



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **AIRBNB COMMUNITY OPENS ITS DOORS TO SUMMER SEARCH STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES**

*Pilot program provides access to housing for college visits and graduation stays*

San Francisco — June 25, 2015 — Summer Search, a national college success nonprofit organization, and Airbnb, the world’s leading community-driven hospitality company, are teaming up to provide free accommodations this summer to low-income students and families traveling for college visits and to college graduations.

Ninety percent of Summer Search students are the first in their families to attend college and earn a bachelor’s degree. College visits are an important part of identifying the best-fit school for Summer Search students to call home for four years, yet visiting a campus can be an unanticipated expense for students and parents with already limited financial resources. Traveling for college graduation ceremonies can present a similar challenge.

Through this partnership, Airbnb will work with Summer Search over the coming months to provide dozens of Summer Search students and their families from the SF Bay Area and New York City regions with travel coupons to book free Airbnb accommodations for these important milestones: visiting prospective colleges and attending college graduation.

Through their Open Homes philanthropic program, Airbnb is partnering with hosts in their community and nonprofit organizations like Summer Search across the globe to provide individuals with free, temporary housing during a time of need, celebration or adventure. The pilot program aligns with the company’s mission to help people “Belong Anywhere”.

“We are thrilled to be able to support Summer Search families as they celebrate the achievements of their children on their paths to becoming college-educated leaders,” said Rae Richman, Head of Global Citizenship at Airbnb. “Working with our generous hosts, Airbnb can offer them a place to belong and feel welcome as they experience transformative journeys in their lives.”

“Having a place to stay while getting to know a potential new college community or to celebrate as a family during a special time like college graduation is often a luxury our students cannot afford,” said Amy Saxton, Summer Search CEO. “When Airbnb invited us to participate in Open Homes, we were thrilled for the opportunity to provide our students with this additional support. We are grateful for our partners at Airbnb and the Airbnb host community for opening their doors and welcoming our students and their families, and giving them a place to call home. That is the very definition of hospitality.”

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### **About Summer Search**

A national college success nonprofit, Summer Search helps low-income students develop the skills they need to become college-educated leaders who give back to their families and communities. [www.summersearch.org](http://www.summersearch.org)

### **About Airbnb**

Founded in August of 2008 and based in San Francisco, California, Airbnb is a trusted community marketplace for people to list, discover, and book unique accommodations around the world – online or from a mobile phone. Whether an apartment for a night, a castle for a week, or a villa for a month, Airbnb connects people to unique travel experiences, at any price point, in more than 34,000 cities and 192 countries. And with world-class customer service and a growing community of users, Airbnb is the easiest way for people to monetize their extra space and showcase it to an audience of millions. [www.airbnb.com](http://www.airbnb.com)