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MIAMI TEEN AWARDED \$50,000 FOR DEVELOPING TECHNIQUE TO IMPROVE EFFECTIVENESS OF CORONARY HEART DISEASE TREATMENT

Ethan Levy to be Named a 2020 Davidson Fellow Scholarship Winner

Miami – The Davidson Fellows Scholarship Program has announced the 2020 scholarship winners. Among the honorees is 17-year-old Ethan Levy of Miami. Levy won a \$50,000 scholarship for his project, *Efficiency of a Novel Nano-Cardiac Device for Atherectomy of Coronary Artery Occlusion*. He is one of only 20 students across the country to be recognized as a scholarship winner.

"Davidson Fellows represent those with a visceral passion towards the pursuit of knowledge and a dedication to improving society as a whole," said Levy. "Being recognized as a Davidson Fellow is a great honor, and it invigorates me to keep exploring through my professional journey."

In 2017, the Center for Disease Control reported heart disease as the number one cause of death globally. Building upon the newly approved rotational atherectomy procedure that is able to remove plaque from arteries, Levy developed and tested an improved system which implements suction holes and is thus able to remove a greater volume of plaque while reducing heat buildup compared to a simulation of the current technique. Results showed that the new system has the potential, when combined with stent placement, to replace a debilitating surgery by removing occlusion from the coronary artery and restoring blood flow to the heart muscle.

Levy will be attending Johns Hopkins University in the fall where he hopes to further his knowledge of biomedical engineering with the goal of developing new solutions to improve quality of life for patients worldwide.

"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 www.DavidsonGifted.org/Fellows-Scholarship.

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