



219 North Main Street, Suite 402
Barre, VT 05641 (p) 802-479-1030 | (f) 802-479-1835

Vermont Agency of Education Awards 25 Presidential Scholar Nominees

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Contact: Haley Jones, haley.jones@vermont.gov

BARRE, Vt. – The Vermont Agency of Education today recognized the state’s 2018 Presidential Scholar nominees in a ceremony at the Vermont Statehouse.

The Vermont Presidential Scholars Program recognizes graduating high school seniors who show outstanding scholarship, leadership and service to their communities. Twenty (10 male and 10 female) scholars are nominated in the general category, and five scholars are nominated in the Career and Technical Education category (CTE).

All Vermont scholars will be invited to apply to the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program, which will announce its winners in May 2018. Additional Vermont students may be chosen to apply by the U.S. Department of Education based on ACT and SAT scores. Each year, up to 161 students are named as national Presidential Scholars – one of the highest honors for high school students.

“I am so proud to have these students representing Vermont as U.S. Presidential Scholar nominees,” Secretary Holcombe said. “Their exceptional academics and skills, as well as their personal leadership and service, are what set them apart.”

Career and Technical Education Presidential Scholars

1	Taylor Florence	Engineering & Advanced Manufacturing Program	Green Mountain Technical and Career Center
2	Madeline Morse	Culinary Arts Program	Stafford Technical Center
3	Baylie Ordway	Health Science Program	Riverbend Career and Technical Center
4	Leo Schlesinger	Construction Technology Program	Green Mountain Technical and Career Center
5	Joseph Willis	Engineering Technology Program	Northwest Technical Center

General Presidential Scholars

1	Mason Charlebois	Vergennes Union High School
2	Kaia Cormier	Harwood Union High School
3	Gavin Deiss	Union 32 High School
4	Kira Hansen	Mt. Anthony Union High School

5	Andrew Hegarty	St. Johnsbury Academy
6	Tyler Jager	Burr and Burton Academy
7	Olivia Leavstrom	Richford High School
8	Shannon Mahoney	Bellows Free Academy Fairfax
9	Mary Markley	Burlington High School
10	Maddison McGuiness	West Rutland School
11	Jared Paquette	Richford High School
12	Kyla Perry	Ensborg Falls High School
13	Gabriela Poalino	Otter Valley Union High School
14	Walker Caffry Randall	Harwood Union High School
15	Caroline Saba	Burlington High School
16	Julian Schmitt	Middlebury Union High School
17	Jared Sparr	Bellows Free Academy St. Albans
18	Elias Standard	Burlington High School
19	Grace Vollers	Woodstock Union High School
20	Maxwell Williams	Otter Valley Union High School

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964, by executive order of the President, to recognize and honor some of our nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. In 1979, the program was extended to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional talent in the visual, creative and performing arts. In 2015, the program was again extended to recognize students who demonstrate ability and accomplishment in career and technical education fields.

Learn more about the [Presidential Scholars Program on the U.S. Department of Education](#).

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