

Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance (WiRSA)

Scholarship Winners 2019-2020

Region 1: Kyra Saylor | [Necedah High School](#)



I plan on attending UW- Eau Claire in the Fall of 2020 and major in Communication Sciences and Disorders to pursue a job as a speech pathologist. All I want to do is make a difference in a child's life. I want them to feel confident and happy about the progress they have made and who they have become. I just want the fulfillment of watching a child grow and learn and being part of the process. My love for helping others comes from my family who has taught me the importance of getting a good education, building character, and paying it forward. Growing up in a rural area, I have grown to value the importance of a strong, supportive community. With this I have gotten involved by being a student athlete, joining many clubs, and volunteering any chance I could whether it was my local food pantry or coaching youth athletics. I am so blessed by the opportunities that I've had but aspire to do so much more. I know from my experiences during my time at Necedah Schools, I will excel in my future endeavors.

Region 2: Cody Pierce | [Mineral Point High School](#)



My name is Cody Pierce, and I am a senior at Mineral Point High School. During my high school career, I have been involved in band, choir, musical theater, student council, Key Club, FBLA, forensics, math team, mock trial, SkillsUSA, golf, and National Honor Society. Several highlights of my high school career include attending Badger Boys State, being chosen Best All-Around Junior Student as well as a senior Student of the Month, never missing a day of school, and becoming valedictorian. I've also enjoyed getting to know people in our close-knit rural community through volunteering for such activities as city band, goodwill choir tours, community suppers, and community cleanup. I am looking forward to attending a four-year college in the fall, where I will major in computer science and minor in astrophysics and/or musical theater.

Region 3: Kathleen Zimmer | [Flambeau High School](#)



My name is Kathleen Zimmer and I am a senior at Flambeau High School. I have been very involved throughout high school being in over 20 organizations such as band, forensics, Academic Decathlon, and National Honor Society. Agriculture has been a big part of my life. I grew up on my family's dairy farm and started helping raise livestock after we sold the dairy operation. I became involved in FFA and started showing pigs at the Rusk County Junior Fair. My experiences in agriculture and FFA encouraged me to pursue a degree in Agricultural Business at the University of Wisconsin- River Falls. I also plan to minor in Spanish. Growing up in a small community has shown me that a great support system can get you to where you want to go. rounded out my schedule. I am looking forward to attending UW-La Crosse in the fall, where I plan to major in finance and management, as well as complete a music minor. My dream is to continue with my education in healthcare administration to become a hospital administrator someday.

Region 4: Jenna Springer | [Florence High School](#)



My name is Jenna Springer, and I am from Florence, Wisconsin. I will be furthering my education at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in the Fall of 2020. I plan to major in Environmental Engineering. Growing up in a rural area and school has allowed me to get involved in many activities and has sparked my interest in protecting and improving the health of the environment. It is also my goal to participate in a co-op or internship during my time at UW-Platteville. Throughout high school, I have been involved in volleyball, basketball, and softball, where I have been a team captain for all three sports. I have also been a member of TORPEDOs, National Honor Society, and an officer for Student Council. I am very excited to begin my post-secondary education in Environmental Engineering and get involved in more clubs and organizations.

At Large Region 2: Elizabeth Forehand | [Richland Center High School](#)



My name is Elizabeth Forehand and I am graduating from Richland Center High School. I will be attending UW-Platteville Richland next fall, where I will be majoring in English and minoring in Secondary Education. Throughout high school, I participated in volleyball, basketball, and softball. I was also involved in band, choir, National Honor Society, Future Business Leaders of America, science club, key club, student council, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. My sophomore and junior year, I served as Class President and this year I was voted Vice President. Outside of school, I am involved with Kiwanis and a member of Grace Community Youth Group. I am extremely grateful for the opportunities that I have had attending a rural school and I am excited to use the tools that RCHS has given me. To one day teach of Richland Center High School, would be a dream come true.

At Large Region 3: Maggie Conlan | [Unity High School](#)



My name is Maggie Conlan and I am from Balsam Lake, WI. I am a Senior at Unity High School and will soon be attending Marquette University to pursue a degree in Biomedical Sciences on the Pre-Physician Assistant track. Growing up in a rural community and attending a rural school has given me so much that I will be forever grateful for. Building relationships with my teachers has allowed me to be successful inside and outside of school. Whether getting extra help or going to my teachers for advice, they were always there by my side cheering me on. I have been heavily involved in extracurriculars including 4-H, Student Council, Forensics, and School Plays that have taught me timeless life lessons. As I enter the next chapter of my life I can be grateful for the ways growing up in a rural community has shaped me into the person I am today.