**April 9, 2021 Media Release Contact: Michelle Marra**

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**Vancouver, WA** - The Historic Trust will recognize a promising young high school student and a dynamic young professional for their demonstrated leadership and commitment to community service at the virtual Marshall Leadership Awards ceremony presented by Riverview Community Bank on Tuesday, April 27. The pre-show begins at 6:30 p.m. followed by the awards presentation at 7:00 p.m.

This year’s ceremony will feature keynote speaker Lt. General (Ret.) Keith W. Dayton U.S. Army, Director of the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Garmisch, Germany. You may register to participate from the comfort of your home at no charge or sign up for either a Happy Hour or VIP Package meal delivery in the Vancouver Metro area. [www.thehistorictrust.org/marshall-awards](http://www.thehistorictrust.org/marshall-awards)

*“The Trust proudly began recognizing our community’s amazing young professionals in 1989 and high school youth in 2001 in honor of General Marshall’s compassionate and caring leadership and his two year residence in Vancouver prior to WWII. Prepare to be inspired by former recipients and this year’s nominees,”* says Trust board member and Marshall Public Leadership Award selection committee member, Larry J. Smith.

In a letter written to General Mallory in 1920, Marshall said, “*When conditions are difficult, the command is depressed and everyone seems critical and pessimistic, you must be especially cheerful and optimistic.”* General Marshall’s inspirational advice and call to leadership is especially significant now, as we begin our journey away from 2020’s challenges and prepare to recognize our community’s optimistic, solution-driven young leaders at this year’s Marshall Leadership Award Ceremony.

Sean Philbrook, one of the 2021 nominees, shared his thoughts, “*Optimism isn’t simply a positive attitude. Positivity alone can keep an individual stuck in the status quo. Rather, for me, optimism is about casting a vision, staking a claim and relentlessly driving toward that objective with wholehearted belief in accomplishing the end goal.”*

Tanishas Harris, 2002 Marshall Leadership Award winner and children’s advocate for over 20 years says, *“*F*or me the award made a huge impact on the diversity work I was doing. It provided motivation for me, my students and colleagues to encourage and engage with the greater Clark County Community.”*

The Trust is grateful to our sponsors, Riverview Community Bank, Davidson & Associates Insurance, *The Columbian*, Waste Connections, Community Military Appreciation (CMAC) and scholarship sponsors Kline/Meyer Family Fund of the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington and Dr. Roger and Katie Jarvis.