



THE PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARDS

HONORING OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE BY YOUNG AMERICANS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TOP YOUTH VOLUNTEERS IN EACH STATE SELECTED IN 14th ANNUAL NATIONAL AWARDS PROGRAM

**102 student volunteers earn \$1,000 awards,
silver medallions and trip to nation's capital**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – America's 102 most outstanding youth volunteers – two from each state and the District of Columbia – were named State Honorees today by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, a nationwide program honoring young people for exemplary acts of volunteerism. The awards program, now in its 14th year, is conducted by Prudential Financial, Inc. in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP).

Each of the 102 State Honorees will receive \$1,000, an engraved silver medallion and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., May 2-5 for several days of national recognition events. Ten of them will be named America's top youth volunteers for 2009 at that time.

In addition to the State Honorees, the program's judges recognized 234 students nationwide as Distinguished Finalists for their impressive community service activities. Each will receive an engraved bronze medallion. More than 500 other applicants were awarded Certificates of Excellence for their volunteer work. *(See attached list of State Honorees and Distinguished Finalists.)*

More than 28 percent of this year's State Honorees and Distinguished Finalists are being honored for volunteer projects that assisted people who are sick or disabled. Another 28 percent earned awards for aiding the disadvantaged – both in their own communities and around the world, while 9 percent were cited for protecting the environment or taking care of animals. Six percent are being recognized for tutoring or

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mentoring other young people or encouraging them to read, and more than 4 percent conducted activities in support of American service members. Other honorees are being recognized for promoting health and safety, extending a hand to senior citizens, enhancing school or community resources, providing disaster relief, and performing other types of service. Information on the volunteer activities of the honorees can be found at spirit.prudential.com or at www.principals.org/prudential.

“The recipients of these awards vividly demonstrate that young people across America are making remarkable contributions to the health and vitality of their communities,” said John R. Strangfeld, chairman and CEO of Prudential Financial. “They truly deserve all of the praise and encouragement we can give them.”

“Congratulations to this year’s state winners in The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards,” stated Gerald N. Tirozzi, executive director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. “The hard work and determination that these students have exhibited in trying to make a difference in the lives of others is remarkable.”

Since The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards began in 1995, nearly 90,000 young volunteers have been honored at the local, state or national level. Many prominent public figures have assisted in saluting these honorees over the years, including Jimmy Carter, Barbara Bush, Magic Johnson, John Glenn, Madeleine Albright, Rudy Giuliani, Whoopi Goldberg, Colin Powell, Peyton Manning and Duchess of York Sarah Ferguson. The program also is conducted by Prudential subsidiaries in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and Ireland.

All public and private middle level and high schools in the U.S., as well as all Girl Scout councils, county 4-H organizations, American Red Cross chapters, YMCAs and affiliates of HandsOn Network, were eligible to select a student or member for a local Prudential Spirit of Community Award this past November. More than 5,000 Local Honorees were then reviewed by an independent judging panel, which selected State Honorees and Distinguished Finalists based on criteria such as personal initiative, creativity, effort, impact and personal growth.

While in Washington, D.C., the 102 State Honorees will tour the capital’s landmarks, attend a gala awards ceremony at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History, and visit their congressional representatives on Capitol Hill. In addition, 10 of them – five middle level and five high school students – will be named National Honorees on May 4 by a prestigious national selection committee. These

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honorees will receive additional \$5,000 awards, gold medallions, crystal trophies and \$5,000 grants from The Prudential Foundation for nonprofit, charitable organizations of their choice.

Serving on the national selection committee will be John Strangfeld of Prudential; Larry Bradley, president of NASSP; Michelle Nunn, president and CEO of the Points of Light & Hands On Network; Marguerite Kondracke, president and CEO of the America's Promise Alliance; Kathy Cloninger, CEO of Girl Scouts of the USA; Donald T. Floyd Jr., president and CEO of National 4-H Council; Pam Farr, the American Red Cross' national chair of volunteers; Elson Nash, associate director for project management at the Corporation for National and Community Service; Michael Cohen, president and CEO of Achieve, Inc.; and two 2008 Prudential Spirit of Community National Honorees: Kristen Allcorn of Sedalia, Mo., and Shanna Decker of Plainview, Minn.

In addition to granting its own awards, The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program will be distributing President's Volunteer Service Awards to nearly 3,100 of its Local Honorees this year on behalf of the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. The President's Volunteer Service Award recognizes Americans of all ages who have volunteered significant amounts of their time to serve their communities and their country.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards represent the United States' largest youth recognition program based solely on volunteer service. The program is part of a broad youth-service initiative by Prudential that includes a youth leadership training program administered by the Points of Light Institute; a free booklet of volunteer ideas for young people offered through the Federal Citizen Information Center; and a website featuring profiles of outstanding youth volunteers, volunteer tips and project ideas for students, an electronic newspaper on youth volunteerism, and more (spirit.prudential.com).

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In existence since 1916, the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) is the preeminent organization of and national voice for middle level and high school principals, assistant principals, and aspiring school leaders from across the United States and more than 45 countries around the world. NASSP's mission is to promote excellence in school leadership. The National Honor Society ®, National Junior Honor Society ®, National Elementary Honor Society™, and National Association of Student Councils ® are all NASSP programs. For more information about NASSP, located in Reston, Va., visit www.principals.org or call 703-860-0200.

Prudential Financial, Inc. (NYSE: PRU), a financial services leader, has operations in the United States, Asia, Europe, and Latin America. Leveraging its heritage of life insurance and asset management expertise, Prudential is focused on helping approximately 50 million individual and institutional customers grow and protect their wealth. The company's well-known Rock symbol is an icon of strength, stability, expertise and innovation that has stood the test of time. Prudential's businesses offer a variety of products and services, including life insurance, annuities, retirement-related services, mutual funds, investment management, and real estate services. For more information, visit www.news.prudential.com/.

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The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

2009 State Honorees and Distinguished Finalists

Alabama

State Honorees:

David Wilson, 17, Northridge High School, Tuscaloosa
Olivia Cale, 14, Huffman Middle School, Birmingham

Distinguished Finalists:

Wade Ash, 17, Atmore Area YMCA, Atmore
Grant Atkinson, 17, Thompson High School, Alabaster
Regan Gaskin, 13, American Red Cross, Talladega Chapter,
Talladega
Victoria Haney, 17, Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama,
Birmingham

Alaska

State Honorees:

Lincoln Wensley, 16, Kenai Central High School, Kenai
Katherine Dolma, 13, Girl Scouts Susitna Council, Anchorage

Distinguished Finalists:

Evan Hogge, 15, South Anchorage High School, Anchorage
Andrew Ivy, 17, A.J. Dimond High School, Anchorage

Arizona

State Honorees:

Mark Phillips, 19, Saguaro High School, Scottsdale
Ciara Petronzio, 11, Desert Arroyo Middle School,
Cave Creek

Distinguished Finalists:

Taylor Bilby, 18, Chaparral High School, Scottsdale
Neehta Hamidi, 17, Hamilton High School, Chandler
Rachel Heredia, 18, Notre Dame Preparatory High School,
Scottsdale
Helena Kooi, 18, Sabino High School, Tucson
Megan McNaughton, 13, St. Mary-Basha Catholic School,
Chandler
Chaunci Toney, 17, Chandler High School, Chandler

Arkansas

State Honorees:

Daniel Johnson, 17, Sylvan Hills High School, Sherwood
Cammie York, 11, Pike County 4-H, Murfreesboro

Distinguished Finalists:

Ashley Hoyt, 17, Greenwood High School, Greenwood
Shaylee Lawhon, 17, Walnut Ridge High School,
Walnut Ridge
Marian Mullikin, 17, Star City High School, Star City
Shelby Twedt, 17, Lutheran High School, Little Rock

California

State Honorees:

Lauren Beeder, 17, Newbury Park High School, Newbury
Park
Joseph Voight, 12, Lyman Gilmore Middle School,
Grass Valley

Distinguished Finalists:

Paige Atkison, 11, St. John's Lutheran School, Bakersfield
Jessica Baker, 17, Upland High School, Upland
Ashley Bedi, 18, Tokay High School, Lodi
Catherine Connor, 17, Ann Sobrato High School, Morgan Hill
Tracey Gilmore, 16, Truckee High School, Truckee
Catherine Grant, 15, Scripps Ranch High School, San Diego
Alex Han, 16, The Harker School, San Jose
Ariel Henley, 18, San Ramon Valley High School, Danville
Josephine Kao, 13, Visions in Education Charter School,
Carmichael
Sun Kim, 16, Santa Monica High School, Santa Monica

Colorado

State Honorees:

Riley Carney, 15, The Strive School, Englewood
Ethan Widoff, 12, Campus Middle School,
Greenwood Village

Distinguished Finalists:

Thaddeus Beller, 18, Pueblo County High School, Pueblo
Shaun Clyncke, 17, Holy Family High School, Broomfield
Dusty Havens, 18, Colorado State University 4-H, Fort
Collins
Jennessa Woolley, 17, Mapleton Early College High School,
Denver

Connecticut

State Honorees:

Jeremy Bui, 17, Enfield High School, Enfield
Jack Sullivan, 12, Henry James Memorial School, Simsbury

Distinguished Finalists:

Margaret Allison, 17, Mercy High School, Middletown
Alex Navarro, 16, Old Saybrook High School,
Old Saybrook
David Steinmetz, 17, Amity Regional High School,
Woodbridge
Samuel Wilson, 20, The Gengras Center of St. Joseph
College, West Hartford

Delaware

State Honorees:

Amy Liu, 17, Brandywine High School, Wilmington
Madison Dodge, 13, Milford Middle School, Milford

Distinguished Finalists:

Joshua Guessford, 17, Dover High School, Dover
Ashley McNeill, 17, Cab Calloway School of the Arts,
Wilmington

District of Columbia

State Honorees:

Lawrence Manley, 17, Bishop McNamara High School,
Forestville, Md.
Krysten Thomas, 17, National Cathedral School,
Washington

Distinguished Finalists:

Michellay Cole, 17, Bell Multicultural Senior High School,
Washington
Lydia Iwuoha, 17, Dunbar Pre-Engineering High School,
Washington

Florida

State Honorees:

Shardy Camargo, 17, Maynard Evans High School, Orlando
Rachel Haas, 12, Kissimmee Charter Academy, Kissimmee

Distinguished Finalists:

Ashley Alman, 17, Boca Raton Community High School,
Boca Raton
Ashley Anastasi, 17, Pompano Beach High School,
Pompano Beach
Holly Ceasar, 17, American Heritage School, Plantation
Elizabeth Doane, 18, The Benjamin School,
Palm Beach Gardens
Sarah Moeller, 17, Archbishop McCarthy High School,
Southwest Ranches
Stevie Peacock, 15, Pine View School, Osprey
Katherine Stone, 15, Fort Walton Beach High School,
Fort Walton Beach
Brittany Young, 17, North Broward Preparatory School,
Coconut Creek

Georgia

State Honorees:

Alizeh Ahmad, 16, Girls Preparatory School,
Chattanooga, Tenn.
Zachary Eller, 14, Northwestern Middle School, Milton

Distinguished Finalists:

Kathryn Buford, 17, Crisp County 4-H, Cordele
Ryan Ernestes, 16, The Walker School, Marietta
Daniel Mirolli, 18, East Paulding High School, Dallas
Sara Walton, 17, Fannin County High School, Blue Ridge
Yi Yin, 16, Northview High School, Johns Creek
Ge Zhang, 17, George Walton Comprehensive High School,
Marietta

Hawaii

State Honorees:

Melissa Monette, 16, Mililani High School, Mililani
Kristyn Wong, 13, Kaimuki Middle School, Honolulu

Distinguished Finalists:

Cecilia Chung, 17, La Pietra-Hawaii School for Girls,
Honolulu
Nika Kashyap, 14, Mid-Pacific Institute, Honolulu

Idaho

State Honorees:

Hosanna Kabakoro, 16, Twin Falls School District 411,
Twin Falls
Darrien Gish, 13, Lone Star Middle School, Nampa

Distinguished Finalists:

Karissa Tatom, 17, Cole Valley Christian Schools, Meridian
Sara Valdez, 17, Jerome High School, Jerome

Illinois

State Honorees:

Taylor McGillis, 14, The McGillis Home School, Toluca
Madelyn McGlynn, 14, Our Lady Queen of Peace School,
Belleville

Distinguished Finalists:

Ethan Barhydt, 18, Deerfield High School, Deerfield
Lena Brotzman, 16, William Fremd High School, Palatine
Konstantine Buhler, 16, Lake Forest High School, Lake Forest
Claire Dillon, 16, Lake Forest High School, Lake Forest
Abigail Horan, 16, Rolling Meadows High School,
Rolling Meadows
Mary Mouangsavanh, 17, Elgin High School, Elgin
Justin Salerno, 17, Waubonsie Valley High School, Aurora
Jeanne Zeller, 18, Barrington High School, Barrington

Indiana

State Honorees:

Alexandra Klaehn, 16, Concordia Lutheran High School,
Fort Wayne
Taylor Kemble, 12, Knox Community Middle School,
Knox

Distinguished Finalists:

Mackenzie Cain, 18, Seymour High School, Seymour
Grant House, 19, McCutcheon High School, Lafayette
Joanna Nguyen, 15, Homestead High School, Fort Wayne
Christina Pena, 16, West Noble High School, Ligonier
Cortney Stace, 18, Homestead High School, Fort Wayne
Lauren Wright, 17, North High School, Evansville

Iowa

State Honorees:

Jeralyn Westercamp, 17, Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois, Rock Island
Chelsey Montgomery, 14, Prairie Middle School, Cedar Rapids

Distinguished Finalists:

Taylor Jepsen, 16, Clay County 4-H, Spencer
Taylor Petersen, 17, Tama County 4-H, Toledo
Jessica Stakey, 18, South Hamilton High School, Jewell
Nadia Torkzadeh, 18, Waukee High School, Waukee

Kansas

State Honorees:

Matthew Heck, 18, Wichita High School East, Wichita
Katie Vahle, 11, Belinder Elementary School, Prairie Village

Distinguished Finalists:

Joanna Behrman, 18, Wichita High School East, Wichita
Aubrey Ireland, 18, Blue Valley North High School, Overland Park
Sahdia Khan, 17, Wichita High School East, Wichita
Lucy O'Connor, 17, Shawnee Mission East High School, Shawnee Mission

Kentucky

State Honorees:

Jordan Campbell, 17, Montgomery County High School, Mount Sterling
Meg Olash, 13, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School, Louisville

Distinguished Finalists:

Don Combs, 18, Pikeville High School, Pikeville
Emily Goldstein, 18, Atherton High School, Louisville
Arooshi Kumar, 18, Dupont Manual High School, Louisville
Elizabeth Moore, 17, Fairview High School, Ashland

Louisiana

State Honorees:

Mark Landry, 16, Loreauville High School, Loreauville
Sean Nathan, 13, Caddo Parish Middle Magnet School, Shreveport

Distinguished Finalists:

Jay Canova, 13, Thomas Jefferson High School, Gretna
Jeanne Michel, 15, Mount Carmel Academy, New Orleans
Brandi Thomas, 17, Washington Parish 4-H, Franklinton
Phoebe Thomas, 17, A.M. Barbe High School, Lake Charles

Maine

State Honorees:

Chloe Maxmin, 16, Lincoln Academy, Newcastle
Olivia Watson, 12, Mt. Ararat Middle School, Topsham

Distinguished Finalists:

Jacob Gallagher, 18, Yarmouth High School, Yarmouth
Meaghan Martin, 17, Bonny Eagle High School, Standish

Maryland

State Honorees:

Maureen McCarrick, 15, Middletown High School, Middletown
Haley Whitt, 12, Rosa Parks Middle School, Olney

Distinguished Finalists:

Peter Asmuth, 17, Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, Bethesda
Jamie Burke, 16, Wootton High School, Rockville
Allison Harmon, 17, North Carroll High School, Hampstead
Travis Robinson, 16, Francis Scott Key High School, Union Bridge
Richard Rothstein, 13, Herbert Hoover Middle School, Potomac
Samuel Smoot, 18, Maurice J. McDonough High School, Pomfret

Massachusetts

State Honorees:

Brittany Bergquist, 18, Norwell High School, Norwell
Moirra Landry, 12, Swampscott Middle School, Swampscott

Distinguished Finalists:

Emily Cunningham, 18, Cardinal Spellman High School, Brockton
Oylan Dong, 18, Buckingham Browne & Nichols School, Cambridge
Elizabeth Hogan, 17, Plymouth North High School, Plymouth
Emma Kerwin, 12, Meadowbrook School, Weston
Amanda Seigal, 17, Oliver Ames High School, North Easton
Max Wallack, 12, Advanced Math and Science Academy, Marlborough

Michigan

State Honorees:

Aparna Ghosh, 17, Washtenaw County American Red Cross, Ann Arbor
Courtney Fedeson, 12, North Rockford Middle School, Rockford

Distinguished Finalists:

Amy Afonso, 18, Franklin High School, Livonia
Armani Hawes, 16, Lahser High School, Bloomfield Hills
Samuel Kilberg, 17, Rochester High School, Rochester Hills
Haley Kluge, 14, Hayes Middle School, Grand Ledge
Katia Locke, 17, Ruyard High School, Ruyard
Marissa Martz, 17, Mercy High School, Farmington Hills
Madeleine Seidel, 15, Girl Scouts of Metro Detroit, Detroit
Celia Zhang, 17, St. Joseph High School, St. Joseph

Minnesota

State Honorees:

Anne Brooker, 18, Southwest High School, Minneapolis
Haley Sass, 11, Faribault County 4-H, Blue Earth

Distinguished Finalists:

Ali Ahmed, 19, Lighthouse Academy of Nations, Minneapolis
Kaitlyn Fryzek, 17, Edina High School, Edina
Elizabeth Huebsch, 18, Perham High School, Perham
Renee Kargleder, 18, Highland Park Senior High School,
St. Paul
Ashlee Kephart, 17, Park Center Senior High School,
Brooklyn Park
Kristina Tester, 16, Breck School, Minneapolis

Mississippi

State Honorees:

Holley Cunningham, 16, Resurrection Catholic School,
Pascagoula
Holly Travis, 14, Armstrong Middle School, Starkville

Distinguished Finalists:

Brantley Gunn, 17, Rankin County 4-H, Brandon
Norma Isaac, 18, Choctaw Central High School, Choctaw
Richard Cooper Kennard, 18, Starkville High School,
Starkville
Elizabeth Seratt, 18, Girl Scouts Heart of the South,
Memphis, Tenn.

Missouri

State Honorees:

Shawn Hawkins, 18, Branson High School, Branson
Nimo Sahil, 16, Maple Park Middle School, Kansas City

Distinguished Finalists:

Samantha Green, 18, Malden School, Malden
Elizabeth Mouton, 18, Carthage High School, Carthage
Jacob Mozer, 12, Moreland Ridge Middle School,
Blue Springs
Jonathan Rogers, 18, Sullivan High School, Sullivan
Kayla Schrimshaw, 14, William Chrisman High School,
Independence
Whitney Welch, 17, North County Senior High School,
Bonne Terre

Montana

State Honorees:

Cheyne Valentine, 18, American Red Cross of Montana,
Great Falls
Pamela Fawns, 13, Ravalli County 4-H, Hamilton

Distinguished Finalists:

Blake Lerner, 17, Bozeman High School, Bozeman
Timothy Seery, 16, Charles M. Russell High School,
Great Falls

Nebraska

State Honorees:

Jacob Buss, 17, Johnson County Central High School,
Tecumseh
Alexandra Linder, 11, West Point Elementary School,
West Point

Distinguished Finalists:

Jordan Somer, 15, Central High School, Omaha
Sydney Swanson, 17, Box Butte County 4-H, Alliance

Nevada

State Honorees:

Daniel Edmondson, 16, Boulder City High School,
Boulder City
Nicolas Paris, 13, Silvestri Junior High School,
Las Vegas

Distinguished Finalists:

John-Henry Lambin, 16, Douglas County 4-H, Minden
Rachael Lambin, 18, JRJ School, Minden
Breanna Lebsack, 17, Canyon Springs High School,
North Las Vegas
Danni Shanel, 14, Becker Middle School, Las Vegas

New Hampshire

State Honorees:

Edward Zaremba III, 18, Pinkerton Academy, Derry
Colleen Slein, 14, St. Joseph Regional Catholic School, Salem

Distinguished Finalists:

Rachel Liff, 14, Bedford High School, Bedford
Jane Starke, 17, Merrimack High School, Merrimack

New Jersey

State Honorees:

Daniel Fine, 15, Peddie School, Hightstown
Laura Dominguez, 13, Bernardsville Middle School,
Bernardsville

Distinguished Finalists:

Ayna Agarwal, 16, Edison YMCA, Edison
Farrah Alkhaleel, 16, Monmouth Regional High School,
Tinton Falls
Erika Ferguson, 16, Mainland Regional High School,
Linwood
Francesca Lanfranchi, 12, United Way of Atlantic County,
Galloway
Erika Rech, 17, High Technology High School, Lincroft
Michael Ruane, 17, Middletown High School North,
Middletown

New Mexico

State Honorees:

Melissa Redman, 16, Silver High School, Silver City
Jennifer Sanchez, 14, Chaparral Middle School, Alamogordo

Distinguished Finalists:

Jennifer Gisburne, 17, Alamogordo High School, Alamogordo
Katie Ogawa, 16, Albuquerque Academy, Albuquerque

New York

State Honorees:

Colin Leslie, 17, Rye High School, Rye
Charlotte McKane, 13, Oneonta Middle School, Oneonta

Distinguished Finalists:

Chelsea Andersson, 17, Sachem North High School,
Lake Ronkonkoma
Anna Eisenstein, 17, Carmel High School, Carmel
Perri Fetner, 17, South Side High School, Rockville Centre
Gregory Henzler, 18, Erie County 4-H, East Aurora
Christina Johnson, 17, Renaissance High School for Musical
Theater and Technology, the Bronx
Alexander Metzger, 17, Guilderland High School,
Guilderland Center
Tara Suri, 18, Edgemont Junior/Senior High School,
Scarsdale
Sujay Tyle, 15, United Way of Greater Rochester, Rochester

North Carolina

State Honorees:

Austin Shaw, 17, Wake Forest-Rolesville High School,
Wake Forest
Sydney Pfaff, 13, Morehead City Middle School,
Morehead City

Distinguished Finalists:

Hannah Heidenreich, 18, South Mecklenburg High School,
Charlotte
Luke Hill, 14, Bladen County 4-H, Elizabethtown
Mason Park, 13, West Millbrook Middle School, Raleigh
Michael Ryan, 18, Charlotte Catholic High School, Charlotte
Tyler Strasser, 13, Mount Holly Middle School, Mount Holly
David Taylor, 17, West Carteret High School, Morehead City

North Dakota

State Honorees:

Ali Karpenko, 15, Red River High School, Grand Forks
Kimberly Biasotti, 14, Nathan Twining Elementary/Middle
School, Grand Forks Air Force Base

Distinguished Finalists:

Mitchell Hintz, 17, Dickinson High School, Dickinson
Tara Loberg, 17, Grand Forks Central High School,
Grand Forks

Ohio

State Honorees:

Benjamin McMullen, 14, West Geauga High School,
Chesterland
Beatrice Thaman, 12, St. John's Jesuit Academy, Toledo

Distinguished Finalists:

Garry Clark, 15, Fort Frye High School, Beverly
Nicholas Guiney, 13, Seton Catholic School, Hudson
Kelli Hall, 17, Withrow University High School, Cincinnati
Rebecca Kapusta, 17, Independence High School,
Independence
Jenelle Krumlauf, 18, Reynoldsburg High School,
Reynoldsburg
James Parish, 18, Revere High School, Richfield
Harika Rayala, 16, Worthington Kilbourne High School,
Columbus
Lauren Sobol, 17, Oakwood High School, Dayton

Oklahoma

State Honorees:

Daniel Bates, 15, Chickasha High School, Chickasha
Amanda LaMunyon, 13, Oklahoma Bible Academy, Enid

Distinguished Finalists:

Kirsten Paschal, 18, Choctaw High School, Choctaw
Zachary Stark, 18, Christian Heritage Academy, Del City
Garrett Thompson, 16, Pontotoc County 4-H, Ada
Chance Whinnery, 17, Deer Creek High School, Edmond

Oregon

State Honorees:

Whitney Helikson, 18, Redmond High School, Redmond
Mimi Ausland, 12, Seven Peaks School, Bend

Distinguished Finalists:

Meckenzie Holmes, 18, Oregon City High School,
Oregon City
Stephanie Jones, 17, Kennedy High School, Mt. Angel
Molly Munson, 18, Willamette High School, Eugene
Halle Shirk, 15, South Eugene High School, Eugene

Pennsylvania

State Honorees:

Ryan Morgan, 16, North Pocono High School, Moscow
Kennedy Jet Kulish, 11, Hambright Elementary School,
Lancaster

Distinguished Finalists:

Nathan Dorfman, 18, Central High School, Philadelphia
Conner Hagins, 12, Westmont Hilltop Middle School,
Johnstown
Ronald Lincoski, 18, California Area Senior High School,
Coal Center
Kendall Ohrwashel, 15, Nazareth Area High School, Nazareth
Brett Prestia, 16, North Penn High School, Lansdale
Elizabeth Stoltz, 17, York Catholic High School, York
Aisling Travers, 16, Great Valley High School, Malvern
Emily Zauzmer, 12, Sandy Run Middle School, Dresher

Rhode Island

State Honorees:

Emma Edwards, 16, Barrington High School, Barrington
Christopher Clarkin, 13, Chariho Middle School,
Wood River Junction

Distinguished Finalists:

Bethany Conway, 17, Bishop Feehan High School, Attleboro
Christine Juhr, 17, North Smithfield High School,
North Smithfield

South Carolina

State Honorees:

Emily Conrad, 16, Pine Street YMCA, Spartanburg
Janey Turner, 13, Richard H. Gettys Middle School, Easley

Distinguished Finalists:

Samuel Andersen, 16, Upper Palmetto YMCA, Rock Hill
Anthony Floyd, 17, Clinton High School, Clinton
Danielle Kutz, 18, Northwestern High School, Rock Hill
James Tobin, 18, McCallie School, Chattanooga, Tenn.

South Dakota

State Honorees:

Elizabeth Volzke, 17, McPherson County 4-H, Leola
Savannah Johnson, 14, Spearfish Middle School, Spearfish

Distinguished Finalists:

Veronica Grosek, 18, Sturgis Brown High School, Sturgis
Peyton Healy, 16, Chamberlain High School, Chamberlain

Tennessee

State Honorees:

Katlyn Vacanti-Mitchell, 16, Ravenwood High School,
Brentwood
Katie Ayres, 12, Grace St. Luke's Episcopal School, Memphis

Distinguished Finalists:

Bailey Farrell, 18, Middle College High School, Chattanooga
Mariel Lane, 17, Bolton High School, Arlington
Gunhee Lee, 19, Madison Academic Magnet High School,
Jackson
Lauren Lyke, 17, Jefferson County High School, Dandridge
Tierranicole Taylor, 17, City University School of Liberal
Arts, Memphis
Nicholas Wilson, 18, Father Ryan High School, Nashville

Texas

State Honorees:

Patrick Foster, 17, Sachse High School, Sachse
Shelby Romero, 12, Williamson County 4-H, Georgetown

Distinguished Finalists:

Britt Brandon, 17, Hyde Park Baptist High School, Austin
Justin Churchman, 16, Coronado High School, El Paso
Jean Paul Destarac, 17, Bishop T.K. Gorman High School,
Tyler
Sydney Drain, 17, Klein Collins High School, Spring
Emily Estes, 13, Ovilla Christian School, Ovilla
Sophie Galant, 16, Greenhill School, Addison
Brittney Herson, 17, Yavneh Academy of Dallas, Dallas
Hailey Hodgkiss, 16, Irving High School, Irving
Christina Hooks, 17, Westlake High School, Austin
Olivia King, 17, Flower Mound High School, Flower Mound

Utah

State Honorees:

Tiffany Jencks, 16, Salt Lake County 4-H, Salt Lake City
Monroe Dauwalder, 12, Timberline Middle School, Alpine

Distinguished Finalists:

Laurann Beard, 16, Mountain View High School, Orem
Tiffany Earl, 18, Brighton High School, Salt Lake City
Meagan Hilmo, 14, Timberline Middle School, Alpine
Samantha Newman, 17, Layton High School, Layton

Vermont

State Honorees:

Courtney Devoid, 16, Mt. Abraham Union High School,
Bristol
Lydia Ham, 14, Miller's Run School, Sheffield

Distinguished Finalists:

Eden Berube, 18, Lyndon Institute, Lyndon Center
Gabriela Meade, 17, Harwood Union High School,
South Duxbury

Virginia

State Honorees:

Connor Bell, 17, Virginia Episcopal School, Lynchburg
John Yates, 13, Lucille M. Brown Middle School, Richmond

Distinguished Finalists:

Chelsea Hall, 16, Arcadia High School, Oak Hall
Annie Hughes, 18, Peninsula Catholic High School,
Newport News
Catherine Levy, 16, Roanoke Catholic School, Roanoke
Apurva Pande, 16, Henrico High School, Richmond
April West, 17, Ocean Lakes High School, Virginia Beach
Olivia Wolfe, 12, Hughes Middle School, Reston

Washington

State Honorees:

Rachel Bervell, 16, Kamiak High School, Mukilteo
Alexa Brenner, 12, Annie Wright School, Tacoma

Distinguished Finalists:

Whitley Barnes, 18, Crescent High School, Joyce
Cheryl Delostrinos, 18, Garfield High School, Seattle
Derek Hahn, 18, Lake Stevens High School, Lake Stevens
Kohta Hansen, 10, Serene Lake Elementary School, Edmonds
Maddison Small, 17, Newport High School, Bellevue
Morgan Uceny, 16, Kittitas Secondary School, Kittitas

West Virginia

State Honorees:

Anastacia Meadows, 16, Girl Scouts of Black Diamond
Council, Charleston
Cody Gallagher, 14, Rivesville Middle School, Rivesville

Distinguished Finalists:

Morgan Richards, 17, South Charleston High School,
South Charleston
Steven Williams, 18, Bluefield High School, Bluefield

Wisconsin

State Honorees:

Jasmin Weger, 17, Lancaster High School, Lancaster
Jordyn Schara, 14, Webb Middle School, Reedsburg

Distinguished Finalists:

Katherine Cloninger, 18, Weyauwega-Fremont High School,
Weyauwega
Chelsea Match, 17, Homestead High School, Mequon
Kyra Sommerfeld, 17, Chippewa Falls Senior High School,
Chippewa Falls
Zachary Swiatko, 17, Bradford High School, Kenosha
Laura Turner, 17, Brookfield East High School, Brookfield
Deena Whitwam, 12, New Richmond Middle School,
New Richmond

Wyoming

State Honorees:

Anna Shafer, 17, Sublette County 4-H, Pinedale
Morgan Mariner, 13, Converse County 4-H, Douglas

Distinguished Finalists:

Stephanie Meisner, 18, East High School, Cheyenne
Samuel Streeter, 18, Saratoga Middle/High School, Saratoga

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