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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Preparing Students for What's Next: Community Foundation for Northern Virginia Awards Nearly \$377,000 in Scholarships to 99 Future Leaders

Fairfax, VA (June 17, 2026) – The **Community Foundation for Northern Virginia (CFNOVA)** is honored to **award 99 scholarships totaling \$376,650 for the 2026-2027 academic year**, continuing its commitment to expanding access and opportunity across the region and beyond.

The 2026 scholarship recipients hail from **13 counties and 37 high schools across Northern Virginia**, as well as **at least four other states**. The 2026 awards build on strong momentum: in 2025, CFNOVA awarded over \$350,000 in scholarships to more than 100 students.

“To ensure students can thrive in this evolving workforce,” said Renée Byng Yancey, President and CEO of the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia. *“we must invest not only in their education today, but also in the ongoing support, mentorship, and resources they need to adapt and succeed throughout their careers.”*



Norah McCormick (center), 2026 Plein Environmental Scholarship recipient, sits with Jackie Plein, fund advisor to the Plein Environmental Scholarship Fund (right) and We're Good Podcast host Lee Ann Necessary Brownlee (left) to discuss their shared commitment to environmental impact.

At the Foundation's Community Impact Celebration on June 8, 2026, guests heard from scholarship recipient Norah McCormick, a new graduate of Loudoun Valley High School and the Loudoun Academy of Science, who was awarded the [Plein Environmental Scholarship](#). Norah shared that her passion for the environment began while caring for a newly born turkey vulture in her family's barn, which later died from lead poisoning. This formative experience inspired her to pursue environmental studies. With the support of this scholarship, Norah will continue her education and career path without financial strain, backed by a community that believes in her and her mission. You can watch the full story on the [We're Good Podcast](#).

For more information about CFNOVA scholarships or how to establish a scholarship fund, visit www.cfnova.org.

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[ABOUT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR NORTHERN VIRGINIA](#)

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia is building a region that works for everyone by advancing philanthropy and community leadership. Since 1978, we have united thousands of generous Northern Virginians with the causes they care about through donor-advised funds, permanent funds, giving circles, and charitable endowments. We cultivate enduring partnerships with nonprofits, foundations, government, businesses, and community members, maximizing impact to drive meaningful change. The Community Foundation proudly serves all Northern Virginians in Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William Counties and the Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park. Learn more at www.cfnova.org.