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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Heritage University Students Secure Prestigious Summer Internships at Top U.S. Universities

Toppenish, Wash. – Seven Heritage University students will spend part of their summer participating in prestigious ten-week internships at some of the top universities in the country. The students secured these internships through Heritage's participation in the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF) and The Leadership Alliance. The MMUF is the centerpiece of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's initiative to increase diversity in the faculty ranks of institutions of higher learning. The Leadership Alliance is an elite group of 42 leading research and liberal arts colleges, which for more than two decades has mentored students into becoming the next generation of public and private sector leaders and role models. Heritage is one of two universities in the Pacific Northwest who are counted among the impressive membership list of The Leadership Alliance, and is the only institution in the Pacific Northwest to be awarded Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program funding.

These internships are highly competitive and offer significant research components and opportunities for one-on-one mentoring by faculty and graduate students at the following esteemed universities.

Five Heritage students have summer research placements/internships through MMUF. They are listed below by name, field of study, and host university:

1. Marcus Morales, mathematics, the University of Chicago
2. Atzimba Martinez, mathematics, the University of Chicago
3. Emiliano Orozco, history, the University of Chicago
4. Lucila Cornejo, environmental studies, University of California, Berkeley
5. Yesenia Hunter, history, Bryn Mawr College/Social Science Research Council

Two Heritage students were awarded paid internships through the Leadership Alliance. They too are listed below by name, field of study and host university:

1. Maria Villanueva, chemistry, University of Virginia
2. Brandon Berk, astro physics, University of Virginia

Dr. Winona Wynn, associate professor of humanities and coordinator of both Mellon Mays and the Leadership Alliance programs at Heritage says these internships will

give Heritage students the chance to conduct research that complements their education at Heritage. "During those ten weeks they'll work under the guidance of top-notch faculty, and network with research mentors. The students will present their projects at the Leadership Alliance National Symposium in Stamford, Connecticut. Upon their return, they will share what they've learned with their fellow students, inspiring their peers to engage and excel," said Wynn.

These students are expected to begin their internships in mid-June, and end them in mid-August. For more information, contact Winona Wynn at (509) 865-8633 or wynn_w@heritage.edu.

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