

# KOSCIUSKO YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The Kosciusko Youth Leadership Academy would like to extend a special "Thank You" to the following businesses and organizations that have generously supported the academy this past year. They include:

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## KYLA 2002-2003 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Time passes so quickly. This marks the completion of 9 years for the Kosciusko Youth Leadership Academy. Once again, this year has provided both the challenge and excitement that accompanies the learning and discovery process for all those involved in the community.

Our students, juniors from the local high schools, have spent the last several months learning about various aspects of the community along with leadership and communication skills. The Kosciusko Youth Leadership Academy Class of 2002-2003 is now preparing for their graduation. The annual graduation banquet will take place on Wednesday, May 7, 2003, at 6:30 p.m. at the 2517 Banquet Facility in Warsaw, IN. We believe that the experiences the students have gained from their involvement in the Academy will be lasting and will serve as a foundation for continuing friendships and commitment to community needs, wherever life takes them.

On behalf of the Kosciusko Youth Leadership Academy Board, I would like to express my sincere thanks for all who have contributed to the success of Kosciusko Youth Leadership Academy throughout the year, as well as past years. Many of you have volunteered time, resources and facilities to assist us. I would also like to thank the parents and the schools who have supported the students throughout the year. We appreciate your interest and investment in our future.

I would also like to recognize the contributions of the KYLA Board Members this year. I truly appreciate all your efforts to make this year a successful one, and look forward to working with you in the years to come.

We wish the best to each graduate and look ahead to the time when we see them taking on further leadership roles in the community. These special individuals represent the future and we are confident it will be a bright future indeed.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Coral Amspaugh-Topolski, President

**May The Future Hold An Abundance Of Happiness And A Long String Of Successes For You, As You Move On Through Your Life And Career**



**Congratulations To All Our Graduates**

### Jason Fisher

Syracuse — Wawasee High School



**Activities:** Key Club, Calvary Baptist Church, Travel, Foreign Exchange Student, NHS, Spanish Club & KYLA  
**Hobbies:** Saxophone, Coin Collection  
**College:** Notre Dame Or Indiana University

**Major:** Economics & Communication

### Krysta Kindig

Warsaw — Tippecanoe Valley High School



**Activities:** KYLA, NHS, FCA, FCCLA, Varsity Club, Cheerleading, Tennis, SADD, Art Club, Sunshine Society, Pep Club, Spanish Club  
**Hobbies:** Dancing, CADT  
**College:** Undecided  
**Major:** Nursing  
**Family:** Parents: Sharon & Chris; Siblings: Andrea & Nicholas

**Project Proud Topic:** Providing Exposure To The Performing Arts To Underprivileged Children Through Head Start

### Ashley Lindenmier

Warsaw — Tippecanoe Valley High School



**Activities:** KYLA, NHS, FCA, FCC LA, Varsity Club, Cheerleading, Track, SADD, Art Club, Sunshine Society, Pep Club, Spanish Club, Student Government  
**Hobbies:** Dance, CADT, Lifeguarding  
**College:** University Of Notre Dame  
**Major:** Biology  
**Family:** Parents: Robert & Diane; Sibling: Derek

**Project Proud Topic:** Providing Exposure To The Performing Arts To Underprivileged Children Through Head Start

### Candice Kissane

Warsaw — Warsaw Community High School



**Activities:** Cheerleading, BPA, KYLA, Freshman Mentoring  
**Hobbies:** Dance, CADT & Shopping  
**College:** Indiana University Or Notre Dame  
**Major:** Accounting And Then Go To Law School  
**Family:** Parents: Michael & Barbara;

**Sibling:** Amanda  
**Project Proud Topic:** Heartline Pregnancy Center

### Jeanna Collins

Bourbon — Triton Jr./Sr. High School



**Activities:** KYLA, FCCLA, NHS, Spanish Club, Science Club, FCS, Cross Country, Track, Student Council, Nappanee Youth Group, Elementary Volunteer  
**Hobbies:** Shopping, Reading, Spending Time With Friends, Baby-sitting, Taeboe  
**College:** Undecided  
**Major:** Elementary Education

**Family:** Parents: Gary & Rosemary; Siblings: Danielle & Nathan  
**Project Proud Topic:** Well Child Clinic

### Brittney Woodward

Tippecanoe — Triton Jr./Sr. High School



**Activities:** Art Club, Math Club, KYLA  
**Hobbies:** Playing Piano, Shopping, Drawing, Reading, Spending Time With Friends  
**College:** Undecided  
**Major:** Education Or Psychology  
**Family:** Parents: Michelle

**Woodward & Greg Freant;**  
**Siblings:** Clint & Matthew  
**Project Proud Topic:** Well Child Clinic

### Becky Miller

Bourbon — Triton Jr./Sr. High School



**Activities:** Softball, Cross-Country, KYLA, Class Newspaper Editor, NHS, Spanish Club, Science Club Secretary, Student Council Secretary, Math Club, Class Officer-Secretary, Yearbook, Fellowship Of Christian Students, News Team, Worship Team, Youth Group  
**Hobbies:** Playing Guitar, Softball, Hanging Out With Friends  
**College:** Taylor, Huntington Or Butler  
**Major:** (Business) Marketing & Sales Or Law

**Family:** Parents: Ken & Nancy; Siblings: Jennifer, Elizabeth, Kenneth Jr., Rachelle, Christopher & Alexis  
**Project Proud Topic:** Kosciusko County Jail Ministry

### Holly Slater

Claypool — Whitko High School



**Activities:** NHS, Frontline, Sunshine Society, Art Club, FFA, Spanish Club, SADD, FCA, KYLA, Youth Group, 4-H  
**Hobbies:** Volleyball, Tennis, Art, Friends  
**College:** Undecided  
**Major:** Nursing  
**Family:** Parents: Kris & Jill; Siblings: Chelsey & Seanie

**Project Proud Topic:** Grossnickle Foundation (Knitting Hats For Chemo Patients)

### Lisa Wilkinson

South Whitley — Whitko High School



**Activities:** NHS, Frontline, Sunshine, Art Club, FFA, KYLA, FCA, 4-H  
**Hobbies:** Cross Country, Track, Art, Shopping & Being With Friends  
**College:** Purdue  
**Major:** Elementary Education  
**Family:** Parents: Debra & Rex; Siblings: Rita, Randy & Julie

**Project Proud Topic:** Grossnickle Foundation (Knitting Hats For Chemo Patients)

### Emily Crist

South Whitley — Whitko High School



**Activities:** NHS, Frontline, Student Council, Art Club, Spanish Club, KYLA  
**Hobbies:** Tennis, Art, Being With Friends  
**College:** University Of Saint Francis  
**Major:** Undecided  
**Family:** Parents: Karen Carvey & Al Crist;

**Siblings:** Colleen & Madeline  
**Project Proud Topic:** Grossnickle Foundation (Knitting Hats For Chemo Patients)

### Katie Sudhoff

Warsaw — Warsaw Community High School



**Activities:** Soccer, SADD, Octagon Optimists, Latin Club, KYLA, REACH  
**Hobbies:** Soccer  
**College:** Undecided  
**Major:** Elementary Education  
**Family:** Parents: Betsy & Steve; Siblings: Mark

**Project Proud Topic:** Tutoring At Jefferson

### Ashley Sparks

Warsaw — Warsaw Community High School



**Activities:** Drama, Track, REACH, KYLA, Choir, Work, Student Youth Leader, Mentor  
**Hobbies:** Sign Language (At Church), Track, Shopping, Talking To Friends, Track, Various Church Ministries  
**College:** Undecided  
**Major:** Pre-Medicine

**Family:** Parents: John & Vanessa; Siblings: Andrew  
**Project Proud Topic:** Tutoring At Jefferson

### Kelsie Thompson

Warsaw — Warsaw Community High School



**Activities:** Student Council, Youth Group, Working At Kelainey's  
**Hobbies:** Listening To Music  
**College:** Undecided  
**Major:** Possibly Psychology  
**Family:** Parents: Jim & Patti;

**Sibling:** Laine  
**Project Proud Topic:** Boys & Girls Club

### Matt Burkart

Warsaw — Warsaw Community High School



**Activities:** Swimming, Student Council  
**Hobbies:** Playing Guitar  
**College:** Indiana University  
**Major:** Undecided  
**Family:** Parents: Jeff & Chris; Siblings: Andy & Dave  
**Project Proud Topic:** Boys & Girls Club

### Elyse Boggs

Akron — Tippecanoe Valley High School



**Activities:** Swimming, FCA, Sunshine Society, SADD, NHS, Track, Cross-Country Manager, Palestine Bible Church, Spanish Club, P.E.P. (Peers Educating Peers), Pep Club  
**Hobbies:** Swimming, Spending Time With Friends  
**College:** Undecided  
**Major:** Possibly Major In Physical Therapy Or Elementary Ed.

**Family:** Parents: Brett & Sarah; Siblings: Eve & Evan, Brother-In-Law: Bill Mock  
**Project Proud Topic:** Matchbox Child Care

### Katie Menzie

Pierceton — Whitko High School



**Activities:** Church Youth Group, Campus Life Student Leadership, SADD, FCA, FCCLA, NHS, Frontline Leader, Junior Class President, Cheerleading, Art Club  
**Hobbies:** Music, Shopping, Friends, Art, Tennis  
**College:** Anderson  
**Major:** Art

**Family:** Parents: Phil & Debbie; Siblings: Ann, Becky & Brian  
**Project Proud Topic:** Grossnickle Foundation

### Sara Kessie

Columbia City — Whitko High School



**Activities:** Church Praise Team, Youth Group, SADD, Frontline Leader, Campus Life Student Leadership, NHS, FCA, Class Vice President, 4-H  
**Hobbies:** Listening To Music, Hanging Out With Friends, Scrapbooking, Snow Skiing, Shopping  
**College:** Huntington College Or Indiana Wesleyan University  
**Major:** Undecided

**Family:** Parents: Dave & Jean; Siblings: Andrew & Anne  
**Project Proud Topic:** Volunteering At The Lighthouse Homeless Shelter In Columbia City

### Brittany Wihebrink

Warsaw — Wawasee High School



**Activities:** Cheerleading, KYLA, DECA, SRC (Student Council), STARS (Students Teaching & Reaching Students)  
**Hobbies:** Drawing, Organizing & Taking Pictures, Hanging Out With Friends, Decorating & Rearranging My Room  
**College:** Either Law Or Medical School  
**Major:** Law Or Medical

**Family:** Parents: Cindy Miller & Step-Father Mike Miller; Siblings: Stephanie  
**Project Proud Topic:** Habitat For Humanity

### Victoria Mason

Bourbon — Triton Jr./Sr. High School



**Activities:** NHS, KYLA, FBLA (State V. Pres.), FCS, Spanish Club, Science Club, Art Club, Yearbook, News Team, Worship Team, Student Council (Treasurer), Class Officer, Office Volunteer, Youth Group, Golf  
**Hobbies:** Dance (Ballet, Tap, Jazz), Singing, Reading, Class Newspaper (Editor)  
**College:** Undecided

**Major:** Communications, Medicine Or Business  
**Family:** Parents: Ralph & Louise; Siblings: Brittany & L.J.  
**Project Proud Topic:** Kosciusko Jail Ministry

### Jenna Thomas

Etna Green — Triton Jr./Sr. High School



**Activities:** KYLA, FBLA (State Reporter), Art Club, Science Club, Spanish Club, NHS, FCS, Yearbook, News Team, Worship Team, Class Vice President, Student Council, Elementary Volunteer, Youth Group, Golf, Track  
**Hobbies:** Playing Guitar And Piano, Singing, Reading, Playing Golf  
**College:** Michigan State, Northwestern Or Columbia University  
**Major:** Medicine Or

**Biomedical Engineering**  
**Family:** Parent: Vicki; Siblings: Shawn & Aron  
**Project Proud Topic:** Kosciusko Jail Ministry

### Brad Clayton

North Webster — Wawasee High School



**Activities:** FFA, 4-H, KYLA  
**Hobbies:** Hunting, Fishing, Camping, Hiking, Soil Judging, Working At Clayton's Garden Center  
**College:** Purdue Or Somewhere In Oklahoma  
**Major:** Agronomy Or Biotechnology

**Family:** Parents: Ed & Judy; Siblings: Becky  
**Project Proud Topic:** Soil & Water Conservation

### Fallon Judd

Pierceton — Wawasee High School



**Activities:** KYLA, Drama Club, SRC (Student Council), International Thespian Society, School Plays & Musicals, Students Teaching And Reaching Students (S.T.A.R.S.)  
**Hobbies:** Theatre, Friends, Movies, Working At Oakwood Inn As A Waitress  
**College:** Possibly Purdue

**Major:** Pre-Medicine  
**Family:** Parents: Jeff & Chris; Siblings: Dakota  
**Project Proud Topic:** Habitat For Humanity

### Brent Lamb

Milford — Wawasee High School



**Activities:** Basketball, Track, SRC, 4-H, KYLA, Youth Group  
**Hobbies:** Showing Cattle, Hanging Out With Friends, Hiking, Working On Family Farm  
**College:** Purdue  
**Major:** Accounting Or Civil Engineering  
**Family:** Parents: Bruce & Beth; Siblings: Heather, Michelle & Annette

**Project Proud Topic:** Habitat For Humanity

### Laura Lash

Mentone — Tippecanoe Valley High School



**Activities:** Burket United Methodist Church & Youth Group, 4-H, Junior Leaders, FLA, NHS, Art Club, Cross-Country, Track, Peers Educating Peers, SADD, KYLA, Work At Lash Farms Inc.  
**Hobbies:** I Like To Spend Time With My Friends  
**College:** Undecided  
**Major:** Undecided

**Family:** Parents: John & Darlene; Siblings: David & Sarah  
**Project Proud Topic:** Matchbox Childcare