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## The Sadie Collective Announces Third Annual Sadie T.M. Alexander Conference for Black Women in Economics and Related Fields

## Washington, DC - November 19, 2020

In 2021, the Third Annual Sadie T.M. Alexander Conference for Economics and Related Fields (SACE) will take place virtually from February 19 through February 20. The Sadie Collective is grateful to work with several partners such as The Urban Institute, Princeton University, and Brookings Institution to expand our annual conference and continue our mission. Named to honor the legacy of Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander, the first African-American to earn a doctoral degree in economics, SACE seeks to inspire more Black women to enter the discipline and improve economics and related fields by building the pipeline and pathway for Black women's careers in economics through carefully curated programming. In the 100th year since Dr. Sadie T.M. Alexander's historic accomplishment, SACE commemorates her memory through our theme: *An Ode to a Legacy*.

"Black women made up approximately 7 percent of the total U.S. population, but only 2.5 percent of those completing degrees in economics, finance, accounting, or math in 2019."

- Why are Black Women Missing in Corporate Leadership?

As noted by Anna Gifty Opoku-Agyeman, CEO and co-founder of The Sadie Collective, "Black women are drastically underrepresented in economics programs and other quantitatively demanding fields, and as this year has acutely demonstrated, we need their voices in corporate and public policy spaces. SACE brings together incredible programming and opportunities to ensure that Black women have a seat at the table and are able to push for the kind of meaningful change needed to create a society that works for all."

Invited to speak at the 2021 conference are leading Black women in economics, business, technology, and policy such as the first Black woman Dean of Wharton Business School, Dean Erika James, preeminent thinker and economist, Dr. Dambisa Moyo, and Dr. Rediet Abebe, founder of BlackinAl. These speakers amongst a plethora of others will address Black Lives Matter, Data Bias and Al Fairness, and the impact of COVID-19 on Black women.

"Over the past couple years, SACE and The Sadie Collective have grown to be a place where Black women can feel empowered and excited to pursue careers in quantitative fields and continue to break down barriers," remarked Fanta Traore, co-founder and COO of The Sadie Collective.

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To receive more information about the Sadie Collective and/or sign up for the 2021 conference, please visit: <a href="https://www.sadiecollective.org/sace-2021">www.sadiecollective.org/sace-2021</a>.

## **About the Sadie Collective**

The Sadie Collective is named after Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander, the first African American to earn her doctoral degree in economics in 1921 from the University of Pennsylvania. Unfortunately, due to racial barriers that persisted at the time, she was unable to find work in the economics profession and instead pursued a career in law, holding a variety of positions such as Assistant City Solicitor for the City of Pennsylvania and President of John F. Kennedy's Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.

Founded by Anna Opoku-Agyeman and Fanta Traore and led by a team of Black women, undergraduates and recent graduates, the **Collective** aims to bring together Black women at different stages in their academic and/or professional careers in the quantitative sciences to share resources, network, and advocate for broader visibility in the field. The Collective strives to create safe spaces where Black women in these fields can obtain the resources they need to thrive.

The Collective is working to shift inequitable power structures that create barriers to access in economics so that everyone can fully participate in the field.

To learn more about our programming, please visit our website <u>www.sadiecollective.org</u> and follow us on Twitter and Instagram <u>@SadieCollective</u>.