
MEMO—OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

Date: February 18, 2025
To: Dr. Andy Barrett
From: Mr. Tom Rogers
Re: Board Presentation for Tradition of Excellence Award



I want to express my sincere appreciation for the opportunity to present to the Board of Education students whose accomplishments and contributions to Geneva High School exemplify the Tradition of Excellence Award. On Monday, February 24, 2025, we will present to the Board of Education the following students.

A. National Merit Finalists:

Evelyn Gibbons
Ellie Grantcharov
Nicholas Grimes
Ethan Ryan
Vitaly Starkov

These students have been identified as being among the top 15,000 highest scorers on the 2023 PSAT/NMSQT test and were named National Merit Finalists by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. More than 1.3 million students took the 2023 PSAT.

B. 2024 Skaldic Literary Magazine – All-American and First Class Award Winner:

Danielle Nasra
Claire Totman
Beau Trch
Cameron Winsininski

The 2024 Skaldic: Odyssey, Geneva High School's Literary magazine, earned an All-American Award from the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) and a First Class award from the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE-REALM). The magazine earned 4 of 5 marks of distinction. The students listed above are the current GHS students on the Skaldic staff. The other 10 staff members graduated in 2024. The Literary Magazine sponsor is GHS English teacher, **Heather Peters**.

C. Scholastic Art Competition Gold, Silver & Honorable Mention Recipients:

Mackenzie Benedek – Honorable Mention
Caitlin Cassidy – Silver Key
Wyatt Curry – Honorable Mention
Ryan Fontana – Honorable Mention
Drew Hosman – Gold Key and Honorable Mention
Willow Houck – Gold Key

John Kozlowski – Honorable Mention

Von Lautenschlager – Honorable Mention

Emma Nolan – American Vision Award Nomination, Gold Key and Honorable Mention

Morgan Reid – Gold Key

Miles Sheppard – Silver Key

These students submitted artwork and placed in the annual Scholastic Art Competition held in January. All winners had their work showcased in an exhibition at Downers Grove North High School on February 2nd. Students who received a “Gold Key” will have their artwork move on to national judging. Additionally, for the first time in Geneva High School history, **Emma Nolan** received a nomination for the prestigious “American Vision Award”. The GHS Art educators for these students are GHS Art teacher, **Danica Fahmy and Jon Kristofer**.

Together, these students distinguished themselves, our school, and Geneva School District #304. Thank you for this opportunity.