WELCOME TO THE 2025

Excellence in Education Awards Program



Keevin O'Neill

Chair, Excellence in Education

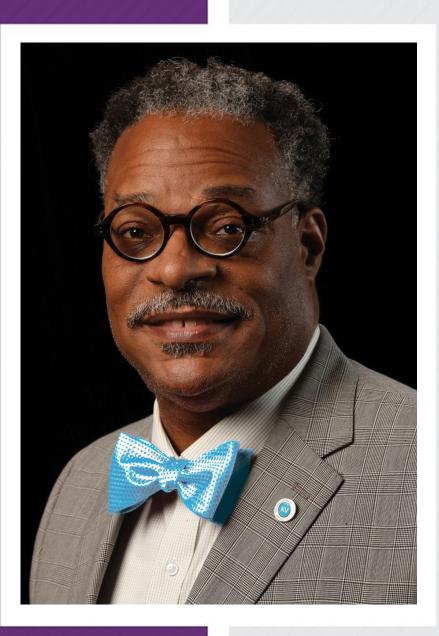
Superintendent, Vicksburg Community Schools





L. Marshall Washington, Ph.D. President, Kalamazoo Valley Community College







EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Student Awards

Micayla DeWaal

Climax-Scotts High School KVCC

Parents:

Beth and Micah DeWaal

College: Western Michigan University

Major: Early Elementary Education Significant Educator:

Dielle Madison





Isabel Hardwick

Comstock High School KVCC

Parents:

Theresa and Terry Hardwick

College:

Michigan State University or Youngstown State University

Major: Pre-Law/Political Science

Significant Educator: Traci Spada





Emilie Gensch

Galesburg-Augusta High School KVCC

Parents:

Thom Gensh and Jen McGuire

College: Colorado School of Mines

Major: Computer Science

Significant Educator: Shannon Houtrouw





Landon Harter

Gull Lake High School

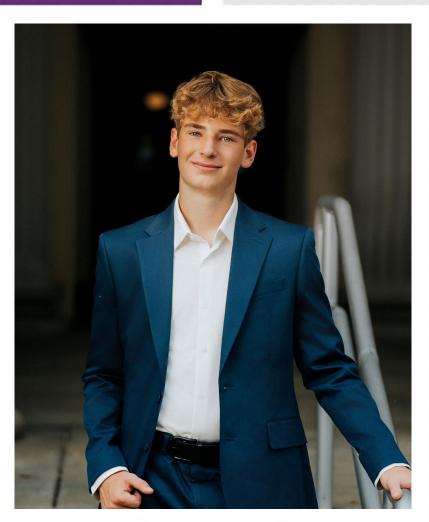
Parents:

Marci and Justin Harter

College: University of Michigan

Major: Computer Science

Significant Educator: Reginald Walters





Makenna Martin

Gull Lake High School

Parents:

Alondra and David Martin

College: University of Michigan

Major: Biology

Significant Educator: Peter Santa Maria





Ellie Worgess

Gull Lake High School

Parents:

Rachel and Drew Worgess

College: University of Michigan

Major: Undecided

Significant Educator: Jocelyn Clark





Zachary Villarimo

Gull Lake High School

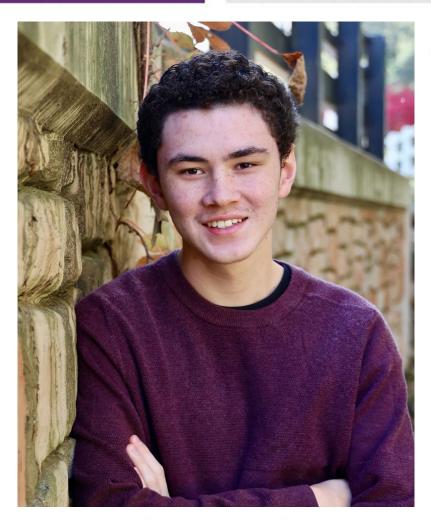
Parents:

Janet and Lee Villarimo

College: University of Michigan

Major: Biology, Health, and Society

Significant Educator: Paul Schillio





Grahm Zygadlo

Hackett Catholic Prep WMU

Parents:

Molly and Nicholas Zygadlo

College: University of Georgia

Major:

Accounting

Significant Educator: Betsy Ulbrich





Luke Birchmeier

Kalamazoo Christian High School

Parents:

Amy and Matthew Birchmeier

College: University of Michigan

Major: Computer Engineering

Significant Educator: Corey Scheffers





Lizzy Pruis

Kalamazoo Christian High School

Parents: Christine and Timothy Pruis College: **University of Michigan or Butler University** Major: **Pharmacy Significant Educator: Cindy Broekhuizen**





Sophia Barnard

Kalamazoo Central High School KAMSC

Parents: Anja and Ken Barnard

College: Stanford University

Major:

Biology w/ a Neuroscience Concentration

Significant Educator: Colleen Chapoton





Andrew Westcott

Kalamazoo Central High School KVCC & WMU

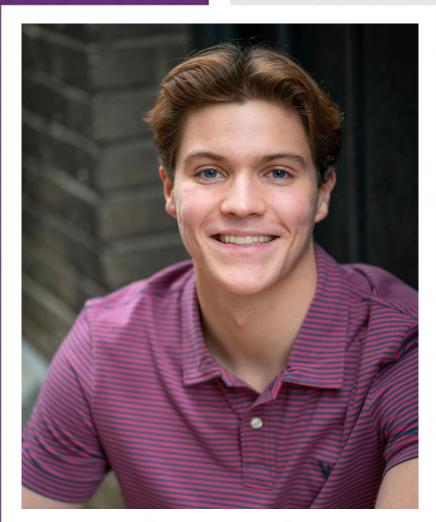
Parents:

Schuyler and Daniel Westcott

College: University of Michigan

Major: Nuclear Engineering

Significant Educator: Joshua Gottlieb





Clara DeWaele

Kalamazoo Central High School WMU

Parents:

Jennifer and Michael DeWaele College: University of Chicago Major: Biology/Bio-Chemistry or Environmental Studies

Significant Educator: Phyllis Tifft





Kate Risley

Kalamazoo Central High School KAMSC

Parents:

Julie Lorenz and John Risley

College: University of Michigan

Major: Data Science and Biology Significant Educator:

Jessica Hagen





Nick Alkema

Kalamazoo Central High School KVCC

Parents:

Katherine and Steve Alkema

College: University of Michigan

Major:

Business

Significant Educator: Kimberly Mansfield





Brynn Routhier

Kalamazoo Central High School KVCC

Parents:

Amy and Brett Routhier

College: University of Michigan

Major: Biology

Significant Educator: Josh Gottlieb





Eloise Dunfee

Loy Norrix High School KAMSC

Parents:

Amy and Jeffrey Dunfee

College: Michigan State University

Major: Environmental Studies

Significant Educator: Brianna English





Isaac Scavarda

Loy Norrix High School KAMSC

Parents:

Kate and Tom Scavarda

College: Hillsdale College

Michael Sinclair

Major: Finance/Statistics/Computer Science Significant Educator:





Bjorn Nelson

Loy Norrix High School KRESA EFA & WMU

Parents:

Anne Engh and Keith Nelson

College: University of Michigan

Major: Film, Television, and Media Significant Educator:

Laura Citino





Hannah Boothby

Loy Norrix High School KVCC

Parents:

Janelle and Mark Boothby

College: University of Michigan

Major: Chemistry

Significant Educator: Pamela Cook





Eleanor Cook

Loy Norrix High School KVCC

Parents:

Carrie and Luke Cook

College: University of Michigan

Major: English Language and Literature Significant Educator:

Gregg Stevens





Georgia Edmonds

Loy Norrix High School KAMSC

Parents:

Rebecca and Ian Edmonds

College: University of Michigan

Major: Biochemistry

Significant Educator: Sandra Gagie





Brady Caswell

Parchment High School KVCC

Parents:

Jennifer and Kevin Caswell

College: Albion College

Major: Computer Engineering

Significant Educator: Amber French





Caden Ragan

Parchment High School KVCC

Parents:

Amy and Jeff Ragan

College: Western Michigan University

Major: Business or Management

Significant Educator: Jesse Roder





Jason Shaye

Portage Central High School KAMSC

Parents: Vi Vio and Oion (

Yi Xie and Qian Shaye

College: Stanford University

Major: Data Science

Significant Educator: Shannon Houtrouw





Ningzhi Luo-Li

Portage Central High School KAMSC & KVCC

Parents:

Min Luo and Xiaopeng Li

College: Undecided

Major: Biology/Global Health

Significant Educator: Colleen Chapoton





Dewen Luo-Li

Portage Central High School KAMSC & KVCC

Parents:

Min Luo and Xiaopeng Li

College: Undecided

Major: Biology

Significant Educator: Stacey Mclver





Felix Dong

Portage Central High School KAMSC

Parents:

June Zhou and Zhisheng Dong

College: University of Michigan

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Significant Educator: Shannon Houtrouw





Quinn Hague

Portage Central High School KAMSC

Parents:

Janette and Miles Hague

College: University of Michigan

Major: Computer Engineering

Significant Educator: Shannon Houtrouw





Siya Gupta

Portage Central High School

Parents: Vijaya and Vishal Gupta

College: Undecided

Major: International Relations

Significant Educator: Kent Baker





Allison Rearick

Portage Central High School

Parents:

Tammy and Robert Rearick College: Cedarville University Major: Mechanical Engineering or Industrial Design Significant Educator: Chris Czuk





David Shen

Portage Northern High School KAMSC & KVCC

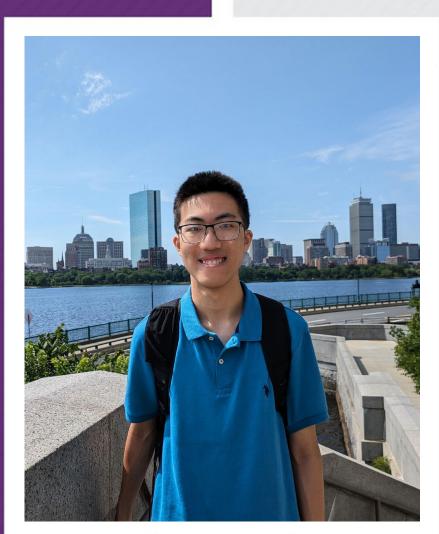
Parents:

Jiahong Shen and Ying Zhou

College: University of Michigan

Major: Computer Science

Significant Educator: Modhi Alshehri





James Kraatz

Portage Northern High School WMU & KVCC

Parents:

Elizabeth and James Kraatz

College: University of Michigan

Major:

Physics

Significant Educator: Chelsea Whiteoak





David Li

Portage Northern High School KAMSC

Parents:

Xiaoan Li and Lin Lin

College: Harvard University

Major:

Molecular & Cellular Biology, and Human Regenerative & Developmental Biology Significant Educator: Michael Sinclair





Aryaman Mishra

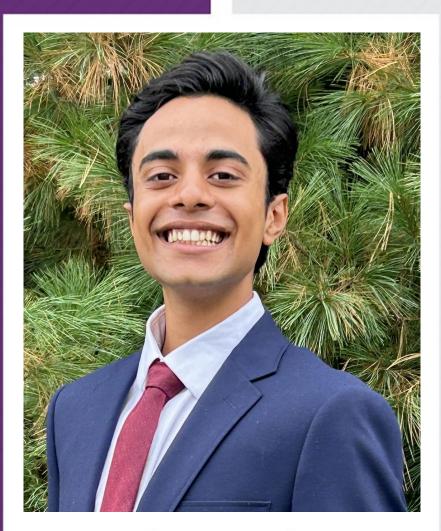
Portage Northern High School KAMSC & KVCC

Parents: Nikhil and Shweta Mishra

College: Johns Hopkins University

Major: Undecided

Significant Educator: Claudia Witt-Thomas





Ivan Tai

Portage Northern High School KAMSC

Parents:

Elaine Lui and Johnny Tai

College: University of Michigan

Major: Engineering

Significant Educator: Modhi Alshehri





Miles Fagan

Portage Northern High School

Parents:

Tanja and Kevin Fagan

College: Undecided

Major: Computer Science

Significant Educator: Michelle Mason





Hannah Willoughby

Schoolcraft High School KVCC

Parents:

Jenni and Josh Willoughby

College: Western Michigan University

Major: Product Design

Significant Educator: Jo Noseda





Arianna Pillot

Schoolcraft High School KVCC

Parents:

Kelly and Mateo Pillot

College: Grand Valley State University

Major: Pre-Med

Significant Educator: Anna Kruizenga





Ethan Jastifer

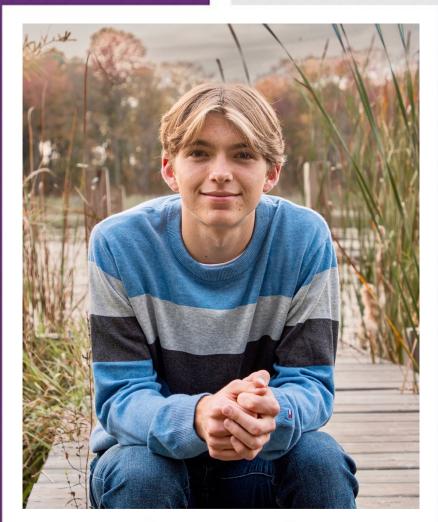
Vicksburg High School KAMSC

Parents:

Laurie and James Jastifer

College: University of Notre Dame

Major: Mechanical Engineering / Pre-Med Significant Educator: Ronald Cung





Thomas Christiansen

Vicksburg High School

Parents: Kelly and John Christiansen

College: Northwestern Michigan College

Major: Professional Flight

Significant Educator: Kristina Porter





Grant VanWoert

Vicksburg High School

Parents:

Meghan and Nick VanWoert

College: Michigan State University

Major: Chemical Engineering

Significant Educator: Kristina Porter





Scarlett Hosner

Vicksburg High School

Parents:

Sharon and Jack Hosner

College: Kalamazoo College

Major: Undecided

Significant Educator: Suzanne Rucker





