

2015-2016 KOSCIUSKO YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY


A Letter From The President

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to congratulate each member of the Kosciusko Youth Leadership Academy graduating class of 2016 on a job well done and also express my thanks to them for volunteering their time in our community.

This marks the 22nd year of providing an opportunity for juniors from six area high schools to be involved in KYLA. This year 33 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 in order to serve their community as well as complete their Project Proud. Once again this year, the Project Proud presentations were very impressive and showed an area of service which was meaningful to each student. 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. 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

Bailey Berelsman
Warsaw Community High School
Activities: Soccer, Theatre, Select Chorale
Hobbies: Reading, playing video games
Future College: Ohio Northern University, University of Findlay, Butler University
Major: Pharmacy
Parents: Bernie & Dawn Berelsman
Siblings: Tedros, Taylor, Tes, Rahel and Tsigie Berelsman
Project Proud paper: H,O,PE Ride



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.

Cindy Klusman, President
Kosciusko Youth Leadership Academy Board of Directors



KYLA Class of 2016 — Front (Left to Right): Victoria Biddle, Zac Pitney, Bailey Watkins, Jennifer Soriano, Morgan Keirn, Katie Yocum, Abigail Smith, Michaela Best, Bryn Durecki, Quinn Downing, Fretz, Aimee Gladieux, Megan Hayes, Madison Martz, Rane Kilburn, Heidi Ziebarth.
Back (Left to Right): Hannah Woodard, Kennedy Krull, Anne Secrest, Jared Mikel, Brad Nethercutt, David Homme, Hunter Haines, Bailey Berelsman, Michael Jensen, Kyle Mangas. Not pictured Sydney Brower, Hannah Haines, Christina Park, Autumn Yoder, Meghan

KYLA 2015-2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- PresidentCindy Klusman
- Vice-President Emily Cowan
- Treasurer Alex Hall
- Fundraising Carl Lauster
- CurriculumCindy Klusman
- Moderator Tony Ciriello
- Advisor Barb Goslee
- Advisor Christi Price
- At-Large John Kuhn
- At-Large Brianna Nolin

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.

2015-2016 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, Farmers State Bank, Monteith's Best One Auto and Tire Care, CTB, Inc., Symmetry Medical, Inc., Medtronic, Penguin Point Systems, Creighton Brothers, Maple Leaf Farms, MutualBank, Jansen Orthopaedics, LLC, Zimmer-Biomet, Warsaw Morning Optimist, Louis Dreyfus, First Federal Savings Bank, Grace College, The Papers, Inc., Parkview Hospital of Warsaw, DePuy Synthes, NIPSCO, Emerson and Natalie Poort, Walmart 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, Champagne Jam Restaurant, Baker Youth Club, Kosciusko County Community Foundation, Combined Community Services and InkFree News.


Michaela Best
Triton Jr./Sr. High School
Activities: Spirit Club, DECA, Key Club, Science Club, Cross Country, Track, Spanish Club, Art Club
Hobbies: Running, guitar, singing
Future College: Undecided
Major: Cosmetologist, Ultrasound Tech, Obstetrician
Parents: Jonah & Monica Best
Siblings: Keegan Best
Project Proud paper: Personal Hygiene Drive



Victoria Biddle
Tippecanoe Valley High School
Activities: Golf, Band, Student Council, NHS, NSHS, Kosciusko Cares Coalition, Peers, Envision Admissions Ambassador, Hoosier Girls State
Hobbies: Reading, listening to music, golfing, playing the saxophone
Future College: Undecided
Major: Business
Parents: Tim & Janet Biddle
Siblings: Taylor Biddle
Project Proud paper: Golf Scramble benefiting the Fisher House



Hannah Brower
Tippecanoe Valley High School
Activities: Track & Field, NHS, Swimming manager
Hobbies: Listening to music, friends
Future College: Indiana University
Major: Pre-medicine
Parents: Roger & Pamela Brower
Siblings: Chase Brower
Project Proud paper: Hoops for Haiti



Quinn Downing
Triton Jr./Sr. High School
Activities: NHS, Art Club, Spirit Club, Spanish Club, Science Club, Volleyball, Basketball, Tennis
Hobbies: Watching movies, friends
Future College: Indiana University
Major: Undecided
Parents: Tim & Gail Downing
Siblings: Hannah & Jackson Downing
Project Proud paper: Food for Friends




Bryn Durecki
Warsaw Community High School
Activities: Volleyball, President of Dream Council, Member of Student Council, Boomerang Backpacks, Tutoring, Students for Life Club, Academic Superbowl Team
Hobbies: Volunteering, reading and writing
Future College: Undecided
Major: Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Biochemistry or Biophysics
Parents: Don & Michele Durecki
Siblings: Blake Durecki
Project Proud paper: Project Regeneration




Meghan Fretz
Wawasee High School
Activities: Softball, Volleyball, Swimming
Hobbies: Sports, bow making
Future College: Huntington University
Major: Mechanical Engineering, Education
Parents: Joe & Amanda Fretz
Siblings: Braydon Fretz
Project Proud paper: Prom for All




Aimee Gladieux
Triton Jr./Sr. High School
Activities: Art Club, Science Club, Key Club, Spirit Club, Cross Country, Track, DECA, Book Club
Hobbies: Piano, writing, running, coloring
Future College: Undecided
Major: Undecided medical field
Parents: Jason & Fonda Gladieux
Siblings: Justin, Jessica & Tyler Gladieux
Project Proud paper: Pancake Breakfast for Haiti




Hannah Haines
Wawasee High School
Activities: Basketball, Softball, Warrior Leadership Committee, Epic Youth Group, NHS
Hobbies: Outdoor activities
Future College: Undecided
Major: Undecided medical field
Parents: Brian & Vicki Haines
Siblings: Emily Haines
Project Proud paper: Hoops for Special Olympics



Hunter Haines
Warsaw Community High School
Activities: BPA, 4-H, Student Council, Track and Field, SADD, Students for Life, DARE
Hobbies: Singing, being on the lake, friends, traveling, watching sports, intramural basketball
Future College: University of Notre Dame, Indiana University, Northwestern
Major: Business (Accounting/Marketing), Law
Parents: Tyler Haines & Maxine Spangle
Siblings: Madison & Ashley Haines
Project Proud paper: Designate and Dine



Megan Hayes
Triton Jr./Sr. High School
Activities: Art Club, Science Club, Key Club, Spanish Club, Book Club, NHS
Hobbies: Drawing, painting, reading
Future College: Saint Mary of the Woods
Major: Undecided Medical field
Parents: Tim & Amanda Hayes
Siblings: Dakota Hayes
Project Proud paper: Personal Hygiene Drive



Katie Hepler
Triton Jr./Sr. High School
Activities: Volleyball, Track, FFA, NHS, Science Club, Art Club, Spirit Club
Hobbies: Farming, 4-H, watching movies
Future College: Indiana Wesleyan University
Major: Exercise Science
Parents: Devon & Dawn Hepler
Siblings: Brandon, Jeremy and Holly Hepler
Project Proud paper: Food for Friends




David Homme
Warsaw Community High School
Activities: Boy Scouts, Tennis, Youth Group, Student Council
Hobbies: Tennis, gaming, politics, sightseeing
Future College: Purdue, Rose-Hulman, Stanford, MIT
Major: Electrical Engineering, Business Administration
Parents: Steve & Marilyn Homme
Siblings: Stephanie Homme
Project Proud paper: Water for Good - 5 Gallon Water Challenge



Michael Jensen
Warsaw Community High School
Activities: Football, Golf
Hobbies: Sports
Future College: Arizona, Texas A & M
Major: Business
Parents: Phil & Deb Jensen
Siblings: Samantha Jensen
Project Proud paper: BYC Reality Night



Delaney Keirn
Whitko High School
Activities: Tennis, 4-H, USTA
Hobbies: Tennis, riding horses, friends
Future College: Trine University or Purdue University
Major: Engineering
Parents: Shannon & Claudia Keirn
Siblings: Ian, Delaney & Kylie Keirn
Project Proud paper: Second Chance Store



Morgan Keirn
Whitko High School
Activities: Tennis, 4-H, USTA
Hobbies: Tennis, riding horses, friends
Future College: Purdue University
Major: Veterinary Medicine
Parents: Shannon & Claudia Keirn
Siblings: Ian, Delaney & Kylie Keirn
Project Proud paper: Second Chance Store



Rane Kilburn
Warsaw Community High School
Activities: Football, Track
Hobbies: Sports
Future College: Arizona, Texas A & M
Major: Business
Parents: Randy & Anisa Kilburn
Siblings: Grayson Kilburn
Project Proud paper: BYC Reality Night



Kennedy Krull
Whitko High School
Activities: Basketball, Softball, Student Council, 4-H, FCA, SADD
Hobbies: Softball
Future College: Indiana Wesleyan, Taylor, Valparaiso, or IUPUI
Major: Educational Leadership
Parents: Doug & Jennifer Krull
Siblings: Kaden, Kolten, Kreedon & Kyler Krull
Project Proud paper: Salvation Army Softball Game




Kyle Mangas
Warsaw Community High School
Activities: Basketball, BPA, Octagon Club, NHS, Tiger Student Athletic Board
Hobbies: Playing sports, friends
Future College: Indiana University, Indiana Wesleyan, Butler, Ole Miss
Major: Business Management, Accounting
Parents: Tim & Ann Mangas
Siblings: Jake Mangas
Project Proud paper: BYC Reality Night



Madison Martz
Warsaw Community High School
Activities: Golf, Student Council, SADD, NHS
Hobbies: Golf, drawing, friends, watching sports
Future College: Indiana University, IPFW, Purdue
Major: Bachelor of Science then Medical School
Parents: Zack & Barb Martz
Siblings: Mason & Kenzie Martz
Project Proud paper: My Team Triumph 5K



Jared Mikel
Tippecanoe Valley High School
Activities: Cross Country, Track, Wrestling, Filming sports, FCA, NHS, FCY
Hobbies: Building models, running, friends, video games, bowling
Future College: Purdue University
Major: Aeronautical Engineering
Parents: Spencer & Stacy Mikel
Siblings: Jonah Mikel & Alona Kitchens
Project Proud paper: Bark in the Park 5K




Brad Nethercutt
Warsaw Community High School
Activities: Marching Band, winter percussion ensemble
Hobbies: Percussion
Future College: Purdue
Major: Astrophysics
Parents: Wayne & Julie Nethercutt
Siblings: Kelsey Nethercutt
Project Proud paper: WCHS Bottle Drop




Christina Park
Warsaw Community High School
Activities: Red Cross Club, Dream Council, Fort Wayne Youth Philharmonic, Swim team, Academic Superbowl
Hobbies: Playing the violin, swimming, reading
Future College: Undecided
Major: Biology or Chemistry (Surgeon)
Parents: Eunhyung Park & Young Shin Kin
Project Proud paper: Water for Life Africa



Zac Pitney
Triton Jr./Sr. High School
Activities: Baseball, Basketball, Football, Spanish Club, Key Club
Hobbies: Bowling, video games, friends
Future College: Indiana University
Major: Forensics/Criminal Justice
Parents: Matt & Tricia Pitney
Siblings: Conner & Jacob Pitney
Project Proud paper: I'm Your Neighbor




Anne Secrest
Tippecanoe Valley High School
Activities: Basketball, AAU Basketball, 4-H, NHS, Sunshine Society
Hobbies: Playing basketball, friends, cooking
Future College: Youngstown State University
Major: Exercise Science
Parents: Mike & Mary Ann Secrest
Siblings: John Paul and Thomas Secrest
Project Proud paper: Hoops for Haiti



Abigail Smith
Warsaw Community High School
Activities: Thespian Troupe, Select Chorale, Student Council, Students for Life, Octagon Club, BPS, Cross (Church)
Hobbies: Singing, acting, reading, playing guitar
Future College: Notre Dame
Major: Accounting/Business
Parents: Michael & Nicole Smith
Siblings: Andrew & Dominic Smith
Project Proud paper: Parasol Parade for Cure JM




Jennifer Soriano
Triton Jr./Sr. High School
Activities: NHS, Art Club, Youth Group, Spirit Club, Science Club, Track
Hobbies: Drawing, painting, friends, traveling
Future College: Purdue University
Major: Dental Hygienist
Parents: Arsenio & Susan Soriano
Siblings: Joseph, Kassandra, Jessica & Jeannine Soriano
Project Proud paper: IDCS P.J. Drive




Sydney Trump
Whitko High School
Activities: Gospel Choir, Student Council, NHS, Youth Group
Hobbies: Singing, dancing, acting
Future College: Undecided
Major: Musical Theatre
Parents: Eric & Angela Trump
Siblings: Taylor & Bradley Trump
Project Proud paper: Second Chance Store




Bailey Watkins
Triton Jr./Sr. High School
Activities: NHS, FCS, Track & Field, Cross Country, Science Club, Spanish Club, Spirit Club, Art Club
Hobbies: Bowling, fishing, video games
Future College: University of Indianapolis
Major: Nurse Anesthetist
Parents: Rod & Tammy Watkins
Siblings: Brock Watkins
Project Proud paper: Food for Friends




Hannah Woodard
Triton Jr./Sr. High School
Activities: NHS, Spirit Club, Science Club, Spanish Club, DECA, Softball
Hobbies: Playing softball, traveling
Future College: Bowling Green State University
Major: Marine Biologist
Parents: Calvin & Beth Woodard
Project Proud paper: IDCS P.J. Drive



Katie Yocum
Warsaw Community High School
Activities: Thespian Troupe, Select Chorale, Dance Troupe, voice lessons, school plays and musicals
Hobbies: Singing, acting, dancing, reading
Future College: Taylor University
Major: Language Studies/Sociolinguistics
Parents: Michael & Carrie Yocum
Project Proud paper: Parasol Parade for Cure JM



Autumn Yoder
Wawasee High School
Activities: Key Club, Cross Country, Gymnastics, Track
Hobbies: Reading, writing, studying, learning
Future College: Grace College or IPFW
Major: Accounting
Parents: Todd & Valerie Yoder, Brandy & Kris Brady
Project Proud paper: Baskets for Babies



Heidi Ziebarth
Lakeland Christian Academy
Activities: Working at Bob Evans, cheerleading
Hobbies: Cheerleading, reading, Spanish
Future College: Bethel College or Moody Bible Institute in Spokane
Major: TESOL (Teaching English to speakers of other languages) and Spanish
Parents: Tim & Christi Ziebarth
Siblings: Morgan, Collin & Brandon Ziebarth
Project Proud paper: Penny Wars for World Compassion Network

