



Structured Finance Foundation Announces 2020-2021 Scholarship Winners

WASHINGTON – In partnership with Mentor Foundation USA and Scholarship America, the [Structured Finance Foundation](#) today announced it has awarded four scholarships for the 2020-2021 academic year. The four winners were notified via video conference on Friday by representatives from the Structured Finance Foundation, Structured Finance Association, Mentor Foundation USA, and their respective high school principals. All recipients have successfully participated in Mentor Foundation USA’s Career Mentoring or Peer-to-Peer programs.

The awardees include:

Grace Boudris (University of Maryland, College Park)
Sierra Fowler (Anne Arundel Community College)
Abigail Ward (United States Naval Academy)
Tony Woo (Florida Institute of Technology)

“At the Structured Finance Foundation, we are proud to help ensure the next generation of leaders have the opportunity to pursue higher education while lessening the financial burden that comes along with that endeavor,” **said Leslie Sack, Executive Director of the Structured Finance Foundation.** “To date, we have awarded over \$500,000 in scholarships to students who have completed Mentor Foundation USA’s Career Mentoring or Peer-to-Peer programs, which wouldn’t be possible without the support of our friends and donors. We were honored to present these awards to Grace, Sierra, Abigail, and Tony, and we look forward to following their successful collegiate careers and all they will do thereafter.”

“This scholarship means the world to me,” **said Grace Boudris.** “While my parents never had the chance to go to college, I will be the first in my family to attend. This scholarship makes it possible for me to achieve an education further than high school, and I am incredibly grateful for this opportunity! As for the *Living the Example* program, my eyes have been opened as to what is going on around me and in my community. It feels beyond rewarding when you try to spread positivity and awareness about things that can change people’s lives for the worse. It’s also amazing working with people who have the same interest and goals as you which is trying to change society for the better.”

“This scholarship means my family won’t have to worry about me being able to further my education, especially with my brother being an addict and our family raising his children,” **said Sierra Fowler**. “I feel very blessed to be able to use my story to help others.”

“This program has taught me a lot,” **said Abigail Ward**. “It taught me I can create change in my own community as a student, it taught me how important it is to stand up for things I believe in, and it really taught me more about what it means to be a leader: to truly live the example, not just speak about it. This scholarship means that I can take these lessons and apply them in college and beyond as I strive to continue to have a positive impact in the communities around me.

“Thank you and the entire Mentor Foundation USA for selecting me as a scholarship recipient for the Structured Finance Foundation program,” **said Tony Woo**. “Winning this scholarship means the world to me and I hope I can somehow return the favor. Helping my family and making them happy and proud is my top priority and receiving this scholarship does just that.”

About the [Structured Finance Foundation](#)

The Structured Finance Foundation, an affiliate of the [Structured Finance Association](#) (SFA), seeks to support youth education, and partners with Scholarship America and Mentor Foundation USA to develop and provide scholarship programs for the young people engaged in the Mentor Foundation’s programs. Since 2017, the foundation has awarded 31 students over \$500,000 in scholarships. The Structured Finance Foundation also connects scholarship winners to the significant network of the Structured Finance Association membership, which represents all sectors of the securitization market including issuers, investors, financial intermediaries, law firms, accounting firms, technology firms, rating agencies, servicers, and trustees.

SFA is focused on helping grow the real economy and improving the lives of individuals, families, businesses, and communities across the nation; helping make credit more affordable and available to people who need it to finance some of life’s biggest goals — education, car purchases, starting a business, buying a home — or reduce their debt through consolidation loans; safeguarding essential protections for consumers and the financial system; facilitating valuable dialogue among the financial services market, its practitioners, policymakers and the broader public; and recognizing that all finance entails risk, but it should not involve recklessness.