

2016-2017 KOSCIUSKO YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

A Letter From The President

On behalf of the Kosciusko Youth Leadership Board of Directors, I would like to congratulate each member of the 2017 graduating class on a job well done and also express my gratitude to them for their philanthropy within this community. This marks the 23rd year of providing an opportunity for juniors from six area high schools to be involved in KYLA. This year 31 students have spent the last nine months learning about various aspects of the community, leadership, and how they can contribute by becoming more involved. They have volunteered their time to serve their community as well as complete an altruistic community initiative called Project Proud. The Project Proud presentations this year were impressive and showed each student has ingenuity, creativity and willingness to identify a cause and work to be part of the solution. Great job! I would like to express my sincere thanks for all who have contributed to the success of KYLA throughout the year. Many business leaders volunteered time, resources and facilities to assist us.

Reagan Atwood Wawasee High School

Activities: Cross Country, Gymnastics, Church
Hobbies: Sports
Future College: Undecided
Major: Psychology or Medical field
Parents: Jeff & Melissa Atwood
Siblings: Tristen & Rileigh Atwood
Project Proud paper: Fundraising for a family in need



Also, many thanks to the parents and the schools who have supported the students throughout the year. We appreciate your interest in the future of our community. I would also like to recognize the contributions of the KYLA Board Members this year. I appreciate all they have done to help make this another successful KYLA class. We wish the best to each of the graduates and look forward to seeing them in leadership roles in our community in the future.

Emily Cowan, President

Kosciusko Youth Leadership



KYLA Class of 2017: Row 1 (Left to Right) McKenzie Murphy, Tippecanoe Valley; Hannah Wanemacher, Triton; Courtney Jennings, Triton; Meredith Phipps, Warsaw; Grace Miller, Warsaw; Claire Rich, Warsaw; Sarah Bingham, Lakeland Christian Academy; Meghan Beer, Wawasee; Kolbie Mason, Triton; Jacqueline Werstler, Whitko
Row 2 (Left to Right) Lacey Helfers, Wawasee; Madison O'Connell, Tippecanoe Valley; Olivia Trippiedi, Tippecanoe Valley; Rozlyn Bishop, Whitko; Reagan Atwood, Wawasee; Aubrey Kuhn, Wawasee; Alex Koontz, Warsaw; Shaniah Baker, Triton; Baylee Wiley, Lakeland Christian Academy; Jasmin Juarez, Warsaw; Emma Ross, Triton; Susan Nickerson, Tippecanoe Valley
Row 3 (Left to Right) Jacob McDonald, Tippecanoe Valley; Josh Turner, Lakeland Christian Academy; Camden Tucker, Tippecanoe Valley; Drew Stichter, Triton; Eric Williamson, Warsaw; Sam Yeager, Warsaw; Brandon Bailey, Warsaw; Alex Bergen, Warsaw
Not pictured: Abigail Serbousek, Warsaw

KYLA 2016-2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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May the future hold an abundance of happiness and a long string of successes for you as you move on through your schooling, career and life.

2016-2017 Sponsors

The Board of Directors for the Kosciusko Youth Leadership Academy would like to extend a special "Thank You" to the following businesses and organizations and individuals that have generously supported the academy this past year. It is because of this support that we are able to continue giving back to our local community. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Sponsors include: Kosciusko Community Hospital, Horizon Bank, Monteith's Best One Auto and Tire Care, CTB, Inc., Medtronic, Penguin Point Systems, Creighton Brothers, Maple Leaf Farms, MutualBank, Jansen Orthopaedics, LLC., Zimmer Biomet, Warsaw Morning Optimist, OrthoPediatrics, Hall & Marose Silveus, LLC., First Federal Savings Bank, Grace College, 1st Source Bank, The Papers, Inc., Parkview Hospital of Warsaw, NIPSCO, Emerson and Natalie Poort and the Dr. Dane and Mary Louise Miller Foundation.

Other sponsors include: Warsaw Times Union, City of Warsaw Parks Department, Warsaw Police Department, Kosciusko County Sheriff's Department, County Extension Office, KCH Wellness Center, KREMC, DePuy Synthes, Walmart, Vitale Events, Baker Youth Club, Combined Community Services and Ink Free News.

Branden Bailey

Warsaw Community High School

Activities: Science Academic Super Bowl, BPA, Pet Therapy, NSHSS, Part-time job
Hobbies: Biking, computer programming
Future College: Purdue, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Major: Biomolecular Engineering
Parents: Peggy Bailey & the late Russell Bailey
Project Proud paper: Works Progress Internet Cooperative



Shaniah Baker

Triton High School

Activities: FFA, NHS, Spirit Club
Hobbies: Hunting, fishing, shooting, adventures in new places
Future College: Ivy Tech
Major: Paralegal Studies
Parents: Steve & Sheila Baker
Siblings: Savannah Baker
Project Proud paper: Hand Down the Hunt



Meghan Beer

Wawasee High School

Activities: Soccer, Gymnastics, Dance, Leadership Committee, Student Council, 4-H
Hobbies: Wake-surfing, water sports, friends
Future College: Undecided
Major: Undecided
Parents: Kevin & Laurie Beer
Siblings: Nicole & Ella Beer
Project Proud paper: Claus for Paws



Alex Bergen

Warsaw Community High School

Activities: BPA
Hobbies: Vexillology, Armadadillo Band
Future College: Indiana University
Major: Physics
Parents: Mike & Casey Bergen
Siblings: Ben, Will & Nick Bergen
Project Proud paper: Hoosiers Helping Hundreds



Sarah Bingham

Lakeland Christian Academy

Activities: Volleyball, NHS, Youth Group, Art
Hobbies: Art, reading, boating, friends
Future College: Grace
Major: Chemistry
Parents: Roger & Lorraine Bingham
Siblings: Seth & Ben Bingham
Project Proud paper: Cats and Cookies



Rozlyn Bishop

Whitko High School

Activities: Theatre, Gospel Choir, Dance, Cheerleading, FCCLA, SADD, Student Council, NHS, Campus Life
Hobbies: Acting, singing, dancing, reading
Future College: Undecided
Major: Performing Arts & Communication (Broadcasting)
Parents: Victor & Jacki Bishop
Siblings: April Bishop
Project Proud paper: Battle of the Schools (Toys for Tots)



Lacey Helfers

Wawasee High School

Activities: Youth Group, 4-H, Junior Leaders, Theatre
Hobbies: Reading, art
Future College: Undecided
Major: Visual Arts Education
Minor: Theatre Production & Design
Parents: Jeff & Michelle Helfers
Siblings: Ashley & Leina Helfers
Project Proud paper: Feed My Starving Children



Courtney Jennings

Triton High School

Activities: Volleyball, Basketball, Softball, FFA, NHS, Art Club, Science Club, Spirit Club, SADD, 4-H
Hobbies: Sports, working out, friends
Future College: Ball State
Major: Nursing
Parents: Scott & Staci Jennings
Siblings: Mallorie & Hannah Jennings
Project Proud paper: Bre's Run



Jasmin Juarez

Warsaw Community High School

Activities: Community Volunteer, NHS
Hobbies: Reading, running, friends
Future College: Grace
Major: Nursing
Parents: Araceli & Meliton Juarez
Siblings: Juan, Anayeli & Karina Juarez
Project Proud paper: Pathways to Higher Education



Alex Koontz

Warsaw Community High School

Activities: Soccer, Track, Travel Soccer, FCA
Hobbies: Soccer, Netflix, friends
Future College: Ohio University, Purdue
Major: Physical Therapy
Parents: Matt & Tracy Koontz
Siblings: Dayne & Corissa Koontz
Project Proud paper: Hoosiers Helping Hundreds



Aubrey Kuhn

Wawasee High School

Activities: Cross Country, Basketball, Softball, Travel Basketball, Warrior Leadership Academy, Life Guarding, Unified Track Team
Hobbies: Running, friends, lake activities
Future College: Indiana University, Ball State
Major: Undecided
Parents: Tim & Amy Kuhn
Siblings: Rylan Kuhn
Project Proud paper: Many Teams One Fight



Kolbie Mason

Triton High School

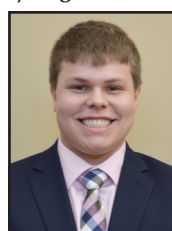
Activities: Science Club, Spirit Club, NHS, Art Club, Tennis Club
Hobbies: Tennis
Future College: Butler
Major: Physician's Assistance Program
Parents: Brad & Angela Mason
Siblings: Kendall, Kylie & Kaelyn Mason
Project Proud paper: Parkview Hospital Children's Wing



Jacob McDonald

Tippecanoe Valley High School

Activities: Band, Swimming, Track, Peer Facilitators
Hobbies: Drumming, watching racing
Future College: Belmont, Ball State
Major: Music Performance
Parents: Brent & Tabby McDonald
Siblings: Tyler McDonald
Project Proud paper: Bears for Blue



McKenzie Murphy

Tippecanoe Valley High School

Activities: Volleyball manager, FCA, Student Council, Peer Facilitators
Hobbies: Hunting, working with kids, volunteering, travel, mission trips
Future College: Indiana Wesleyan, University of Indianapolis
Major: Nursing
Parents: Mike & Amy Murphy
Siblings: Emily Murphy
Project Proud paper: Covered by Love



Grace Miller

Warsaw Community High School

Activities: Tennis
Hobbies: Reading, writing, cooking
Future College: undecided
Major: English or History
Parents: Dave & Shellie Miller
Siblings: Alex Miller
Project Proud paper: Buddy Benches



Susan Nickerson

Tippecanoe Valley High School

Activities: Student Council, Youth Group
Hobbies: Reading
Future College: Undecided
Major: Nursing
Parents: Joe & Laura Nickerson
Siblings: Austin Nickerson
Project Proud paper: Covered by Love



Madison O'Connell

Tippecanoe Valley High School

Activities: Kosciusko Cares, 4-H, FCA, Junior Leaders, Student Council
Hobbies: Softball, reading, volunteering
Future College: Purdue
Major: Engineering
Parents: Andrew & Deb O'Connell
Project Proud paper: Bears for Blue



Meredith Phipps

Warsaw Community High School

Activities: Cross Country, Unified Track, Student Council, Choir, Student Health Team
Hobbies: Writing, reading, guitar, song writing, fitness
Future College: Barnard College
Major: English
Parents: Chad & Jeanne Phipps
Siblings: Harrison Phipps
Project Proud paper: Buddy Benches



Claire Rich

Warsaw Community High School

Activities: FCA, Cross Country
Hobbies: Running, church, art, writing
Future College: Undecided
Major: Undecided
Parents: David & Candace Rich
Siblings: Lucille & Audrey Rich
Project Proud paper: Buddy Benches



Emma Ross

Triton High School

Activities: Volleyball, Tennis, Science Club, Spirit Club, NHS, SADD, Art Club, Youth Group
Hobbies: Shooting clays, volleyball, kids church volunteer
Future College: Indiana University, Butler
Major: Undecided
Parents: Robert & Kelley Ross
Siblings: Marissa Ross
Project Proud paper: Parkview Hospital Children's wing



Abigail Serbousek

Warsaw Community High School

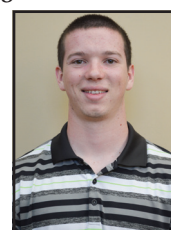
Activities: Elementary basketball coach, Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts videographer
Hobbies: Snow skiing, volleyball
Future College: Gonzaga
Major: Religion, Pre-law
Parents: Jon & Jill Serbousek
Project Proud paper: CASA: Once Upon a Time



Drew Stichter

Triton High School

Activities: Football, Basketball, NHS, Youth Group
Hobbies: Sports, friends
Future College: Purdue, Bethel
Major: Engineering
Parents: Tim & Evelyn Stichter
Siblings: Grant, Heather & Aaron Stichter
Project Proud paper: Parkview Hospital Children's Wing



Olivia Trippiedi

Tippecanoe Valley High School

Activities: Football, Basketball, Student Council, Peer Facilitators
Hobbies: Surfing, shopping, sports, traveling
Future College: Undecided
Major: Pediatric Nurse
Parents: Dean & Alissa Trippiedi
Siblings: Taylor & Tanner Trippiedi
Project Proud paper: Covered by Love



Camden Tucker

Tippecanoe Valley High School

Activities: Boy Scouts, KEYS, Youth Group, Football, Swimming, Track, Student Council, Peers
Hobbies: Skate Boarding, Jerky Artisan
Future College: Indiana University, Purdue
Major: Civil Engineering
Parents: Jeff & Kristine Tucker
Siblings: Josh Tucker
Project Proud paper: Bears for Blue



Josh Turner

Lakeland Christian Academy

Activities: Soccer, Spring Play, Student Senate
Hobbies: Fishing, mountain biking, long boarding, video games
Future College: Undecided
Major: Science field
Parents: Aaron & Janelle Turner
Siblings: Sam Turner
Project Proud paper: Cats and Cookies



Hannah Wanemacher

Triton High School

Activities: Volleyball, Basketball, Tennis, NHS, DECA, Art Club, Spirit Club, Science Club, SADD, Office Worker
Hobbies: Sports, shopping, friends
Future College: Indiana Wesleyan, Grace
Major: Undecided
Parents: Jeff & Kim Wanemacher
Siblings: Bryce Wanemacher
Project Proud paper: Parkview Hospital Children's Wing



Jacqueline Werstler

Whitko High School

Activities: Student Council, Tennis, NHS, Art Club, 4-H
Hobbies: Reading
Future College: Ball State
Major: Architecture
Parents: Scott & Rita Werstler
Siblings: Thomas, Robert & Andrea Werstler
Project Proud paper: Whitko Booster Club



Baylee Wiley

Lakeland Christian Academy

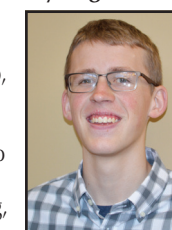
Activities: Volleyball, Theatre
Hobbies: Running, working out, friends
Future College: undecided
Major: Undecided
Parents: Scott & Deb Wiley
Project Proud paper: Cats and Cookies



Eric Williamson

Warsaw Community High School

Activities: Cross Country, Track, ENL, Youth Group, FCA, Student Council, Octagon Club, Armadadillo Band
Hobbies: Running, reading, friends
Future College: Purdue, Georgia Tech, Michigan University
Major: Aerospace Engineering
Parents: Glen & Laurie Williamson
Siblings: Emily Williamson
Project Proud paper: Hoosiers Helping Hundreds



Samuel Yeager

Warsaw Community High School

Activities: Elementary Basketball Coach, FCA, Golf, Youth Group
Hobbies: Ping Pong, Ultimate Frisbee, Basketball, Golf
Future College: Indiana Wesleyan or Naval Academy
Major: Business Related
Parents: Steve & Megan Yeager
Siblings: Rachel, Jack, Faith & Caroline Yeager; Julia & Seth Hildebrand
Project Proud paper: Hoosiers Helping Hundreds

