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For Immediate Release:

**GET SCHOOLED RECOGNIZES THE CHEROKEE NATION'S SEQUOYAH
HIGH SCHOOL FOR ITS UNPARALLELED TRACK RECORD OF SUCCESS**

Maddie Lamb, Sequoyah High School senior, winner of the Graduate for Más Homecoming Court, leads in the design of a collaborative art project that reflects the power of community in ensuring all students graduate from high school prepared for the future

Talehquah, OK –December 19, 2016 – On January 6, Get Schooled will recognize the Cherokee Nation's Sequoyah High School for its excellence as well as the leadership of senior Maddie Lamb through the creation of a school-wide mural. The mural, co-designed by Maddie Lamb, and Daniel HorseChief, a Native American artist, will showcase the combined power of high expectations and community support in ensuring all students access the education they need to succeed. Every student in the school is expected to contribute to the creation of the mural.

Maddie was the winner of the Graduate for Más 2016 Homecoming Court, a national contest sponsored by the Taco Bell Foundation. The contest, which had more than 1,000 entries, aimed to recognize students who use their knowledge, creativity and character to encourage school communities where every student feels supported to pursue their unique dreams.

“I am excited to share the Sequoyah High School story and our artwork,” said Maddie Lamb, senior at Sequoyah High School. “I want students across America to realize that Native Americans are still here. We still exist. Through Get Schooled and our art we are letting the world know that we are here and we are ready to make an impact on our communities and our nation.”

Native American students have the lowest high school graduation rates out of any racial or ethnic group profiled by the government and their SAT and ACT scores are lower than their White counterparts. Sequoyah High School's record of achievement stands in contrast to this data. A Bureau of Indian Education high school managed by the Cherokee Nation, Sequoyah High School boasts a 100% graduation rate and all of its students go on to college.

“We believe in the importance of all students being connected to a community that sets high expectations and gives them the support they need to succeed”, said Marie Groark, Executive Director of Get Schooled. “We are excited to recognize Maddie's contributions to creating such a community at Sequoyah High School and Get Schooled more generally.

During the week of January 2, Daniel Horsechief, a member of the Cherokee-Pawnee tribe, will lead the entire school in creating a mural that showcases the power of community to create a

positive climate where everyone has the opportunity to pursue their passions. The mural will be unveiled on January 6 at a school-wide event.

Maddie has been a member of Get Schooled since the 9th grade. She has used Get Schooled to learn more about college, access SAT/ACT preparation, scholarship information, and being part of a community. “All students can be successful when the students know they matter. That is what Get Schooled has done for me and what I have tried to do at Sequoyah High School.”

About Get Schooled

Get Schooled is a non-profit organization that directly engages and motivates students to graduate from high school and succeed in college. Get Schooled offers low income students a range of supports including **personal statement coaching**, **college advisor text help and digital content**. Get Schooled has developed a track record of success because it engages with young Americans using the media, technology, and popular culture that is an integral part of their lives. **Two-thirds of Get Schooled alumni cite Get Schooled as being a key support in helping them reach their goals.** Get Schooled’s work is boosted by partners like Viacom, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Taco Bell Foundation. For more information visit www.getschooled.com.

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