatly to Loudoun County, thus seeks scholarship candidates who display some of their honorees’ best qualities.

A Loudoun County businessman, electrical engineer, inventor, aviator, and politician, Joe May began his association with Loudoun Laurels in 2008, reimagining a short-term endeavor started at Inova Lansdowne Hospital in 2006. Since those early days, the new program has recognized 32 individuals who have devoted their energy, ingenuity, and industriousness to make Loudoun County a better place to live. It added its scholarship program in 2013 under Mr. May’s leadership and now the foundation is working to build an endowment to sustain and ensure the continuance of its annual awards to deserving LCPS seniors.

“We’ve been very pleased with what our scholarship program has been able to do thus far. We know that with additional support we can achieve so much more,” Joe May commented.

The May Family Foundation \$500,000 challenge will be formally announced at the 2023 Loudoun Laurels gala to take place at Lansdowne Resort on Friday, September 22. The event honors 2023’s named laureates, Sheila Johnson and Lew Parker, as well as scholarship recipients Elizabeth Morejon and Josmar Chavez.

