West Kentucky Community and Technical College 2021 ASPEN PRIZE CEREMONY WATCH PARTY

May 18, 2021 • Clemens Fine Arts Theatre

The Aspen Institute's College Excellence Program aims to advance higher education practices and leadership that significantly improve student learning, completion, and employment after college-especially for the growing population of students of color and low-income students on American campuses.

The \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, awarded every two years, is the nation's signature recognition for America's community colleges—as President Obama called it, "basically the Oscars for great community colleges." The Aspen Prize honors institutions with outstanding achievement in four areas: teaching and learning, certificate and degree completion, workforce success, and equitable outcomes for students of color and low-income students.

West Kentucky Community and Technical College (WKCTC) serves more than 8,000 students annually and offers more than 200 associate degree, diploma and certificate options in more than 30 academic and career programs. WKCTC has been recognized as an Aspen Prize Top 10 Community College five times by the Aspen Institute and has twice been named a Finalist With Distinction for providing students with strong job training and continuing higher education opportunity, for achieving high completion and transfer rates, and for providing strong employment results for its graduates.

Agenda for Today's Ceremony

11:30 a.m. Doors open to theatre

11:40 a.m. Welcome Lee Emmons, WKCTC Vice President of Institutional

Advancement and Development

11: 45 a.m. Introduction Dr. Anton Reece, WKCTC President

11:50 a.m. "Why WKCTC?" Video by Kathy McHaney, WKCTC Public Relations Assistant

12:00-12:45 p.m. Aspen Ceremony Josh Wyner, executive director of the Aspen

Institute College Excellence Program

• U.S. Education Secretary Miguel Cardona

• First Lady Jill Biden

• Video: How my college changed my life

• Introducing the Aspen Prize colleges: Jury co-chairs Freeman Hrabowski and Ruth Williams-Brinkley

• Student success strategies at Aspen Prize colleges

12:45-12:57 p.m. Winner announcements Aspen Prize Jury co-chairs

12:57-1:00 p.m. Final Aspen Remarks Josh Wyner

1:05 p.m. Kentucky Lt. Governor Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman

1:07 p.m. Closing Remarks Dr. Anton Reece

Special thanks to: Chef Jessi Donaldson,

the Campus Dining and Catering crew, and WKCTC's Aspen Announcement Planning Committee



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