

## Class of 2021 Finalists

(Biographies provided by the candidates.)

#### ALABAMA

**Jefferson – Elijah Bouma-Sims**, son of Katherine Bouma and Robert Sims, Homewood, Alabama. Elijah will graduate from Homewood High School where he is trombone section leader in the marching band, programmer for the BEST Robotics team, and secretary of the Beta Club. He is also an Eagle Scout and a member of the Key Club. Elijah intends to major in electrical engineering.

## **CALIFORNIA**

San Diego – Kellen Sandvik, son of Gary and Carin Sandvik, Carlsbad, California. Kellen will graduate from Santa Fe Christian Schools where he is president of the Math, Philosophy, and Do-Something Clubs. He also runs an after-school mathematics camp for fourth and fifth graders; was selected to represent his class at American Legion's Boys State; and founded Pass-A-Bag, a nonprofit organization which encourages the community to help the homeless. Kellen plans to major in mathematics and minor in economics.

#### **DELAWARE**

New Castle – Hannah Rose Cooper, daughter of Heather Suchanec-Cooper and Jon Cooper, Newark, Delaware. Hannah will graduate from Newark Charter High School where she is president of the Marine Science Club, secretary of National Honor Society, and captain of both the varsity field hockey and lacrosse teams. She was named her high school's True Patriot of the Year, an award given to athletes demonstrating scholarship and sportsmanship; is a founding member of her church's youth group; and served as public relations officer for her school's student government in her junior year. Hannah plans to major in marine science.

**New Castle – Shaily Patel**, daughter of Samir and Amita Patel, Newark, Delaware. Shaily will graduate from Newark Charter High School where she is captain of the Mock Trial Team and president of National Honor Society. She has also been part of the Science Olympiad team since 7th grade. She has received Scholastic awards for her writing, silver and bronze medals for her performance on the National Spanish Exam, and a Michael C. Ferguson Achievement Award for excellence in mathematics. Shaily plans to major in biology.

#### **FLORIDA**

Miami-Dade – Rebecca Marie Reuning, daughter of Ross Reuning and Vivian Espinosa, Miami, Florida. Rebecca will graduate from Felix Varela Senior High School where she is president of National Honor Society, treasurer of Science Honor Society, and leader in the school's FFA. She has performed more than 1400 hours of community service with local animal rescue organizations and was named a National AP Scholar and National Hispanic Merit Scholar. She plans to major in animal science and continue on to veterinary school.

### **GEORGIA**

Forsyth – Elizabeth Somsen, daughter of Sean and Melissa Somsen, Cumming, Georgia. Elizabeth will graduate from Forsyth Central High School where she is president of both National Honor Society and HOSA Future Health Professionals, and a drum major of the Flash of Crimson Marching Band. She also attended the Georgia Governor's Honors Program; is a member of her school's STEM program; and helps lead Central Miracle, an event benefitting Children's Miracle Network. Elizabeth plans to major in biological engineering.

**Fulton – John Francis Arnold, Jr.**, son of Drs. John and Angie Arnold, Atlanta, Georgia. John will graduate from Holy Spirit Prep where he is president of the ONE Apostalate, member of Delta Omega, and a competitive archer. He has run summer sandwich ministries in Atlanta, has attended the Georgia Governor's Honors Program, and soon will be featured as one of Atlanta *InTown*'s "20 Under 20" for his work with lunch ministries in the Atlanta area. John plans to major in politics, law and economics.

**Fulton – Sydney Laws**, daughter of Eldrick and Krista Laws, Atlanta, Georgia. Sydney will graduate from Riverwood International Charter School where she is president of SkillsUSA, co-president of Mu Alpha Theta, and an active member of National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Film Society and Beta Club. Sydney plans to double major in art studies and business administration, with concentrations in film and marketing, respectively.

**Gwinnett – Sarah McDougal**, daughter of Patrick and Melissa McDougal, Buford, Georgia. Sarah will graduate from Girls Preparatory School in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where she is president of The Society of Women Engineers Next Generation, and vice president of TED Education and National Honor Society. She has also volunteered to build houses for Habitat for Humanity, and tutors with and arranges assignments for the tutoring program within her school. Sarah plans to major in engineering.

Oconee – Margaret Evelyn Pritchett, daughter of Drs. John and Stacey Pritchett, Watkinsville, Georgia. Margaret will graduate from North Oconee High School where she is flute section leader in the Titan Regiment Marching and Symphonic Band, co-treasurer of National Honor Society, and participates in a research apprenticeship with the University of Georgia Large Animal Veterinary Hospital. She also volunteers with local animal shelters and equine therapy groups, is an AP Scholar with Distinction, and is a Georgia Certificate of Merit Award recipient. Margaret plans to major in animal science prior to earning her doctorate in veterinary medicine.

#### **KANSAS**

**Johnson – Anastasia Dmitrienko**, daughter of Alex Dmitrienko and Marina Sorokina, Overland Park, Kansas. Anastasia will graduate from Blue Valley North High School where she is a varsity runner for the cross country and track teams, a varsity member of the Scholars Bowl team, and a member of the Overland Park City Teen Council. She has been named both a National Merit Semifinalist and a National AP Scholar, and she has placed at the national level twice in events for Future Business Leaders of America. Anastasia plans to major in statistics.

## **LOUISIANA**

**Lafayette – Gabriel Joseph Olivier**, son of Joe and Shannon Olivier, Lafayette, Louisiana. Gabriel will graduate from the Episcopal School of Acadiana where he is Student Council treasurer and a peer leader. He also is a National Merit Semifinalist, and works as a mechanic's apprentice. Gabriel plans to major in political science or engineering.

#### **MARYLAND**

Anne Arundel – Catherine Moylan Ault, daughter of Mendy and Andy Ault, Laurel, Maryland. Catherine will graduate from North County High School where she is class president, president of National Honor Society, and captain of the varsity soccer team. She also led 40 teens in a year-long project to help local nonprofits with their technology-based issues, volunteered summers at The Smithsonian's National Zoo, and was an engineering intern where she worked on a project recommending safer school bus routes in Baltimore County, Md. Catherine plans to major in chemical engineering.

**Montgomery – Andy Samuel Chen**, son of Johnny and Lily Chen, Gaithersburg, Maryland. Andy will graduate from Magruder High School where he is student government association president, an editor-in-chief of the yearbook, and a captain of the volleyball team. He is a Bausch&Lomb Honorary Science Award winner and was also named to the All-County team last season. Andy plans to major in biomedical engineering.

Montgomery – Anna Janan Schilling, daughter of Mark Schilling and Sahar Dawisha, Rockville, Maryland. Anna will graduate from Rockville High School where she is founder and president of Culinary Club, an inductee of Science National Honor Society, and first flute in Symphonic Orchestra. She also leads the Crazy 8's math program for children at Aspen Hill Library and volunteers at the Flower Valley Veterinary Clinic, as well as Rainbow Place Homeless Shelter. Anna plans to major in animal science and continue on to get a degree in veterinary medicine.

**Prince George's – Ngonda Agha**, daughter of Apollo and Mary Agha, Glenn Dale, Maryland. Ngonda will graduate from Eleanor Roosevelt High School where she is vice president of French Honor Society and a member of National Honor Society. She is also president of the Teen Youth Ministry at her church, and has received the Junior Awards for AP Chemistry and AP Calculus BC at her school. Ngonda plans to major in biochemistry.

## **MASSACHUSETTS**

**Middlesex – Alexander Benson Lerner**, son of Gary and Leslie Lerner, Lexington, Massachusetts. Alexander will graduate from Lexington High School where he is captain of varsity Ultimate Frisbee, a peer mentor leader, and a starter on the varsity soccer team. He also is an adaptive ski instructor and a National Merit Semifinalist. Alexander plans to major in chemical engineering.

Norfolk – Taylor Jacqueline White, daughter of John and Janine White, Millis, Massachusetts. Taylor will graduate from Millis High School where she is president of Amnesty International, captain of the indoor and outdoor varsity track and field teams, and director of communications for the Millis chapter of the American Chemistry Society Club. She also volunteers with Massachusetts Special Olympics, tutors for area families, and will receive a second diploma from the Spanish Embassy upon graduation for completion of a 12-year Spanish immersion program. Taylor plans to major in biochemistry.

#### **MISSOURI**

Osage – Claire Emma Ludwig, daughter of Dale and Rhonda Ludwig, Linn, Missouri. Claire will graduate from Helias High School where she is president of both International Club and her school's chapter of FFA, and treasurer of Area FFA. She has earned varsity letters in four high school sports, completed a three-week animal rescue project in Costa Rica last summer, and currently serves as Missouri 4-H State vice president. Claire plans to major in animal science and ultimately become a veterinarian.

## **NEW JERSEY**

**Bergen – Julia Louise Healy**, daughter of Victoria Petrock and Sean Healy, Ho-Ho-Kus, New Jersey. Julia will graduate from Northern Highlands Regional High School where she is an ambassador in the Boomerang Project and co-captain of the cross-country team. She is also an emergency medical technician in the Ho-Ho-Kus Volunteer Ambulance Corps. She is a member of National Honor Society, a National Merit Commended Student, and has made high honor roll every semester of high school. Julia plans to major in materials science and engineering.

Gloucester – Pierce Christian Burgin, son of David and Lisa Burgin of Sewell, New Jersey. Pierce will graduate with honors from Clearview Regional High School where he is president of both Student Council and Key Club, and captain of the varsity swim team. Pierce serves as Clearview Sophomore Leadership Academy Advisor, inaugurating Clearview's Military Leadership Panel; "Red, White, and Blue Jeans for Veterans" founder, raising \$33,000 supporting hospitalized veterans; and honored with the South Jersey Spirit of Community Distinguished Youth Service Award, recognizing leadership inspiring meaningful change. Pierce will major in chemical and biomolecular engineering.

**Monmouth – Anielle Marin Duritza**, daughter of Douglas and Angela Duritza, Wall Township, New Jersey. Anielle will graduate from Wall High School where she is co-founder and co-president of Women in Science and Engineering Club, executive officer and secretary for the Environmental Club, and vice president and participant of Model UN. She hosts an annual charity holiday light show to benefit local families, has volunteered with the Wall Township Public Works Department to certify and protect the Manasquan River Access as a National Wildlife Habitat through the National Wildlife Federation, and is recipient of the Monmouth County's Caring Award. Anielle plans to major in environmental engineering.

#### **NEW YORK**

Nassau – Paulina Kenny, daughter of John and Christine Kenny, Rockville Centre, New York. Paulina Kenny will graduate from South Side High School where she is class president, co-president of Students Against Destructive Decisions/ Youth Decide, as well as secretary of Math Honor Society. She received the University of Rochester George Eastman Young Leadership Award, and is a Hugh O'Brien Leadership Program alumna. Paulina plans to major in public policy.

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

Alamance – Lauren Emily Gornto, daughter of John and Meredith Gornto, Burlington, North Carolina. Lauren will graduate from Western Alamance High School where she is president of Student Council, music director of WA Cappella, and an executive member for Western Alamance Dance Marathon. She is a junior member of the Board of Directors for Alamance Children's Theatre where she helped to found "ACTing Up," a summer theatre camp for children. Lauren plans to pursue a pre-law track.

Avery – Alexis Hayes, daughter of Michael Hayes and Michaelle Poore, Newland, North Carolina. Alexis will graduate from Avery County High School where she is founder and president of Junior State of America, president of the Students Environmentally Aware Club, and serves on the Superintendent's Advisory Council. She is also an active service member of Key Club and Beta Club, and has organized a 5K to raise funds to promote literacy and sustainability in her county. Alexis plans to major in paper science or biomedical engineering.

**Cabarrus – Milan Patel**, son of Taruna and Yogesh Patel, Concord, North Carolina. Milan will graduate from Central Cabarrus High School where he is president of Science Olympiad and a co-founder of his school's Envirothon team. He is also a volunteer math tutor and received the AP Scholar with Distinction Award. Milan plans to major in chemistry.

**Caldwell – Dylan Hight Moore**, son of John Moore and Amy Moore, Lenoir, North Carolina. Dylan will graduate from Hibriten High School where he is a captain of the wrestling team and a member of both Student Government and the varsity football team's Leadership Council. He is also the senior class president, has received the Coaches Award in wrestling, and is a four-year academic letterman. Dylan plans to major in construction management.

Carteret – Natalie Anne Chazal, daughter of John Chazal and Nicole D'Andrea, Morehead City, North Carolina. Natalie will graduate from West Carteret High School where she is captain of the Math Team and a student in the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics online program. She also is an avid volunteer with her local National Parks Service, performing more than 200 hours of service. Natalie plans to major in animal science.

**Catawba – Carmen Charisma Duran**, daughter of Lisa Sanders, Maiden, North Carolina. Carmen will graduate from Discovery High School where she is president of National Honor Society, secretary of Beta Club, and captain of the school's nationally competitive Quiz Bowl team. She also is vice president of a local nonprofit, Community of Students, and was a participant in Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics where she created and donated a 3D-printed prosthetic hand to a child in need of one. Carmen plans to major in engineering.

Catawba – Anne Lavender Haunton, daughter of Richard Haunton, Hickory, North Carolina. Anne will graduate from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics where she is a student ambassador for the Office of Admissions, and president of both HOSA Future Health Professionals and Future Business Leaders of America. She has also volunteered more than 425 hours for the Catawba Science Center's Summer Fun Camps, researches adolescent brain development at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and works as part of the her school's Technical Theater Leadership Team. Anne plans to double major in biology and sociology.

**Craven – Anna Louise Walker**, daughter of Beth and Jerry Walker, New Bern, North Carolina. Anna will graduate from The Epiphany School of Global Studies where she is president of the Student Council, co-captain of the varsity swim team, and president of the legislative branch for her school's chapter of Youth and Government. She also volunteers as a Youth Ministry Leader at her church, works the scoreboard at her school's basketball games, and earned the Headmaster Scholar Award in 2015. Anna plans to major in international studies.

Cumberland – Kai Lightner, son of Constance Lightner, Fayetteville, North Carolina. Kai will graduate from Reid Ross Classical High School where he is a member of the Academy of Scholars and was voted "Most Likely to Succeed" by his senior class. He is also a world champion rock climber who enjoys fundraising for nonprofit causes and travelling around the country as an invited speaker at youth events. Kai was selected by NBC News for their 2016 "28 Under 28" list of Influential Minorities in America that are breaking barriers and making a difference in their community. Kai plans to major in business administration.

Cumberland – Jenna Caryn Nabors, daughter of Scott Nabors and Marilynn Van Landuit, Fayetteville, North Carolina. Jenna will graduate from Massey Hill Classical High School where she is a member of the Student Government Association, Speech and Debate team, and National Honor Society. She also promotes leadership and service across the region and state through her position on the Executive Boards of the North Carolina Association of Student Councils and the Fayetteville-Cumberland Youth Council. Jenna plans to major in communication.

**Cumberland – Emma Elizabeth West**, daughter of Greg and Kristie West, Fayetteville, North Carolina. Emma will graduate from Terry Sanford High School where she is the student body president, vice president of National Spanish Honor Society, and a captain on the volleyball team. She also volunteered in Port-au-Prince, Haiti; started a Lending Library for college textbooks; and was named a Distinguished Student Leader by the National Association of Student Councils. Emma plans to major in biological sciences.

**Davidson – Madison Elizabeth Dyson**, daughter of Bill and Sara Dyson, High Point, North Carolina. Madison will graduate from Westchester Country Day School where she is student body president, vice president of National Honor Society, and captain of the volleyball, swimming, and soccer teams. She has been a senior leader at her high school for High Point Young Life, DAR Good Citizen, and a volunteer for the North Carolina State Fair special showmanship class, where those with physical or mental impairments show dairy cattle. Madison plans to major in biomedical engineering.

**Duplin – Carley-Martin MacFarlane**, daughter of Marty and Amy MacFarlane, Beulaville, North Carolina. Carley-Martin will graduate from East Duplin High School where she has been a props production manager for the Theater Club, a Junior Marshal at the Class of 2016 graduation, and was nominated to attend the NC-07 Youth Congressional Leadership Conference. She is also a student in the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics online program, regularly participates in volunteer activities with the Health Science Academy, and works as a server at Hwy 55 Burgers, Shakes, & Fries. Carley-Martin plans to major in zoology.

**Durham – Zoe Louise Hausmann**, daughter of Margot and Peter Hausmann, Durham, North Carolina. Zoe will graduate from Durham School of the Arts where she plays on the varsity volleyball team, is a member of National Honor Society, and is treasurer of National Art Honor Society. She has also won several awards from the Scholastic Art and Writing Competition, and was awarded the Durham Mayor's Award for Youth Service. Zoe plans to major in graphic design.

**Forsyth – Georgia Grae Burgess**, daughter of Jill and Gregg Burgess, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Georgia will graduate from Parkland Magnet High School where she is a co-founder and editor of the school newspaper, co-captain of the distance track team, and an IB diploma candidate. Georgia plans to major in aerospace engineering.

Forsyth – Benjamin Andrew Gardner, son of Steve and Tracey Gardner, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Ben will graduate from Mount Tabor High School where he is vice president of Student Council, starting kicker and punter on the varsity football team, and a lead performer in school musicals. He also co-founded a student-run a cappella group, "Accordia"; interned at both Wake Forest University and Red Hat; and is founder and co-president of the Computer Science Club, which is currently working towards the creation of an app that will monitor seizures. Ben plans to major in computer science as well as electrical and computer engineering.

**Forsyth – Austin Hayward Smith**, son of Wendy Parker and Max Smith, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Austin will graduate from R.J. Reynolds High School where he is chair of the Committee for Sustainable Schools, captain of the tennis team, and president of ECO Club. He also attended the Governor's School of North Carolina, plays at many charity events with his band, and is co-president of Outdoors Club. Austin plans to major in environmental engineering.

Forsyth – Alan Haosheng Zhao, son of Dawen Zhao and Lulu Wang, Clemmons, North Carolina. Alan will graduate from Ronald Wilson Reagan High School where he is president of National Honors Society, captain of the Math and Social Studies Academic Teams, and president of the Young Republicans. He has interned with Congresswoman Virginia Foxx's constituent services, is a National AP Scholar, and was awarded Fifth Place at the 2015 Texas Science and Engineering Fair. Alan plans to major in biomedical engineering.

**Gaston – Aulden Michael Hopper**, son of Michael and Debbie Hopper, Cherryville, North Carolina. Aulden will graduate from Cherryville High School where he is senior class historian, president of the Pep Club, and has been voted "Most Intellectual." He also is editor of the yearbook, has volunteered for various Chamber of Commerce events, and participates in Interact Club charitable projects. Aulden plans to major in biomedical engineering.

**Graham – Tyler Paul Long**, son of Paul and Heather Long, Robbinsville, North Carolina. Tyler will graduate from Robbinsville High School where he is student body president, captain of the varsity basketball team, and founder of Students Seeking Higher Education. He also was voted "Most School Spirit," is a member of the varsity baseball team, and volunteers at Manna Food Bank. Tyler plans to major in political science.

**Guilford – Grace Lane Fulton (Laney) Henley**, daughter of Grace and A.B. Henley, High Point, North Carolina. Laney will graduate from High Point Central High School where she is co-resident of Interact Club, founder president of the Ambassadors Club, and Mock Trial team captain. She is also a senior leader for High Point Young Life, a student tutor for fellow classmates, and competes nationally in saddle seat horseback riding. Laney plans to major in nuclear engineering.

**Guilford – Avery Leigh Indermaur**, daughter of Lynn and Fred Indermaur, Oak Ridge, North Carolina. Avery will graduate from Northwest Guilford High School where she is co-president of National Honor Society; founder of Bake A Difference, a baking-related service club; and co-president of Interact Club. She volunteers and has been trained as a manager at Ten Thousand Villages, a fair trade nonprofit store, and is a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist. Avery plans to major in chemical engineering.

**Guilford – Nikita Rajan Revankar**, daughter of Rajan and Nina Revankar, Jamestown, North Carolina. Nikita will graduate from The Early College at Guilford where she is president of both HOSA Future Health Professionals and Interact Club, and co-president of the Science Olympiad team. She attended North Carolina Governor's School, is a member of National Honor Society, and has helped create a structured music program for the residents at a school for the blind in India. Nikita plans to major in biology.

**Guilford – Mayur Pratap Singh**, son of Dhananjay and Priti Kumar, Greensboro, North Carolina. Mayur will graduate from The STEM Early College at NC A&T where he is president of both National Honors Society and the Eastern Media Club, and co-captain of the Quiz Bowl team. He attended North Carolina Governor's School, is a recipient of the U.S. President's Volunteer Service Award, and tutors his peers in math and science. Mayur plans to major in mechanical engineering.

**Guilford – Ethan Jacob Strubinger**, son of Joe and Sandra Strubinger, Summerfield, North Carolina. Ethan will graduate from Northern Guilford High School where he is captain of the Science Olympiad and swim teams, as well as a member of the cross country and track teams. He has been a volunteer with Youth for Christ since the 6th grade, worked at Managua Christian Academy in Nicaragua for four consecutive summers, and for his graduation project started a Science Olympiad team at Northern Guilford Middle School. Ethan plans to major in materials science and engineering.

**Guilford – Nicolas Bernard Wirtz**, son of Carl and Simona Wirtz, Oak Ridge, North Carolina. Nicolas will graduate from The Early College at Guilford where he is president of DECA and a member of National Honors Society. He founded the "Coins for Carefree" fund, and has volunteered as a soundboard technician at a local church. Nicolas plans to major in electrical engineering and business administration.

**Iredell – Rachel Lane Faulkenberry**, daughter of Neil and Stacey Faulkenberry, Mooresville, North Carolina. Rachel will graduate from Mooresville Senior High School where she is vice president of Beta Club, vice president of Junior Civitans, and co-captain and all-conference member of the varsity volleyball team. She has been a board member for the Marti Estes 5k, a charitable community event; attended North Carolina Governor's School; and was named N.C. Rookie of the Year in the National Energy Education Development Challenge. Rachel plans to major in environmental sciences.

**Iredell – Tink Aston Johnson IV**, son of Buddy and Margaret Johnson, Statesville, North Carolina. Aston will graduate from Statesville High School where he is a captain of both the varsity soccer and tennis teams and is an officer of Beta Club. He achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, and was involved in Youth Leadership Iredell through which he was selected to travel to China in June 2016 as part of a cultural exchange. Aston plans to major in business administration or chemistry.

**Iredell – Korina Kempthorn**, daughter of Yvonne Vacalis and Eric Kempthorn, Mooresville, North Carolina. Korina will graduate from Lake Norman High School where she is captain of the state championship varsity lacrosse team, president of both National Honors Society and Friends 4 Change, and vice president of Student Council. She also participates on the Superintendent Youth Council and works with the Special Olympics Youth Council on the state level. Korina plans to major in environmental engineering.

**Johnston – Jessica Lynn Autry**, daughter of Randy and Tammy Autry, Benson, North Carolina. Jessica will graduate from South Johnston High School where she is president of FFA, a member of National Honor Society, and a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at Johnston Community College. Jessica plans to major in animal science.

**Johnston – Christopher Lerma**, son of Pilar Lerma, Benson, North Carolina. Christopher will graduate from West Johnston High School where he is president of Science Olympiad, senior class representative, and an active member of National Honor Society. He is also co-founder and leader of the All Stars STEM Club, a club that introduces students to STEM concepts and careers; is initiating a student-led Spanish Interpretation team; and maintains his high school's recycling program. Chris intends to major in engineering.

**Lenoir – Spencer Grady Matthews**, son of Scott and Heather Matthews, Kinston, North Carolina. Spencer will graduate from Arendell Parrott Academy where he is the varsity soccer captain, National Honor Society treasurer, and a member of Cum Laude. He is also an altar server at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, an Eagle Scout and active member of Scout troop 41, and a Presidential Service Award recipient. Spencer plans to major in materials science and engineering.

**Lincoln – Brandon Christopher Keneda**, son of Bradley and Jennifer Keneda, Lincolnton, North Carolina. Brandon will graduate from Lincolnton High School where he is captain of the varsity tennis team, vice president of Future Business Leaders of America, and parliamentarian of National Honor Society. He is also an Eagle Scout, a member of the Lincoln County United Way Teen Board where he was awarded 2016 Teen Volunteer of the Year, and is an AP Scholar with Distinction. Brandon plans to major in materials science and engineering.

**Lincoln – Andrew Charles Rutledge**, son of Tyson Rutledge and Julie Sandine, Vale, North Carolina. Andrew will graduate from West Lincoln High School where he is captain of the swim team. He built a fit trail at West Lincoln Park and attended North Carolina Governor's School. He also has been a research volunteer at the Duke Marine Lab for Dr. Daniel Rittschof and at the Pine Knoll Shores Aquarium. Andrew plans to major in natural resources management.

Martin – Amy Tucker Ward, daughter of James and Vinya Ward, Williamston, North Carolina. Amy will graduate from Riverside High School where she is treasurer of both the Student Government Association Executive Board and National Honor Society, and President of HOSA Future Health Professionals. She has worked as a veterinary assistant for the past two years, tutored middle school students, and received the Coach's Award for volleyball. Amy plans to major in animal science and become a veterinarian.

**Mecklenburg – Christopher Blackey**, son of Jeffrey and Maureen Blackey, Charlotte, North Carolina. Christopher will graduate from North Mecklenburg High School where he is captain of both the wrestling and baseball teams and treasurer of National Honor Society. He also is a representative from his school in the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council and the founder of a local school supply drive for Classroom Central. Christopher plans to major in economics.

**Mecklenburg – Ellis Claire Ewert**, daughter of Jeff and Kim Ewert, Charlotte, North Carolina. Ellis will graduate from Myers Park High School where she is vice president of the Domestic Violence Awareness Club, developmental director of the MUSTANG Project gardening and aquaponics club, and member of National Honors Society. She is also a volunteer mentor and tutor at Sedgefield Elementary School, a recipient of the Girl Scout Gold Award, and volunteer with her church youth group. Ellis plans to major in mechanical engineering.

**Mecklenburg – Sara Hailu**, daughter of Zena Tamir, Charlotte, North Carolina. Sara will graduate from Levine Middle College High School where she is president of the Student Government Association, founder and president of the Levine Student Ambassador Program, and co-editor of the yearbook. She fundraises for the Fistula Foundation, has been the lead teen volunteer at her local library, and is a bilingual volunteer for the outreach program Connexiones que Cuentan. Sara plans to major in statistics.

**Mecklenburg – Lac Gia Phan**, son of The and Loc Phan, Charlotte, North Carolina. Lac will graduate from East Mecklenburg High School where he is president of the senior class, founder of Ping Pong Club, and one of the organizers of his school district's first TEDx event. He also created a soccer team for underprivileged refugee children with his brother and served his city's refugees with the Missionaries of Charity. He has performed more than 800 volunteer hours during his time in the International Baccalaureate program. Lac plans to major in biochemistry.

**Mecklenburg – Haley Gibbs Ritchie**, daughter of Chuck and Veronica Ritchie, Charlotte, North Carolina. Haley will graduate from Providence Day School where she is a National Honor Society executive, cross country captain, and a recipient of the Lemelson-MIT InvenTeam grant. She has spent her last four summers volunteering/interning with McClintock Partners in Education and Freedom School Partners where she has provided high-risk students opportunities to learn and love science and reading. Haley plans to major in biomedical engineering.

**Mecklenburg – Christopher Chandler Shallal**, son of John and Denise Shallal, Charlotte, North Carolina. Christopher will graduate from Charlotte Catholic High School where he is historian of National Honors Society and a member of Wounded Warriors Club. He also is an intern for the Orthotics and Prosthetics Activities Foundation, a volunteer technician at the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Orthotics and Prosthetics Fabrication Lab, and patient model for Ottobock Industries. Christopher plans to major in biomedical engineering.

**Mecklenburg – Greyson Isaac Silverman**, son of Marshall and Suzanne Silverman, Charlotte, North Carolina. Greyson will graduate from Myers Park High School where he is founder and president of the Alzheimer's Awareness Club and a senior editor of the yearbook. He is also an international DECA qualifier, an International Baccalaureate diploma candidate, and a 14-year piano student. In 2016 he was elected international vice president of BBYO, a 19,000-member Jewish youth organization. Greyson plans to major in biomedical engineering.

Nash – Caitlyn Leigh Vester, daughter of Rodney and Tara Vester, Battleboro, North Carolina. Caitlyn will graduate from Rocky Mount Academy where she is co-editor of the newspaper; founder and president of Academy Rescue Foundation, a school club that helps rescue local dogs from shelters; and Conference Runner of the Year for her cross country team. She is the recipient of the full tuition Ann Weaver Memorial Scholarship to attend Rocky Mount Academy; is a competitive national clogging champion; and volunteered for one summer at the North Carolina Zoo Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, rescuing, rehabilitating, and releasing native wildlife back into the wild. Caitlyn plans to major in animal science.

New Hanover – Colton Casto, son of Mike Casto and Kelle WolfordCasto, Wilmington, North Carolina. Colton will graduate from New Hanover High School as part of the Lyceum Academy where he is an officer and section leader of the Hanover Singers, a member of the varsity basketball team, and president of the Math Club. He mentors students in the Boys Choir of Wilmington, distributes food to elderly shut-ins through Meals-on-Wheels, and has worked with The National League of Junior Cotillions for five years. Colton has attended North Carolina Governor's School and Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics; he has also been on choral scholarship at St. Paul's Episcopal Church for the past three years and has received multiple singing awards. Colton plans to major in biochemistry.

**New Hanover – Abigail Teresa Scholer**, daughter of Joelle and Doug Scholer, Wilmington, North Carolina. Abigail will graduate from John T. Hoggard High School, where she is student body vice president, president of the Academic Tutoring Program, and founder of the Mock Trial program. North Carolina Youth and Government's Chief Justice, Abigail has been named a U.S. Senate Youth Scholar and a Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation National Youth Advocate, and plans to major in political science.

Orange – Austin Loren Mejia, son of Mary Lynn Ryerson and Lorenzo Mejia, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Austin will graduate from Chapel Hill High School where he is president of Team Jade, an advocacy group for the Hepatitis Type B Virus, and founder of the Chapel Hill Speakers Series, which invites inspirational speakers to present to the faculty and student body. He serves on the executive board of the YMCA Leaders Club, a student-run volunteer organization, and has received the National Hispanic Honors Scholarship and the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award. Austin plans to study computer science.

Orange – Lucas Cole Risinger, son of Carolyn Landever and Brad Risinger, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Lucas will graduate from East Chapel Hill High School where he is president of Model UN, tutor and counselor for El Centro Hispano, and serves on the district Superintendent's Student Advisory Council. He is also a lab intern at the University of North Carolina Joint Fluid Dynamics Lab, plays and coaches Ultimate Frisbee, and researched field biology at the North Carolina Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics program. Lucas plans to major in mechanical engineering.

Orange – Nadia Sheppard, daughter of Scott and Claudia Sheppard, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Nadia will graduate from the United World College-USA in Montezuma, N.M. where she is a co-founder and co-president of the United World Podcast; student director of the UWC-USA Agroecology Research Center; and co-founder and president of her previous high school's chapter of Girls Learn International. She also received the Mountbatten Memorial Prize, which recognizes the student who best embodies UWC principles; the Girl Scout Gold Award; and the Bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award. Nadia plans to major in engineering.

**Orange – Joshua Zhou**, son of Diana Zhou, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Joshua will graduate from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics where he is student body president. He has been active in his school's maker community. Joshua plans to major in engineering.

**Pitt – Bryan Góngora Cooper**, son of Monica and James, Greenville, North Carolina. Bryan will graduate from Junius H. Rose High School where he is president of the Computer Science Club; lead pianist for the Honors Jazz Band; and a medical research intern, exploring the relationship between stress factors and drug addiction. At his school, Bryan peertutors students in STEM related courses and coaches four cyber-defense teams. Bryan received his Eagle Scout from Troop 826. Bryan plans to double major in computer science and economics.

**Pitt – Caroline Connemara Doherty**, daughter of Rob and Caroline Doherty, Greenville, North Carolina. Caroline will graduate from Junius H. Rose High School where she is co-leader of Teen Democrats, an officer of Dream Team, and a varsity swimmer. She is also a Girl Scout Gold Award recipient, the senior leader of Episcopal Youth Churchmen at St. Paul's, and is a member of the Science Education Against Drug Abuse Partnership. Caroline plans to major in international studies with a concentration in global relations.

Pitt – Olivia Leigh Hoynes, daughter of Wendy Creasey and Matthew Hoynes, Greenville, North Carolina. Olivia will graduate from Junius H. Rose High School where she is president and founder of the Pitt Animal Welfare Society, recipient of a national Youth Service America grant to establish the Pitt County Animal Shelter's Heartworm Treatment Fund, and co-chair of the Student Government Association Exceptional Children's Activities Cabinet. She also is a multisport varsity athlete, running 5k races with shelter dogs and half-marathons for heartworm treatment; Student Conservation Association trail connoisseur; and recipient of scholarships from the National Foundation for Women Legislators and Carson Scholars Fund. Olivia plans to major in microbiology with a minor in biotechnology.

**Richmond – Justin Scholl Smith**, son of Jeff and Kay Smith, Hamlet, North Carolina. Justin will graduate from Richmond Senior High School where he is president of the Fellowship of Christian Students, secretary of National Beta Club, and is a member of National Honor Society. He volunteers at Camp Dixie, serves as organist for St. James Catholic Church, and holds the rank of Eagle Scout. Justin plans to major in chemistry.

**Rowan – Micah Furr**, daughter of Drs. Ann and Stephen Furr of Salisbury, North Carolina. Micah will graduate from Jesse C. Carson High School where she is president of National Honor Society, student body secretary, and two-time Southern Piedmont Conference Individual Player of the Year in women's golf. She also is a ten-year member of 4-H, competing on the national level in Horsebowl and Hippology; a volunteer for her local Humane Society; and a champion horsewoman. Micah plans to major in biology.

**Sampson – Lindy Kathryn Bustabad**, daughter of Pete and Christy Bustabad, Clinton, North Carolina. Lindy will graduate from Clinton High School where she is president of the Science Club, senior class secretary, and captain of the Science Olympiad team. She also is the co-founder of a Christian literature drive, is a National Hispanic Scholar, and has attended North Carolina Governor's School. Lindy plans to major in chemistry.

**Transylvania – Eliza Wynn Witherspoon**, daughter of John and Jackie Witherspoon, Brevard, North Carolina. Eliza will graduate from Brevard High School where she is secretary of both FFA and the Spirit Club and captain of the women's cross country team. She also volunteers for the Cindy Platt Boys and Girls Club fundraisers, serves as a middle school leader for Young Life Ministry, and serves her church as a Sunday School teacher and worship leader. Eliza plans to major in environmental engineering.

**Tyrrell – Jennifer Hong Ngoc Nguyen**, daughter of Janet and Charles Midgette, Columbia, North Carolina and Phong Nguyen, Hanover, Maryland. Jennifer will graduate from Columbia High School where she has been president of Future Business Leaders of America and secretary of both Beta Club and Art Club. She also volunteers at her local library and American Red Cross blood drives and is a Microsoft Office Specialist. Jennifer plans to major in architecture.

**Union – Neil Sachin Palkar**, son of Sachin and Sharmila Palkar, Waxhaw, North Carolina. Neil will graduate from Marvin Ridge High School where he is varsity debate captain, president of Future Investors for America, and vice president of Science National Honor Society. He volunteers at the Carolina Healthcare System Hospital; has tutored middle school students in science, math, and public speaking; and was a Finalist in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. Neil plans to major in biomedical engineering and business management.

Wake – Preeti Bhanap, daughter of Nitin Bhanap and Raju Sharma, Raleigh, North Carolina. Preeti will graduate from William G. Enloe High School where she is co-vice president of Women in Science, an organization that tutors elementary school students, and director of service for the Gender Equality Club. She has been a translator and activist for women's programs in rural India, and teaches science over the summer. Preeti plans to major in plant biology and minor in Russian.

Wake – Natalie Rose Collier, daughter of Douglas and April Collier, Raleigh, North Carolina. Natalie will graduate from Wakefield High School where she is president of the Choral Department, historian and chairperson of Tri-M Music Honor Society, and historian of Red Cross Club. She also attended North Carolina Governor's School, taught English as a Second Language on a global scale, and volunteers more than 300 hours per year at Wake Med Hospital and other community organizations. Natalie plans to major in biomedical engineering.

Wake – Elizabeth Elikem Dogbe, daughter of John and Alberta Dogbe, Knightdale, North Carolina. Elizabeth will graduate from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics where she is a residential life assistant; conducts humanities research; and was previously a publication editor for the *Broad Street Scientific*, a student-run research journal on campus. She also volunteers regularly with the Durham branch of Habitat for Humanity. Elizabeth plans to major in civil engineering.

**Wake – David Parker Flowers**, son of Parker and Kristi Flowers, Raleigh, North Carolina. David will graduate from Millbrook High School where he is student body president, president of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and vice president of Science Olympiad. He was a recipient of his school's Service Club award. David plans to major in engineering.

Wake – Katherine Gan, daughter of Nianci Gan and Wenli Tao, Cary, North Carolina. Katherine will graduate from William G. Enloe High School where she is captain of the speech and debate team. She was the first in her school's history to qualify for the Tournament of Champions and become a semifinalist at the National Speech & Debate Association Tournament. She has also founded multiple middle school debate programs in Wake County; conducted independent research at NC State on political science, becoming a finalist for the MIT INSPIRE competition; and writes bimonthly foreign policy articles for *The Atlas Business Journal*. Katherine plans to major in political science.

**Wake – Benjamin Gray**, son of Tim and Rhonda Gray, Raleigh, North Carolina. Ben will graduate from North Raleigh Christian Academy where he is president of both the Speech and Debate Club and the Math and Physics Club and prime minister of the Young Patriots Club. He has volunteered as a spelling bee tutor, enjoys learning Italian, and has been named a North Carolina AP Scholar. Ben plans to major in chemistry.

Wake – Ashi Gulati, daughter of Pawan and Upma Gulati, Cary, North Carolina. Ashi will graduate from Panther Creek High School where she is president of Future Business Leaders of America, lieutenant governor (Division 12A) and vice chair of the Key Club Kiwanis Family Relations Committee, as well as a peer tutor for the English department. She founded the "Reading Rainbows" program at Carrboro Community Health Center, did clinical research in neonatal ophthalmology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and co-hosts a radio show called "Geet Bazaar" on 88.1 FM. Ashi plans to major in human biology.

**Wake – Salam Ibrahim**, daughter of Akram and Fatemah Ibrahim, Raleigh, North Carolina. Salam will graduate from Athens Drive High School where she is president of both the Red Cross Club and the Leo Club and vice president of the Muslim Student Association. She has been a volunteer teacher at her local mosque throughout high school and is a cofounder of a "Health Care for the Soul" initiative, a leadership development program based upon cultivating the passions and inner strengths of women who participate. Salam plans to major in engineering.

**Wake – Noah Jabusch**, son of John and Stephanie Jabusch, Cary, North Carolina. Noah will graduate from Cary High School where he is president of National Honor Society, captain of the men's varsity tennis team, and co-captain of Lincoln-Douglas Debate for the Debate Team. He also volunteers as a mentor for SMILE Camp – a STEM camp associated with NC State, and has attended the North Carolina Governor's School. Noah plans to major in physics.

**Wake – Mackenzie Elizabeth Lamb**, daughter of Lynne Hicks and the late Van Lamb, Cary, North Carolina. Mackenzie will graduate from Wake STEM Early College High School where she is founder and president of the International Club – a partnership with Suzhou North America High School in Suzhou, China; is an active member of National Honor Society; and was president of Student Council. She is a volunteer tutor for Briarcliff Elementary School students, an intern at the Friday Institute for Educational Innovation, and the Youth Elder at Kirk of Kildaire Presbyterian Church. Mackenzie plans to major in international studies.

**Wake – Odai Azem Mansour**, son of Azem and Ghadier Mansour, Raleigh, North Carolina. Odai will graduate from Jesse O. Sanderson High School where he is student body president, co-president of the Speech and Debate Club, and a member of the Passing Along Lifelong Smiles Club. He has been a volunteer for United Muslim Relief; led his school food drive that raised over \$50,000; and helped start a fundraiser for Syrians in war-torn areas that raised over \$7,000. Odai plans to major in biochemistry.

**Wake – Nikhil Milind**, son of Anamika Deo and Milind Phase, Raleigh, North Carolina. Nikhil will graduate from North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics where he is co-director of information technology for the Student Government Association, the residential life assistant for his dorm, and senior officer for the UniChords A Capella Group. He has also been the lead coordinator for Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh, where he has planned and coordinated physical, mental, and spiritual activities for his community for the last four years. Nikhil plans to major in computer science.

**Wake – Nolan Ashvin Miranda**, son of Vincent and Shaila Miranda, Cary, North Carolina. Nolan will graduate from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics where he is a residential life assistant, captain of the school's Brain Game team, and a mathematics editor of *Broad Street Scientific*. He also has volunteered at the Wake Tech Engineering Camp, is a two-time AIME qualifier, and has performed in several All-Region and All-State music ensembles for both jazz piano and classical flute. Nolan plans to major in mathematics and computer science with a minor in music.

Wake – Jonathan Alexander Pelletier, son of son of Kenneth Pelletier, Willow Spring, North Carolina and Mercedes Hernandez-Pelletier, Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina. Jonathan will graduate from Longleaf School of the Arts where he is the writer and keeper of the constitution in the Student Government, one of the founding members of the Shifting the Educational Paradigm Club, and a contestant and participant in the Brain Game Club. He is also an Eagle Scout and a recipient of both the National Hispanic Recognition Award and the Wake County Spotlight on Student Award. Jonathan plans to major in mechanical engineering.

**Wake – Jacob Phillips**, son of Jeffrey and Catherine Phillips, Raleigh, North Carolina. Jacob will graduate from Leesville Road High School where he is president of the Latin Club, treasurer of the Political Club, member of Leesville Liaisons and National Honor Society, and was a Junior Marshal. Jacob is captain of the varsity swim team, holds several school records, and is a USA Swimming Scholastic All-American. Jacob is a mentor to FLL Robotics teams, three-time recipient of the President's Volunteer Service Award, and a National Merit Semifinalist. Jacob interns with Polymer Braille Inc., prototyping touch-screens for the visually impaired community, and plans to major in computer science.

**Wake – Fariha Rahman**, daughter of Mostaque and Khodeja Rahman, Raleigh, North Carolina. Fariha will graduate from Athens Drive Magnet High School where she is president of Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society, lieutenant governor of Division 12b Key Clubs, and historian of her school's Health Science Academy. She is also a member of National Honors Society and National Technical Honors Society. Fariha plans to major in biomedical engineering.

**Wake – Ishaan Datta Rao**, son of Sanjay Rao and Krishna Varkur, Raleigh, North Carolina. Ishaan will graduate from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics where he is an institutional advancement attaché for the NCSSM Foundation, percussion section leader of the Wind Ensemble, and the publicity committee head of the South Asian Cultures Club. He also is a recipient of the Durham Mayor's Service Award, a member of the Student Action Board of Durham, and has interned at the Shodor Education Foundation for two years. Ishaan plans to major in computer science.

Wake – Aidan William Royals, son of Michelle and Brian Royals, Raleigh, North Carolina. Aidan will graduate from East Wake Academy where he is a member of the varsity soccer team, president of National Honor Society, and the current salutatorian. He is an active participant in the Garner Area Ministries and a volunteer team captain of the East Wake Academy National Honor Society team at the Eastern Wake Relay for Life. Aidan plans to major in chemical engineering.

**Wake – Emily Caroline Sartin**, daughter of Mickey and Charlene Sartin, Apex, North Carolina. Emily Caroline will graduate from Apex High School where she is co-president of Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica, co-president of DECA, and the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen. She also has performed more than 100 volunteer hours as a sidewalker at Horse and Buddy Therapeutic Riding Program, and was named the Volunteer of the Fall Quarter. Emily Caroline plans to major in Spanish language and literature.

Wake – Neetya Rohit Shah, daughter of Rohit and Zarna Shah, Cary, North Carolina. Neetya will graduate from Green Hope High School where she is secretary of Key Club, a class representative of Student Council, and a member of National Honor Society. She also is co-founder and co-captain of her cultural dance team, is a recipient of the Durham Mayor's Award in recognition of her summer volunteer service at Rex Hospital, and has attended North Carolina Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics as a research student of mathematical evolutions. Neetya plans to major in computer science.

**Wake – Lauren Olivia Spell**, daughter of Rodney and Marie Spell, Willow Spring, North Carolina. Lauren will graduate from Fuquay-Varina Senior High School where she is a member of both the National Honor and Spanish Honor Societies and serves as president of National Art Honor Society. Lauren is also a National Merit Semifinalist, her school's Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Ambassador, and a two-time alumna of Duke University's Summer Studies. Lauren plans to major in biomedical engineering.

**Wake – Ana Sofia Uzsoy**, daughter of Lucia Mendez and Reha Uzsoy, Cary, North Carolina. Ana Sofia will graduate from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics where she is a mathematics teaching assistant, a student researcher conducting original astrobiology research, and principal oboist of the Wind Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra. She also has knitted more than 50 caps for cancer patients across the country, and was selected to play with the 2016 Honor Band of America in Indianapolis. Ana Sofia plans to major in physics.

**Wake – Aline Vargas Manriquez**, daughter of Eduardo and Araceli Vargas, Cary, North Carolina. Aline will graduate from Raleigh Charter High School where she is president of French Honor Society, a Robotics Club officer, and codirector of Making a Difference Children's Theater. She has also been a team leader for young girls through Challenge. Aline plans to major in engineering.

Wake – Lindsay Finnegan Wrege, daughter of Katie and Dallas Wrege, Cary, North Carolina. Lindsay will graduate from Cary Academy where she is co-president of HOSA Future Health Professionals, co-captain of the Community Emergency Response Team, and co-captain of the Dance Team. She is passionate about working with the special needs community and runs a special needs dance program; volunteers as a counselor at Camp Carefree, a sleep away camp for children with special needs; and coaches the Abilities Tennis Association of NC. Lindsay plans to major in biomedical engineering.

# OHIO

**Butler – Alexandra Mae Adams**, daughter of Alan and Laurie Adams, Liberty Township, Ohio. Alexandra will graduate from Lakota East High School where she is president of the Spanish Club and HOSA Future Health Professionals and a member of National Honors Society. She also volunteers at the local Cincinnati Children's Hospital and is in the top 25 of her class. Alexandra plans to major in biomedical engineering.

**Stark – Laramie Elizabeth Scanlon**, daughter of Anne and Blake Scanlon, Massillon, Ohio. Laramie will graduate from Jackson High School where she is president of Key Club, a captain of the cross country team, and a member of National Honor Society. She is also a volunteer peer tutor, member of Student Council, and a U.S. Chemistry Olympiad national qualifier. Laramie plans to major in chemical engineering.

#### **PENNSYLVANIA**

Chester – Michael Evans, son of Fran and David Evans, Downingtown, Pennsylvania. Michael will graduate from the Downingtown STEM Academy where he is president of Student Council, treasurer of Technology Students Association, and head coach of the Class of 2017 Powderpuff Football Team. He also is a member of National Honor Society, a national qualifier in structural engineering for Technology Students Association, and is coordinating a service trip to the Dominican Republic. Michael plans to major in mechanical engineering.

#### **SOUTH CAROLINA**

**Florence – Neil Dey**, son of Subir and Indrani Dey, Florence, South Carolina. Neil will graduate from Wilson High School where he is captain of the Math Team and Quiz Bowl Team, and is the first chair violist in his orchestra. He was selected to play at Carnegie Hall, participates in the South Carolina State Math Team, and is a National Merit Semifinalist. Neil plans to major in computer science.

**Richland – Elaine Ruth Patterson**, daughter of Glenn and Ruth Patterson, Blythewood, South Carolina. Elaine will graduate from Spring Valley High School where she has been captain and mentor for several VEX and FIRST robotics teams. She was named Dean's List Finalist in FIRST Robotics; tutors multiple subjects; and has conducted research over three years, writing papers and winning awards at conferences and fairs. Elaine plans to major in electrical engineering.

#### **TENNESSEE**

**Blount – Vance Robert Davis**, son of Philip and Genny Davis, Maryville, Tennessee. Vance will graduate from William Blount High School where he is a varsity cross country runner, the school board student representative, and a senior member of the Model UN Club. He also has been voted "Most Likely to Succeed," is the beta-team leader for the county robotics team, and is a National Merit Semifinalist. Vance plans to major in environmental engineering or material science and engineering.

**Davidson – Anna Paige Owens**, daughter of Therese Tlapek and William Owens, Nashville, Tennessee. Anna will graduate from Harpeth Hall where she is president of Spanish Club and Spanish Honor Society, programming leader on the robotics team, and a member of the student government. She has also organized weekly, student-taught English as a Second Language classes for more than 90 Spanish-speaking adults in Nashville. Anna plans to major in computer science.

Hawkins – Jamie Nicole Bass, daughter of Tim and Christi Bass, Kingsport, Tennessee. Jamie will graduate from Dobyns-Bennett High School where she is a four-year athlete on the varsity soccer and track teams, a member of Beta Club, and served on the Superintendent's Student Advisory Committee. She also is a National Merit Commended Student and volunteered as a mentor for the D.B. Yes! Club, where she worked with elementary students. Jamie plans to major in architecture.

### **VIRGINIA**

**Botetourt – Davis Abraham Fenster**, son of Amy and Corbin White, Buchanan, Virginia. Davis will graduate from James River High School where he is an officer of FFA, captain of the varsity football team, and a member of National Honor Society. He was named the 2016 Virginia Farm Bureau Outstanding Young Agriculturist, and has represented Virginia FFA in two National FFA Career Development events: Prepared Public Speaking and Marketing Plan. Davis plans to major in poultry science.

Chesapeake – Andrew William Allan, son of Robert and Lelia Allan, Chesapeake, Virginia. Andrew will graduate from the Grassfield High School Governor's STEM Academy where he is a leader on the football team receiving Monitor Merrimack Conference Honorable Mention, a shot put thrower on the track and field team, and the treasurer of Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society. He volunteers with the Chesapeake Youth Advisory Board and the Difference Makers, an organization that aims to help the underprivileged in Hampton Roads. Andrew plans to major in nuclear engineering.

Chesterfield – Elizabeth Theophany Benos, daughter of Bill and Pam Benos, Richmond, Virginia. Elizabeth will graduate from Maggie L. Walker Governor's School for Government and International Studies where she captained the state championship Academic WorldQuest Team, revitalized the American Sign Language Honor Society, and led the internationally-competitive Global Issues Problem Solving Team. Elizabeth also served as a project leader at the Virginia Governor's School for Agriculture, researching biofuels and collaboratively working to develop more sustainable uses for our energy resources. Elizabeth founded the Mentoring Mondays Program at Oak Grove Elementary School, an initiative which brings STEM learning opportunities to disadvantaged students in inner-city Richmond. She plans to major in environmental engineering with a focus on sustainability.

Fauquier – Mallory Faith Bryan, daughter of William and Susan Bryan, Warrenton, Virginia. Mallory will graduate from Highland School where she is a Founder's Scholar, a member and officer of National Honor Society, on the executive board of Key Club, and co-founder and vice president of Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She also attended Virginia Governor's School for Medicine and Health Sciences, and is heavily involved with Morven Park civic engagement programs and Fauquier County Relay for Life. Mallory plans to major in biomedical engineering.

**Loudoun – Elise Romola**, daughter of David and Ellen Romola, Ashburn, Virginia. Elise will graduate from Briar Woods High School where she is president of both National Honor Society and DECA and captain of the varsity cross country team. She also volunteers as a member of both her school's Key Club and the Washington Figure Skating Club. Elise plans to major in marketing.

Loudoun – Matthew Anthony Traenkle, son of Ken and Sheila Traenkle, Potomac Falls, Virginia. Matthew will graduate from Dominion High School where he is president of National Honor Society and a captain of the men's varsity swim team. He attends the Loudoun Academy of Science where he was selected for and participated in an international research collaboration with Hwa Chong Institution in Singapore. He also earned the rank of Eagle Scout, received the Loudoun County Excellence in Education award, and attended the Arlington Diocese Work Camp. Matthew plans to major in engineering.

**Prince William – Samuel Joseph Longo**, son of Joseph and Kimberly Longo, Dumfries, Virginia. Samuel will graduate from Forest Park Senior High School where he is vice president of the Music Honor Society, a lead in several musicals, and a leader in the jazz ensemble. He was also selected as top tenor two in the Virginia Senior Honors Choir, is an Eagle Scout, and is a frequent cast member and volunteer stagehand for a local community children's theater. Samuel plans to major in biomedical engineering.

**Prince William – Steven Paul Rehard**, son of Brian and Rhonda Rehard, Manassas, Virginia. Steven will graduate from Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology where he is captain of the varsity football and varsity boy's lacrosse teams. He was awarded First Team All-Conference Running Back honors in football, is an Eagle Scout, and built Prince William County's first dog park for his Eagle project. Steven plans to major in mechanical engineering.