

# 2020 Class of Presidential Leadership Scholars Announced

*Kelly Finn Störmer, COO, National Association of Veteran-Serving Organizations, selected to participate in prestigious Presidential Leadership Scholars program*

ARLINGTON, VA, USA, January 29, 2020 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The Presidential Leadership Scholars (PLS) program announced this week that the National Association of Veteran Serving Organization's (NAVSO) Chief Operating Officer, Kelly Finn Störmer, has been selected as one of the 60 Scholars chosen for the program's sixth annual class. PLS serves as a catalyst for a diverse network of leaders brought together to collaborate and make a difference in the world as they learn about leadership through the lens of the presidential experiences of George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George H.W. Bush, and Lyndon B. Johnson.



The sixth class was selected after a rigorous application and review process. Scholars were selected based on their leadership growth potential and their personal leadership projects aimed at improving civic engagement or social good by addressing a problem or need in their community.

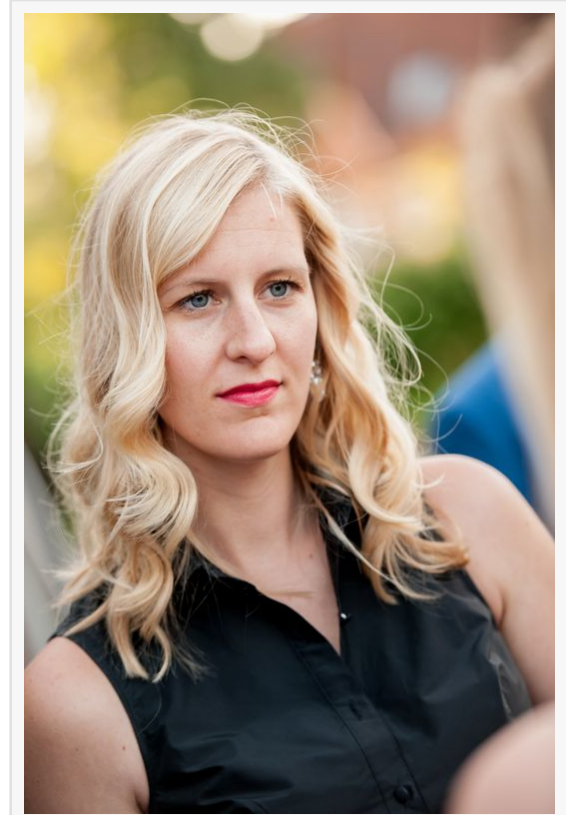
Over the course of six months, Scholars will travel to each participating presidential center to learn from former presidents, key former administration officials, business and civic leaders, and leading academics. They will study and put into practice varying approaches to leadership and exchange ideas to help strengthen their impact in their communities. The program kicks off, today, January 28th in Washington, D.C.

The latest class joins an active network of 298 Scholars who are applying lessons learned through the program to make a difference in the U.S. and around the world. Examples of these Scholar-led efforts include providing employment and mentorship to veterans, helping adjudicated youth to improve job skills and attain a positive self-image, empowering clinicians to speak with patients about safe storage of firearms, and deploying much needed resources in the wake of natural disasters.

Since the program began in 2015, Scholars have consistently reported remarkable growth in leadership skills, responsibilities, and opportunities for impact. For example, 91 percent of Scholars reported their sense of confidence or purpose as a leader changed since beginning PLS, and 96 percent of Scholars indicated their exposure to and appreciation of a wider variety of perspectives increased since beginning PLS.

## 2020 Scholars:

- Elizabeth Adams, Senior Manager of Innovation, Entergy, New Orleans, La.;
- Gayatri Agnew, Senior Director, Walmart, Bentonville, Ark.;
- Anand Annamalai, President, House Medicine, Hermosa Beach, Calif.;
- Justin Barra, Director, Education, Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, Alameda, Calif.;
- Mike Benedosso, Business Development and Partnership Manager for AR/VR, Google, Palo Alto, Calif.;
- Ganesh Betanabhatla, Managing Partner and Chief Investment Officer, Ramas Capital Management, Houston, Texas;
- Rachel Brown, Senior Policy Advisor, Bureau of Reclamation, Washington, D.C.;
- Karen Caruth, Chief Business Development Officer, Inteleos, McLean, Va.;
- Yoon Choi, Chief Executive Officer, CollegeSpring, San Francisco, Calif.;
- Michael Cooper, Journalist & Attorney, Self-Employed, Raleigh, N.C.;
- Paul Daugherty, President and Chief Executive Officer, Philanthropy West Virginia, Inc., Morgantown, W.V.;
- Sloane Davidson, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Hello Neighbor, Pittsburgh, Pa.;
- Desiree de la Torre, Director, Community Affairs and Population Health Improvement, Children's National Hospital, Chevy Chase, Md.;
- Mark DeBuse, Emergency Medicine Physician, U.S. Navy, Los Altos, Calif.;
- Maria DeChellis, Vice President, Customer Engagement, Ulligent, Roswell, Ga.;
- Mike Dovilla, President, The Dovilla Group, Berea, Ohio;
- David Duong, Director, Program In Global Primary Care and Social Change, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass.;
- Rebecca Feickert, Co-Founder, Trey Athletes, Irving, Texas;
- Paul Fermo, Associate Vice President, The Cohen Group, Pennington, N.J.;
- Amy Fiedler, Cardiac Surgeon, University of Wisconsin--Madison, Madison, Wis.;
- Jarrod Franks, Judge Advocate, U.S. Navy, Washington D.C.;
- Pellagia Gambiza, Executive Director, Shine on Sierra Leone, Celina, Texas;
- Adam Gilbertson, Vice President, RDO Equipment Co., Laurel, Mont.;
- Hannah Gordon, Chief Administrative Officer and General Counsel, San Francisco 49ers, Santa Clara, Calif.;
- Monica Gorman, Vice President, Responsible Leadership and Global Compliance, New Balance Athletics, Inc., Winchester, Mass.;
- Jodie Grenier, Chief Executive Officer, Foundation for Women Warriors, Carlsbad, Calif.;
- Al Guarnieri, Supervisory Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D.C.;
- Reshma Gupta, Medical Director of Value and Population Care, University of California Health, Sacramento, Calif.;
- HaeSung Han, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, POETIC, Frisco, Texas;
- Jerry Hawkins, Executive Director, Dallas Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation, Dallas, Texas;
- Kristen Herring, Project Officer, Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, Dumfries, Va.;
- Reda Hicks, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, GotSpot, Inc., Humble, Texas;
- Jin-Ya Huang, Founder, Break Bread, Break Borders, Dallas, Texas;
- Heather Ichord, Human Systems Lead, Defense Engagement Team, Defense Innovation Unit, Boston, Mass.;
- Chris Jones, Executive Director, Arkansas Regional Innovation Hub, Little Rock, Ark.;



Kelly Finn Störmer, COO, NAVSO

- Maria Kim, President and Chief Executive Officer, Cara, Chicago, Ill.;
- Priti Krishtel, Co-Founder and Co-Executive Director, Initiative for Medicines, Access, & Knowledge, Oakland, Calif.;
- Amy Kroll, Founder and Executive Director, LBJ Women's Campaign School, LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin, San Antonio, Texas; Bay Village, Fla.;
- Dea Wright, Director, Office of Early Childhood Initiatives, City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wis.;
- Catharine Young, Executive Director, SHEPHERD Foundation, Alexandria, Va.

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About Presidential Leadership Scholars: Presidential Leadership Scholars is a partnership among the presidential centers of George W. Bush, William J. Clinton, George H.W. Bush, and Lyndon B. Johnson. To learn more about the program and all 2020 PLS scholars, visit [www.presidentialleadershipscholars.org/2020-class-of-presidential-leadership-scholars-announced](http://www.presidentialleadershipscholars.org/2020-class-of-presidential-leadership-scholars-announced) For updates about the Presidential Leadership Scholars, use #PLScholars and follow @PLSprogram on Twitter and Instagram.

About NAVSO: NAVSO is exclusively focused on transforming the veteran services marketplace to improve the lives of veterans and military families. Since 2015 NAVSO fosters innovation, delivers resources to those who serve this remarkable community, fund their support, study their needs or employ them. NAVSO offers educational programming, provides direct consultation, hosts summits, commissions research, shares democratized data resources, and facilitates the evaluation of meaningful services. Learn more at [www.navso.org](http://www.navso.org)

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