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Dallas Nursing Student Awarded Scholarship by Arizona College of Nursing and the National Black Nurses Association

Scholarship offers student the opportunity to pursue a family dream

PHOENIX, AZ, Oct., 14 2021 — <u>Arizona College of Nursing</u> and the <u>National Black Nurses Association</u> (NBNA) today announced Dallas resident, Moira Kirk, as the recipient of a partial-tuition scholarship valued up to \$45,000 in tuition and fees towards a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree at Arizona College of Nursing.

Kirk is a native of South Dallas and a first-generation college student. Growing up her mother instilled in her the importance of education, an opportunity that eluded prior generations in her family. Her mother explained that knowledge is power, and knowledge cannot be taken from you. Kirk took her mother's words to heart. While many of her neighbors succumbed to the lure of drugs, Kirk saw higher- education as a path to rise above her circumstances and improve her quality of life. Today, she is about halfway finished in her nursing program, a volunteer in the community and serves as president of the National Student Association of her campus.

Kirk is motivated to finish her degree, not only for herself but also for the sense of pride her family and community will feel. The NBNA scholarship will make it easier to achieve her family's aspirations and she plans to pass on her good fortune. Once Kirk establishes her nursing career, she hopes to start her own scholarship fund for other low-income students dreaming of a nursing career.

"We are thrilled to partner with Arizona College of Nursing to provide this scholarship to such a worthy recipient," said, Dr. Martha A. Dawson, President, National Black Nursing Association. "Moira's story demonstrates commitment and determination as she pursues her passion of becoming a nurse. We hope this scholarship contributes to helping her earn her BSN degree and opens a pathway for a fulfilling career."

Arizona College of Nursing and NBNA created this annual scholarship to support minority students who have been traditionally underserved in nursing. To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants were required to have a minimum GPA of 3.50, write an essay, provide reference letters and demonstrate a commitment to community service.

"Congratulations to Moira Kirk for earning this scholarship and we wish her continued success in her journey," said Nick Mansour, President, Arizona College of Nursing. "We share in NBNA's commitment to providing pathways for future nurse leaders and are proud to offer this scholarship to such a deserving individual who has inspired us all."

The partnership between Arizona College of Nursing and the National Black Nurses Association extends beyond the scholarship. Arizona College of Nursing pays the local and national dues for their Core Nursing students interested in joining NBNA while enrolled at the College. Some of the membership benefits of NBNA include opportunities for professional development, networking, and leadership positions. This program is available to Core Nursing students at all nine of the school's dedicated nursing campuses.

About National Black Nurses Association

Founded in 1971, the National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) is a professional organization representing 308,000 African American registered nurses, licensed vocational/practical nurses, and nursing students in 111 chapters and 34 states. The NBNA mission is "to serve as the voice for Black nurses and diverse populations ensuring equal access to professional development, promoting educational opportunities and improving health." NBNA chapters offer voluntary hours providing health education and screenings to community residents in collaboration with community-based partners, including faith-based organizations, civic, fraternal, hospitals, and schools of nursing. For more information, visit nbna.org

About Arizona College of Nursing

Arizona College of Nursing's purpose to provide people the opportunity to enhance their lives through education. Arizona College of Nursing offers a three-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. The BSN program is offered at 10 campuses across 7 states and is designed to prepare students for a career as a Registered Nurse (RN). Arizona College of Nursing campuses are accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES), a U.S. Department of Education-recognized national accrediting agency. For more information, please visit arizonacollege.edu

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