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**ThanksUSA & Kaplan University Award Full-Tuition Scholarships to Military Families**  
*2016 Fort Myer Military Spouse of the Year to be Featured at Citi Open*

McLean, VA – ThanksUSA today announced that Kaplan University will award full-tuition scholarships to three military spouses of active duty service members in the armed forces. The awards represent Kaplan's continued support of ThanksUSA, a national non-profit that provides hundreds of scholarships to military spouses and children each year.

"Kaplan's generous contribution to the ThanksUSA scholarship fund recognizes the heavy financial burden faced by our military families seeking higher education with multiple children and only one source of income," said Kevin Schmiegel, President of ThanksUSA. "College affordability is a profound challenge for our nation's 700,000 military spouses and more than 100,000 children between the ages of 17 to 22 aspiring to a bright future."

The first Kaplan scholarship recipient in the 2016-17 college season is Army spouse and mother of three, Andrea Barreiro of Arlington, VA. Barreiro, who grew up in a military family, was named the Fort Myer Military Spouse of the Year for 2016.

"Kaplan University is proud to support ThanksUSA and their initiative to expand and grow their military family scholarship program," said Scott Kilgore, Senior Vice President of Strategic Relationships at Kaplan University. "Mrs. Barreiro's support of her family and the Fort Myer military community embody the outstanding commitment and spirit of all military spouses. Congratulations, Andrea!"

Barreiro will be featured this weekend at the Citi Open, which is Washington DC's annual tennis tournament at Rock Creek Park Tennis Center. Accompanied by her family, she will be presented with a check on court during the semi-final matches on Saturday, July 23rd, which is "Celebrate Our Heroes" night at the Citi Open.

"I'm so honored to have been selected to receive this scholarship so that I may extend opportunities into our community for generations to come," said Ms. Barreiro. "I wish to open a business with my husband which will include local outreach and promote employment growth within the community."

Barreiro and her husband, 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Jose Barreiro of the 3d US Infantry Regiment, have been married for 16 years. They have three girls: Vivian, 14; Alysia, 12; and Catalina, 11 and are also raising three-year-old niece Rylin.

Andrea Barreiro's commitment to her community extends well beyond her plans for a family business venture. While attending school full-time in pursuit of a Business Administration degree, she provides respite care for military families with special needs children, is an Army Arlington Lady, and fosters rescue animals – among a host of other volunteer activities.

ThanksUSA will announce the names of the additional Kaplan University full-tuition scholarships in the coming weeks. With Kaplan's help and the support of dozens of other organizations, ThanksUSA will award its 4,000th scholarship with a total value of more than \$12 million since its inception in 2006.

"Kaplan and Americans everywhere are helping us give the gift of education to our military families who sacrifice so much for all of us," said Schmiegel. "These scholarships are a tangible way of thanking them for their service to our nation."

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#### **About ThanksUSA:**

ThanksUSA is a non-partisan, charitable effort to mobilize Americans of all ages to "thank" the men and women of the United States Armed Forces. The organization provides college, technical and vocational school scholarships to the children and spouses of military personnel. For more information, visit [www.ThanksUSA.org](http://www.ThanksUSA.org).

#### **About Kaplan University**

Kaplan University offers a different school of thought for higher education. It strives to help adult students unlock their talent by providing a practical, student-centered education that prepares them for careers in some of the fastest-growing industries. The University, which has its main campus in Davenport, Iowa, and its headquarters in Chicago, is accredited by [The Higher Learning Commission](http://www.thehighlearningcommission.org). Kaplan University serves approximately 37,000 online and campus-based students. The University has 14 campuses in Iowa, Indiana, Nebraska, Maryland, Maine, Missouri and Wisconsin, and a Kaplan University Learning Center in Maryland.

Kaplan University is part of Kaplan Higher Education LLC and Kaplan, Inc., which serves over 1.2 million students globally each year through its array of higher education, test preparation, professional education, English-language training, university preparation, and K-12 offerings to individuals, institutions, and businesses. Kaplan has operations in over 30 countries, employs more than 19,000 full- and part-time professionals, and maintains relationships and partnerships with more than 1,000 school districts, colleges, and universities, and over 2,600 corporations and businesses. Kaplan is a subsidiary of Graham Holdings Company (NYSE: GHC) and its largest division. For more information, please visit [www.Kaplan.com](http://www.Kaplan.com).