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## OMAHA TEEN AWARDED \$25,000 FOR RESEARCH PROJECT IDENTIFYING FACTORS LEADING TO BEE COLONY COLLAPSE DISORDER

Audrey Anderson to be Named a 2020 Davidson Fellow Scholarship Winner

Omaha, Neb. – The Davidson Fellows Scholarship Program has announced the 2020 scholarship winners. Among the honorees is 18-year-old Audrey Anderson of Omaha. Anderson won a \$25,000 scholarship for her project, *Resilin Distribution and Abundance in Apis mellifera Wing Joints across Biological Age Classes*. She is one of only 20 students across the country to be recognized as a scholarship winner.

"I am greatly honored to be named a 2020 Davidson Fellow," said Anderson. "I am grateful for the Davidson Institute's support of high-achieving students and the opportunity to join this prestigious community."

Anderson's research is the first to demonstrate a relationship between the abundance of resilin and honeybee age class, thus, identifying resilin as a potential age-dependent marker of honeybee health. Her research is an important step to understanding and establishing markers of honeybee health, which are valuable to assessing the health of the colony and will potentially allow scientists and beekeepers to develop preventative measures against environmental stressors leading to Colony Collapse Disorder.

Anderson will be attending University of Nebraska-Lincoln as a Regents Scholar in the fall where she plans to study biological systems engineering with the goal of using her scientific research, and engineering skills to restore degraded habitats across the world.

"We are proud to announce the 2020 Davidson Fellows Scholarship recipients and applaud them for their hard work and achievement in their fields of study," said Bob Davidson, founder of the Davidson Institute. "By being awarded this recognition, these students have shown immense skill and work ethic, and they should be commended as they continue their educational and research journeys while continuing to work to solve some of the world's most vexing problems."

The 2020 Davidson Fellows will be honored during a digital reception on September 30, 2020.

The Davidson Fellows Scholarship program offers \$50,000, \$25,000 and \$10,000 college scholarships to students 18 or younger, who have completed significant projects that have the potential to benefit society in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, literature and music. The Davidson Fellows Scholarship has provided more than \$8.2 million in scholarship funds to 366 students since its inception in 2001, and has been named one of the most prestigious undergraduate scholarships by *U.S. News & World Report*. It is a program of the Davidson Institute for Talent Development, a national nonprofit organization headquartered in Reno, Nev. that supports profoundly gifted youth.

## **About the Davidson Institute**

Founded by Bob Davidson in 1999, the Davidson Institute for Talent Development recognizes, nurtures and supports profoundly intelligent young people, and provides opportunities for them to develop their talents to make a positive difference. The Institute offers support through a number of programs and services, including the Davidson Fellows Scholarship and the <u>Davidson Academy of Nevada</u>. For more information about the 2020 Davidson Fellows, please visit <u>www.DavidsonGifted.org/Fellows-Scholarship</u>.

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