Dear Guidance Counselor(s),

**Do you know a junior ready to become the leader we need?**

We are excited to announce applications are open for the Bezos Scholars Program, a year-long leadership development program that amplifies youth voice and action. Current high school juniors who attend a public school with 30% or greater free and reduced lunch rate are invited to apply.

Each year, 12 students from across the U.S. and an accompanying educator from each school are selected to participate alongside five students and an educator from the African Leadership Academy in Johannesburg, South Africa. Scholars gain leadership skills, collaborate and build their networks, and make a meaningful difference in their community.

- The program kicks off with an all-expenses paid trip to the **Aspen Ideas Festival**, June 27 - July 3, 2020. While there, student and educator pairs spend a week engaging with global leaders, building peer connections with fellow Scholars from across the U.S. and Africa, and engaging in hands-on leadership development.

- During their senior year, Scholars receive ongoing mentorship, leadership development, and $1,000 in funding to launch their own community change project, ideally with the support of their school community.

- Participating Scholars also receive free individual, professional college advising services to equip them with the knowledge and tools to navigate financial aid and college applications.

Successful applicants demonstrate academic rigor, maturity, curiosity, and community leadership. **Applications are due January 31, 2020.** More information can be found at [www.bezosscholars.org/lead](http://www.bezosscholars.org/lead), including school and student eligibility requirements, biographies of previous Scholars, and examples of the incredible student-led projects Scholars have launched to improve their community.

**Please promote this opportunity to eligible juniors and dynamic educators and staff at your school.** If you have questions, need additional promotional materials, or would like help supporting interested students and educators in applying, please contact me at mpencke@bezosfamilyfoundation.org. I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

_Molly Pencke_

Molly Pencke
Program Manager, Bezos Scholars Program
TURN YOUR PASSION INTO ACTION

Apply to be a Bezos Scholar—become the leader we need.

The BEZOS SCHOLARS PROGRAM is a year-long leadership program that amplifies youth voice and action. Engage with global leaders on an all-expenses paid trip to the Aspen Ideas Festival. Accelerate your leadership skills, collaborate and build your network, and make a meaningful difference in your community.

1 Amazing week in Aspen kicking off a year of inspirational leadership development
13 Visionary educators selected annually
17 Exceptional students selected annually
164 Community change projects launched since 2005
388 Bezos Scholar student and educator alumni

HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS and an educator from their school are invited to apply online at Bezosscholars.org/lead by January 31, 2020.