

# Student Recipients



Jada Badiyan

**Jada Badiyan** lives in Lake Oswego, and has been a student for the past four years at Stanford Online High School, a private independent school located at Stanford University. She spent several years training as a professional ballerina at the Sultanov Russian Ballet Company, but when the pandemic hit, she shifted her focus to creating a monthly series of online talks for young people. Jada produces this series, “Inspiring Talks for Aspiring Youth,” which she hosts in real time, then posts to YouTube.

Jada initiated the speaker series because she saw a need among her peers for inspiration and guidance through the unique challenges of adolescence. She is deeply concerned about the increasing rates of depression and suicide in young people, and thought this could help. Her primary audience is classmates at her high school, but the series is open to all. From the start, it has been Jada’s organizational, communication, and management skills that have created and sustained the series.

She contacts the speakers, coordinates and schedules the talks, promotes the talks online, records and edits the videos, and posts them on her YouTube channel. The series has no budget and there is no money to be made in this. It is Jada’s labor of love for her broader community. In her acceptance speech she said, “Living my life through service is very important to me and receiving this award has shown me how much potential there is to expand these efforts.”