

# PRESS RELEASE

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## APPALACHIAN CONNECTION AWARDS 2020 SCHOLARSHIP

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HAZARD, KY (April 30, 2020)- Appalachian Connection is pleased to announce the recipient of its 2020 scholarship. Mr. Brysen Honeycutt, a senior at Knott County Central High School, was awarded the scholarship. Brysen is the son of Jeff and Kelli Honeycutt of Pine Top, Kentucky.

In early 2020, high school seniors in Perry County and Knott County were invited by Appalachian Connection to submit applications for the scholarship. Three students were chosen to participate in virtual interviews with the Appalachian Connection Board of Directors on April 28th. Once the Directors made their decision, Brysen was contacted by Appalachian Connection Board President, John Cornett. Brysen will receive a grant in the amount of \$10,000 to be used towards his higher education. He plans to begin his studies at the University of Kentucky in the Fall.

John Cornett, President of Appalachian Connection states, "We are fortunate to have the opportunity to meet so many talented young students with bright futures. This year's group of applicants were extremely impressive. Brysen is an amazing and accomplished young man and we look forward to working with him for many years to come."

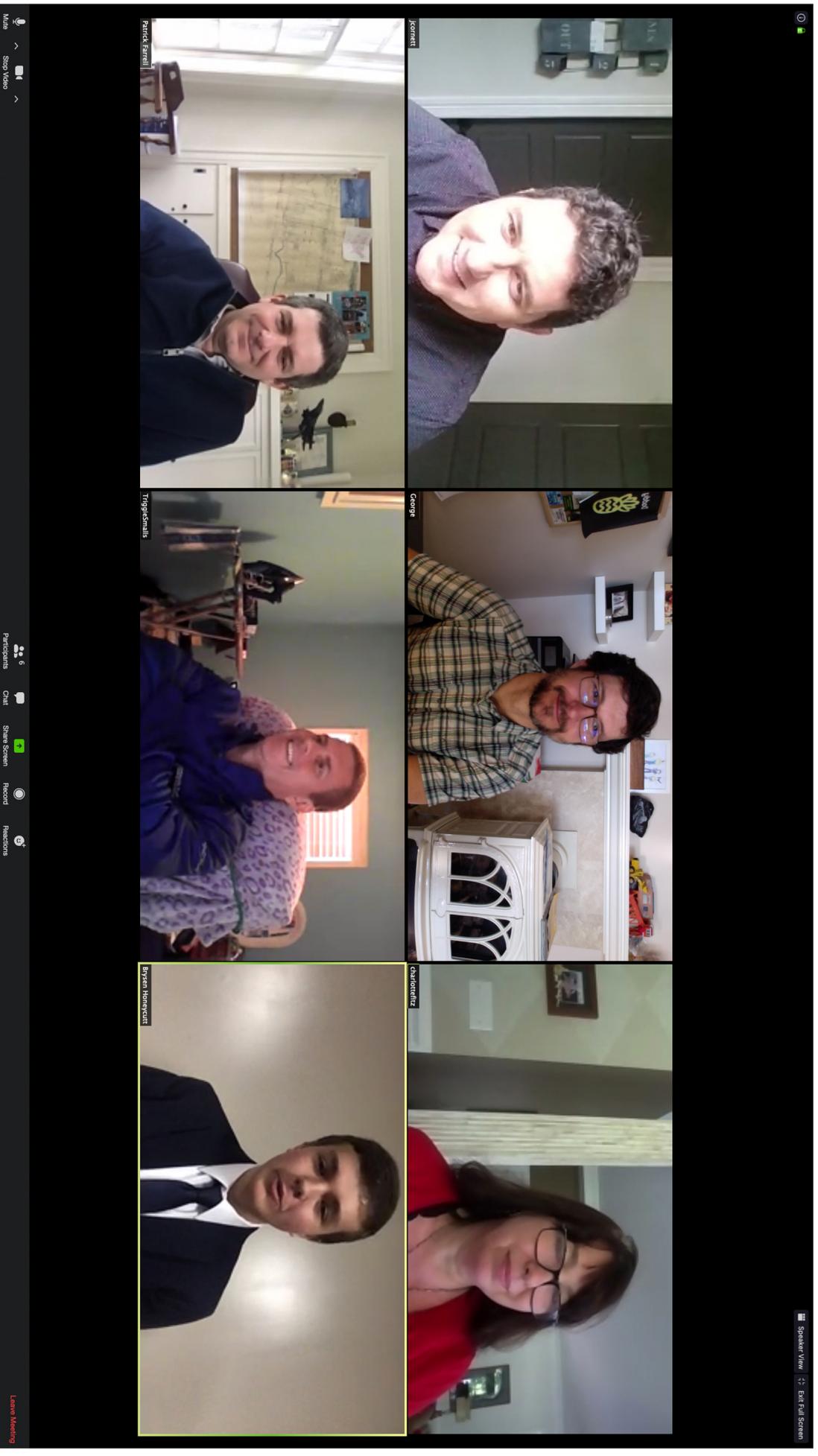
Brysen is planning to pursue a degree in engineering. He wants to make an impact by putting his skills to use to help transform eastern Kentucky. He recognizes that eastern Kentucky has so much potential with its beautiful landscapes. Brysen sees that many other communities across the country have transformed their region with tourism and thinks this could be a possibility for eastern Kentucky.

When asked how he feels about receiving the 2020-2021 Appalachian Connection Scholarship, Brysen stated, "It is an honor to be selected as this year's Appalachian Connection Scholar. I am thankful for this opportunity to give back to the Appalachian region and to be a part of a great organization!"

Appalachian Connection was established in November 2015. Its mission is to ease the financial burden of higher education for deserving students in Appalachian schools. Appalachian Connection is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization that provides scholarships to four year colleges. The scholarships have a value of \$10,000 (\$2,500 per year) and are awarded to applicants who demonstrate academic achievement, impact in the community, and a desire to utilize their education to help further our Appalachian region. Brysen is the fifth student to receive the scholarship. Students awarded the scholarship who are currently enrolled in college are Stacie Nicole Fugate from Hazard High School, Danika Riddle of Perry Central High School and Kelli Griffith of Buckhorn School.

To learn more about Appalachian Connection and its mission, please visit <https://www.appalachianconnection.org/>

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Brysen Honeycutt's "virtual" interview with the Appalachian Connection selection committee. Clockwise from upper left: John Cornett, George Fitz, Charlotte Fitz, Brysen Honeycutt, Trigg Mitchell, Patrick Farrell