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**United Airlines Offers Trips of a Lifetime to Summer Search Students**

**SAN FRANCISCO - November 19, 2018** - Summer Search, a national youth development organization, announced today that it is teaming up with United Airlines to provide students from low-income backgrounds with an opportunity to broaden their horizons and further develop the skills they need to succeed in life. As part of this partnership, United Airlines has committed \$75,000 in the form of roundtrip airline tickets to allow more than 90 Summer Search students to fly across the United States and Latin America to participate in transformative summer experiences, as well as travel to Summer Search's 2018 National Alumni Summit and Leadership Conference. The funding will support students from four of Summer Search's sites nationwide: Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and the San Francisco Bay Area.

"We are thrilled to partner with United Airlines in support of our students traveling globally in 2018 and 2019," said Dr. Marc Spencer, Summer Search's Chief Executive Officer. "These summer experiences are life-changing, as they broaden our students' view of the world, and are a core element of the Summer Search program."

Through Summer Search, students receive full scholarships after their sophomore and junior years of high school to attend two separate multi-week outdoor, academic, global service, or leadership development programs. These summer trips give students the opportunity to practice the leadership, problem-solving, grit, and adaptive skills they have been strengthening with their paid, professional mentors as they live and work alongside peers from vastly different socioeconomic backgrounds. United's sponsorship will directly support youth in their most critical years of this program and will shape them to be more resilient, experienced, and confident leaders in their own communities.

Summer Search's National Summer Program Manager Matt Osgood added, "The generous air travel support from United Airlines allows Summer Search students to participate in programs in the United States, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. We can't wait to hear from our students about their experiences, new perspectives and what they've learned about themselves once they return!"

In addition to the summer flight sponsorships that enable Summer Search youth to participate in wilderness expeditions and service-learning opportunities around the world, United Airlines also made it possible for 21 alumni of the program to travel to San Francisco, California for Summer Search's National Alumni Summit and Leadership Conference. This summit brought together hundreds of alumni from around the country to connect and learn from one another, as well as develop the hard and soft leadership skills necessary to thrive in the modern economy. Alumni engaged with one another as leaders, learned from industry experts, and provided feedback to Summer Search for the benefit of its current and future students.

"United is proud to be a part of Summer Search's important mission to give young people the real-world skills they need to succeed in life," said Janet Lamkin, United's president of California. "Investing in our communities is part of who we are at United."

**About United Airlines**

United Airlines and United Express operate approximately 4,700 flights a day to 356 airports across five continents. In 2017, United and United Express operated more than 1.6 million flights carrying more than 148 million customers. United is proud to have the world's most comprehensive route network, including U.S. mainland hubs in Chicago, Denver, Houston, Los Angeles, Newark/New York, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. United operates 760 mainline aircraft and the airline's United Express carriers operate 546 regional aircraft. The airline is a founding member of Star Alliance, which provides service to 193 countries via 28-member airlines. For more information, visit [united.com](http://united.com), follow @United on Twitter or connect on Facebook.

**About Summer Search**

Summer Search provides youth with skills, resources, and support to develop the character and life skills needed to thrive and become leaders in our communities. Its comprehensive program spans seven to nine years and directly supports the development of the non-cognitive skills necessary to manage the social and environmental challenges students will face in college and in life. Summer Search integrates year-round, holistic professional mentorship, summer experiential learning opportunities, individualized college and financial aid counseling, and a consistent network of support through their high school and post-secondary years. Through the combination of these program components, students expand their view of what is possible for themselves and achieve their own definition of professional and personal success. Learn more at [summersearch.org](http://summersearch.org).