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Recipients of Eighth Annual *Luminari* Awards focus on civility and respect

For Immediate Release

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PITTSBURGH, PA, February 27, 2019–Luminari, a Pittsburgh-based, nonprofit organization celebrating its tenth year, is pleased to announce the winners of its eighth annual merit scholarship essay contest—the *Luminari* Award and the *Luminari* ESL Award.

Both of these prestigious awards focus on students' perspectives of diplomacy. The *Luminari* Award contest is open to students in schools throughout our region while the *Luminari* ESL Award is introduced to students by teachers of the English as a second language program of the Allegheny Intermediate Unit.

The 2019 *Luminari* Award scholar is Cara Leonardi, a 9th grader at Moon Area High School. The 2019 *Luminari* ESL Award scholar is Hend Hamada, a 10th grade ESL student at Fox Chapel Area High School. Both students will receive an all-expenses paid admission to *I Want to be an Ambassador!* camp which takes place in Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C. from June 11-19, 2019.

Ms. Leonardi says she hopes to become the first female President of the United States and that her interest in Ambassador camp is based on her passion “for making the world a more inclusive place for others.”

Ms. Hamada says “Ambassador camp will help me to learn the skills of an ambassador, to understand the country’s historical, social and economic behaviors and to solve world challenges.”

“Both of these exceptional students bring passion and leadership to the *Luminari* family” says Hilda Pang Fu, *Luminari*’s founder and president. “Through the immersive experience of *I Want to be an Ambassador!* camp, we want to empower students to engage in everyday diplomacy to create a more harmonious world.”

MISSION | Luminari is a Pittsburgh-based nonprofit founded to foster activities that broaden minds, inspire innovations and promote community engagement.