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OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
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A Night for Academic Excellence and Awards

The Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation honored and awarded 114 Rock Island High School students at the 39th Austin Academic Achievement Awards & Scholarship Night on Thursday, May 16. Over 500 attendees filled the RHHS Auditorium to celebrate the academic accomplishments of the “Top Ten” students of each class and hear the presentation of 64 scholarship awards to the very deserving seniors of the Class of 2019. The $83,200 in scholarships awarded included the 16 Austin Academic Achievement Awards, 2 Academic Achievement Awards, and 46 Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation Scholarships. This celebration of academic excellence at Rock Island High School is made possible through the extraordinary generosity of scholarship benefactors and the overwhelming support of the AAAA program from alumni, businesses, and our community. We are grateful for their help in making this a wonderful evening for these students, their families, and the Education Foundation.

New Scholarships Presented in 2019

Grant W. and Virginia M. Brissman Scholarship

To honor Grant and Virginia Brissman who provided a sizable legacy gift to the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation, the RIMEF established the Grant W. and Virginia M. Brissman Scholarship. Grant and Virginia Brissman adopted the Village of Milan as their home – it’s where they built their business and it was the village they loved and supported. Grant Brissman was a graduate of Rock Island High School and so this scholarship awards a deserving Rocky senior who also calls the Village of Milan home. Preference is given to a student who will be studying a trade such as welding, automotive, etc. or will be pursuing a career as a CNA or nurse. Preference is also given to students with a GPA of 2.5 – 3. The scholarship award is $4,000.

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PRIME 2 Supports More Grants!

In January, the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation gave $19,873 in PRIME Grants to our teachers and schools. These additional funds awarded via the PRIME Grant program were made possible by the generosity of donors giving through our Birdies for Charity appeal and donations from our community partners. Added to the $92,531 in PRIME Grants given at the beginning of the school year, the RIMEF awarded a total of $112,394 for innovative new programs, technologies, and classroom supplies to enhance education in the 2018-2019 school year.

PRIME 2 Supports More Grants!
Cutlers are 2019 “Reynolds Returning Rocks” enabled with an endowment set up by Darrell and Mary Anne Reynolds. The program brings successful students of the Rock Island-Milan School District. In May, Ken and Linda Cutler (Class of 1965) shared their experiences as successful grads of Rock Island High School. On May 9, the Cutlers attended classes speaking with students in social studies/government classes and meeting with aspiring lawyers. A reception for the Cutlers was held on the 9th with RIMEF board members, honorary board members, and members of the Class of 1965 attending.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank Monta Ponsetto (our Executive Director) and Jerry Jones (Paul President) for their leadership over the last 2 years, and look forward to working with Monta and our current Board of Directors who are one of the most dedicated boards I’ve ever been a part of.

For the second year, the RIMEF was excited to present the “Reynolds Returning Rock” program to benefit students of the Rock Island-Milan School District. In May, Ken and Linda Cutler (Class of 1965) shared their experiences as successful grads of Rock Island High School. On May 9, the Cutlers attended classes speaking with students in social studies/government classes and meeting with aspiring lawyers. On the 10th, the Cutlers addressed the entire student body in assemblies and had lunch with the Debat Team. Meeting/advising the teams of the Entrepreneurship Class – was also part of their RIHS schedule. A meeting/advising the teams of the Entrepreneurship Class – was also part of their RIHS schedule.

For the 2nd year, the Education Foundation awarded a $5,000 prize to the team receiving the highest score from the judges. Pick Pockets will receive the prize money to pursue their business or as a scholarship award. The Education Foundation’s check was funded by entrepreneur and investor Mark Thies and his wife Elizabeth. Congratulations to all the teams for their hard work and innovation throughout the year!

The 2018/2019 INCubator: Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Class proved to be another successful year with 5 outstanding teams taking the RHIS Auditorium stage to present at the “Final Pitch” on May 15. For the 4th year of the program, instructor Mrs. Trish Matson led 50 students through the entrepreneurship process with the assistance of community mentors and coaches. 10 teams developed their concepts into viable businesses over the school year and participated in the ACADEMIC FIRST PITCH on May 8 showcasing their businesses in the “shark tank” presentation before a panel of judges from the business community, Rock Island Rotary, and the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation. The final 5 teams were then selected to move on to the FINAL PITCH NIGHT when the teams were judged and winners selected once more by the “sharks.”

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$33,200 Awarded at AAAA & Scholarship Night

Austin Academic Achievement Awards – RHIS Departmental

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship award</th>
<th>First Place</th>
<th>Second Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Business: Spencer Hasselroth
Bryce Trask
Career & Technical Education: Leslie Perez
Aline Geedey
Anastasia Jacobs
Fine Arts: Hoo Hoo
Hoo Hoo
Mathematics: Dayton Ellis
Corina Castaneda
Science: Paige Porter
Kaylin Lemmon
Social Studies: Grant Florence
Shannon Kneen
World Languages: Emily Jensen
Caroline Cady

Academic Excellence Awards ($1,200 scholarship): Wang Kalonha
Margaret Lelonek

ROCK ISLAND-MILAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Charles O. Austin Leadership Scholarship $2,000: Bryce Trask
Carole S. Barkan Scholarship $500: Ariana Gabriel
Boeoy Family Scholarship $1,000: Emily Langhin
Grant W. & Virginia M. Brissman Scholarship $4,000: Reagan Scheper
Class of 1961 Scholarship $1,000 (each): Mikayla DePover, Kayla Garcia, Mercedes Hantz, Kristina Mathews, Ashley Peters, Ian Purvis
Class of 1963 “First in the Family” Scholarship $1,000: Cyles Crayne
Class of 1965 Scholarship $500: Monica Dize
Stanley H. Colb Business Scholarship $1,000: Spencer Hasselroth
Rochelle Davis Memorial Scholarship $1,000: Lab Hoo
Donald E. Devinney Business and Business Education Scholarship $4,000: Andrew Polito
Ben D. and Nancy K. Brown Farrar Scholarship $2,000: Kye Barkhardt
Doug Franz Memorial Scholarship $1,500: Joseph Mathews
Rick Gilliland Scholarship $500: Logan Curry
Ray and Elva Haberthur Memorial Scholarship $2,000: Lauryn Steggall
Hass Family Scholarship $1,000: Scott Kerno
The Amy Helpenstell Liberal Arts Scholarship $1,000: Amy Haskell
Derek James Jackson Art Scholarship $500: Grant Florence
Tyler John Memorial Scholarship $1,000: Moines Salinas
Jumier’s Casino and Hotel Scholarship $3,000: Anastasia Jacobs, $2,000: Corina Castaneda, $1,000: Cobile Conger
Judith A. Katz Fine Arts Scholarship $4,000: Caroline Cady
Donavine J. Kein Scholarship $1,000: Football, Bryce Trask, $1,000 Wrestling: Michael Myers
B. Becker Magee Memorial Scholarship $500: Shuaiay Knoe
Marler Clark Science Scholarship $2,000: Ailisn Geedey
Herb Niemann Scholarship $1,200: Hannah Knuth
Charlie White / Richard Klatt Purple Tuna Creativity Scholarship $500: Cyles Crayne
Darrell and Mary Anne Reynolds Scholarship $1,000: Royce Bowling, McKeary Chandler
Jayovontae “Jare” Roberts Scholarship $500 Education: Catelyn Pohl, $500 Music: Carlee Camlin
RIMEF Scholarship (Vocational School) $1,000: Elijah Andrews
RIMEF Scholarship (2 Year College/ Jr. College) $1,000: Austin Ford
RIMEF Scholarship (4 Year College) $1,000: Kayla Canning
Charle Schultz Scholarship $1,000: Amber Haskell
Terrys Stephens Memorial Scholarship $1,000 (each): Baseball: Bryce Trask, Softball: Ashley Peters
Elizabeth Kennedy Williams Scholarship $1,000: MacCeisha Jackson
Women’s IT, Computer, and Math Scholarship $500: Leslie Perez
DW Young Memorial Scholarship $4,000: Paige Porter

Thank you to Nancy and Jerry Thomas for their General Fund donation! We apologize for the omission of their contribution from the 2018 Annual Report.

Score! for Education

QCSportsNet & Chris Elsberg
State Farm Insurance donated $1,000 through their “Score” for Education program to the Foundation! We receive $1 for every point scored by Rocky’s football team and $3 for every 3-point play scored by the featured boys’ basketball team. Support our Rocks and support our mission through QCSportsNet.com

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Cutters are 2019 “Reynolds Returning Rocks”

For the second year, the RIMEF was excited to present the “Reynolds Returning Rock” program to benefit students of the Rock Island-Milan School District. In May, Ken and Linda Cutler (Class of 1965) shared their experiences as successful grads of Rock Island High School. On May 9, the Cutlers addressed the entire student body in assemblies and had lunch with the Debate Team.

I am deeply honored to become the new President of the Rock Island Milan Education Foundation. As the son of a former teacher in the district and a founding board member of the foundation, a 1986 graduate of the high school, husband of a 1985 graduate and current school board member, and parent of a 2018 graduate and a soon to be Sophomore, I understand the importance of giving back to the district so today’s students have even better opportunities than those who came before them. To that end, I hope you join me in contributing to our many great causes, including the General Fund, PRIME Grants, Austin Academic Achievement, Awards, Scholarships, Honorary Presidents, Memorials, and the Legacy Planned Giving Program. It is my hope that the foundation is not only known for giving out an impressive amount of scholarships, but supporting educational innovation throughout the district so our students have a competitive advantage when taking on the many challenges they will encounter after graduating from high school.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank Monte Ponsetto (our Executive Director) and Jerry Jones (Paul President) for their leadership over the last 2 years, and look forward to working with Monte and our current Board of Directors who are one of the most dedicated boards I’ve ever been a part of.

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The Amy Helpenstell Liberal Arts Scholarship $1,000: Amy Haskill
Derek James Jackson Art Scholarship $500: Grace Florence
Tyler John Memorial Scholarship $1,000: Moises Salinas
Jumer’s Casino and Hotel Scholarship $3,000: Jyvason Nduwimana

Best Business Potential: Influsion Block - Nshemewere Diane, Michael Ntabalunganje and Braylon Walton-Johnson
Best Business Model (Virgin): Helping Hand - Hope Canary, Jysaaneen Jones, and Henry Thompson
Pick Pockets - Annette Eckhardt, Nii Nkua, Alyssa Long, and Emily Skehon
Final Pitch Preventing Team: FlashStraw - Logan Carr, Carson James, Juliana Kruzic, Jesse Linch, and Sam Serrano

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REED DOUGHTY
Ted Johnson
Judy Leiby
Jon Loquist
See McCreight
Gary Miner
Gary Roeve
Cosette Thoms
Dave Vanlandegen
Don Wentler

Great Ways to Support!

“Chip in” for the Foundation!

Make your donation to the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation through the John Deere Classic’s Birdies for Charity! Through Birdies, 100% of your donation goes to the Foundation and Birdies will match your pledge with a minimum of 5% up to 10% bonus!

The Foundation will use this year’s Birdies for Charity funds to provide a “welcome kit” of classroom supplies for new teachers in the Rock Island-Milan School District. If you already donate to the Foundation through Birdies, rest assured that we will direct your funds as you have designated. If you would prefer your donation directed to another program or fund, just call or email and let us know!

It’s easy to donate! Go online to www.BirdiesforCharity.com and click on “Donate Now—Donate to your Favorite Charity”. The Foundation Birdies number is 1255. Contact us for more information or a Birdies mail-in form. Donation deadline is July 12, 2019.

Support & Save with Major Saver!

Sales of the Major Saver Card help provide critical funding for our PRIME (Promoting Rock Island-Milan Education) Grants. The 2019 campaign runs September 11-25. The $15 card features offers from popular restaurants/establishments in Rock Island/Quad City area or go online at www.MajorSaver.com and find a card for your area. Any card can still support our schools! Purchase a card from one of our students or online at www.MajorSaver.com.

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