



PRESS RELEASE

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TELEVISION ACADEMY FOUNDATION ESTABLISHES ALEX TREBEK LEGACY FELLOWSHIP FUND WITH DONATION FROM THE HARRY & JUDY FRIEDMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION

**\$50,000 Gift From Longtime *Jeopardy!* Executive Producer to
Provide Financial Assistance for College Media Educators Attending
Nonprofit's Annual Faculty Conference**

(NOHO ARTS DISTRICT, Calif. Oct. 14, 2021) — The Television Academy Foundation today announced the establishment of the **Alex Trebek Legacy Fellowship Fund** with a \$50,000 gift from longtime *Jeopardy!* executive producer **Harry Friedman** and the Harry & Judy Friedman Family Foundation. Named in honor of the late *Jeopardy!* host Alex Trebek, the fund will provide a select number of need-based fellowships, known as the **Alex Trebek Legacy Fellowships**, to college educators attending the Foundation's annual [Faculty Conference](#) as well as support overall conference programming.

The Foundation's annual, three-day Faculty Conference connects college classrooms with the television industry by providing media professors with curriculum-enhancing seminars on the latest in the art, science and business of television.

Initially, the Alex Trebek Legacy Fellowships will be awarded to 25 college and/or university educators from across the country who demonstrate financial need and wish to attend the three-day virtual Faculty Conference Nov. 15-17.

This year's conference will also include a panel discussion titled "The Art of the Game: Careers in Quiz and Game Shows," featuring panelists **Harry Friedman**, *Jeopardy!* co-head writer **Michele Loud**; Executive Vice President of Production at Warner Horizon Television Inc. **Kevin Fortson**; and moderated by **Bob Boden**, executive producer of syndicated game show *Funny You Should Ask*.

When the conference returns to an in-person format, the fund will be used to provide additional support in the form of conference registration fees, travel and lodging costs, and other expenses incurred by fellowship recipients.

"Judy and I are extremely grateful to the Television Academy Foundation for creating the Alex Trebek Legacy Fellowships," said Harry Friedman. "They will serve as a lasting tribute to our dear friend's life and work. Much like *Jeopardy!* itself, the

Foundation's programs use the power of television to educate and to celebrate and reward knowledge."

Nineteen-time Emmy® Award-winner Harry Friedman was executive producer of the two most lasting and successful syndicated game shows ever, *Jeopardy!* and *Wheel of Fortune*, from 1999 to 2020. In 2011, both shows tied in the Daytime Emmy Awards Outstanding Game Show category, and Friedman became the first producer ever to win two Emmys in the same category. Under Friedman's direction, *Jeopardy!* received the prestigious Peabody Award in 2012. And in 2019 Friedman was honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

"We are thrilled to launch the Alex Trebek Legacy Fellowships in partnership with the Harry & Judy Friedman Family Foundation to provide equal access and financial support to educators in need nationwide," said Cris Abrego, chair of the Television Academy Foundation. "This heartfelt tribute to television's most iconic game show host is such a meaningful and purposeful gift."

The late Alex Trebek began hosting *Jeopardy!* in 1984, the year the syndicated version of America's Favorite Quiz Show® debuted. He became one of television's most enduring and iconic figures, engaging millions of viewers worldwide with his impeccable delivery of "answers and questions." Trebek hosted nearly 8,000 episodes of *Jeopardy!* over the past three decades, making him one of television's most recognizable figures. On Nov. 8, 2020, he passed away at 80 years of age.

To register for the 2021 Faculty Seminar and information on how to apply for the Alex Trebek Legacy Fellowship, visit <https://TelevisionAcademy.com/faculty-seminar>.

About the Harry & Judy Friedman Family Foundation

The Harry & Judy Friedman Family Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, was established in 2014 and supports multiple causes including children's health care, animal rescue and education enrichment programs for all age groups.

About the Television Academy Foundation

Established in 1959 as the charitable arm of the Television Academy, the Television Academy Foundation is dedicated to preserving the legacy of television while educating and inspiring those who will shape its future. Through renowned educational and outreach programs, such as [The Interviews: An Oral History of Television Project](#), [College Television Awards](#) and [Summit, Student Internship and Fellowship Programs](#) and the [Faculty Conference](#), the Foundation seeks to widen the circle of voices our industry represents and to create more opportunity for television to reflect all of society. For more information on the Foundation, please visit TelevisionAcademy.com/Foundation.

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Media Contact:

Jane Sparango

breakwhitelight (for the Television Academy Foundation)

jane@breakwhitelight.com

310-339-1214