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**Denver Public Schools Foundation Achieve Gala is April 18**

*16<sup>th</sup> Annual Event Celebrates Students' Triumphs with More Student Participation than Ever*

**DENVER** – The Denver Public Schools (DPS) Foundation will host its Achieve Gala 2018 at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 18, at the Hyatt Regency Denver at the Colorado Convention Center. For more than 25 years, students have been at the core of the DPS Foundation's work, and on this night, the DPS Foundation puts students center stage—literally. With more student participation than any other event of its kind, the Achieve Gala will feature students in every aspect, and will draw together nearly 1,000 business and community leaders, parents, educators and illustrious DPS alumni *to celebrate our students' triumphs and demonstrate what's possible when our students and schools have access to greater opportunities.*

This year's event, "*Creating Futures Together,*" will showcase the skills and talents of students from across DPS. Guests will enjoy a menu designed with input from culinary students from Vista Academy; see a behind-the-scenes look at the making of the Gala through the eyes of student producers from CEC Early College; hear musical entertainment from student singers and musicians from North High School, STRIVE Prep-Excel and Hamilton Middle School; hear an original spoken word piece written by a Denver School of the Arts student; and be inspired by keynote speaker Danna Al-Rashidi-Schmiedel, PREP Academy, who will share how her DPS teachers and school gave her a "home" and the support she needed to launch her future, among many other highlights.

"We know that when our students thrive, our city thrives. This event celebrates what's possible when we stand tall in support of our students," said DPS Foundation President and CEO Verónica Figoli.

Now in its 16<sup>th</sup> year, Achieve Gala 2018 is co-chaired by Jennifer Evans and J.W. Postal, DPS Foundation Board of Directors Member and Managing Partner, Polsinelli; Founder and CEO, Nikola Power; and Aimee Kinning and Marcee Kinning, Board Vice Presidents, RK Foundation. The presenting sponsor is longtime DPS Foundation partner Western Union Foundation. RK Foundation is sponsoring a pre-event reception that starts at 5:30 p.m.

Additional support for Achieve Gala 2018 is generously provided by The DeRose Investment Group & RBC Wealth Management & Capital Markets, Mortenson, Polsinelli, RevGen Partners, United Airlines, Walton Family Foundation, The Anschutz Foundation, Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center, and more.

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**About the Denver Public Schools Foundation**

The Denver Public Schools Foundation is the strategic fundraising partner to DPS and catalyzes change for our students and schools. We invest in accelerating progress; we connect the community to our classrooms; and we inspire confidence in the promise of public education for DPS' more than 92,000 students and nearly 200 schools. Learn more at [www.dpsfoundation.org](http://www.dpsfoundation.org).