

Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance (WiRSA)

Scholarship Winners 2020 – 2021



Region 1: Aneta Gbur, Adams Friendship High School

My name is Aneta Gbur and I am currently a senior at Adams-Friendship High School. Throughout my time in high school, I've been involved in girl's volleyball, basketball, and soccer. I've been an active member of the student council, 2021 class officer, link leader, and senior NHS officer. Academically, I've been on the highest honors roll throughout the entirety of high school and finished as Salutatorian of my class. Growing up in a small community motivated me to work hard and obtain the best grades I can get, as well as embrace any opportunities presented my way. I am and will be forever thankful for how growing up in Adams-Friendship shaped me into the person I am today. As I'm eager to seek

more opportunities in my future endeavors, I plan to attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison this upcoming fall. I intend to major in Industrial Engineering with hopes of pursuing a future career revolving around the STEM field. I wish to one day take my experiences and aspirations and implement change in whichever environment I end up in, and pay forward the support I have received.



Region 2: Emily Cody, Mineral Point High School

My name is Emily Cody. I was raised in Mineral Point, which is also where I go to high school. Growing up in this rural community has taught me grit, zest, and integrity. Character is something that is hard to be taught, and I am blessed to have been raised into a family and community who have been great role models. My grades have been my number one priority throughout high school. While maintaining good grades, I have been very active. I am a member of Future Farmers of America, Skills USA, Youth Group, Key Club, and National Honors Society. I also was an athlete in track and field, cross-country, and basketball. I am now committed to the University of Wisconsin-Madison. My goal is to become a pediatric nurse practitioner. With my determination and with the support of my

family and community, I am confident I will be able to attain any job that my heart desires.



Region 3: Abigail Schradle, Clayton High School

Abigail Schradle, daughter of Jeremy and Amanda Schradle, has been named the Salutatorian of the Clayton High School Class of 2021.

Abbie has been involved in several activities throughout high school. Some of these activities include National Junior Honor Society, National Honor Society, Kinship, Future Business Leaders of America, Student Council, Student Government, Prom Committee, and the Red Cross Blood Drives held at the school. In addition, Abbie tutored the Middle School Special Education class during her senior year.

Abbie has been involved in athletics by participating in volleyball, basketball, and softball. She has been a team captain for both volleyball and basketball her junior and senior years. She was awarded an All-Conference award for basketball during her senior year. Abbie has also been a part of many successful state teams in volleyball and basketball, as well as regional and sectional finalist teams in softball.

Abbie was a member of the Clayton High School Choir where she was very successful, earning many first-place awards in Solo Ensemble, including a first-place award at the state level. Additionally, she performed in the Lakeland Conference Honor's Choir during her sophomore and junior years.

Outside of school, Abbie is very involved in her faith. She volunteers many hours at her church as well as being a Sunday School Teacher. Abbie loves to spend time with her family and friends. She hopes to work this summer as a Nursing Assistant after recently becoming certified.

After graduation, Abbie plans to attend the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire to pursue a degree in Nursing.



Region 4: Makenna Guden, Edgar High School

My name is Makenna Guden from Edgar High School and I plan on attending UW- Superior in the fall of 2021. Growing up in a rural community and K-12 school with thirty-five kids in my graduating class, the most valued aspect to me is all the relationships that have been created. Not only is the education top-notch, with teachers always available for one-on-one help, but there is also a rich social life, helping us make life-long friends and connections. With this, I have gotten involved by being a student-athlete, joining many clubs, and volunteering any chance I could in my community. I plan on majoring in Pre-Medicine at UW-Superior, and soon after, applying for Dental School somewhere else. One way I hope to benefit those around me with my dedication to excellence is through my career choice. Pursuing a career in the healthcare field, specifically orthodontics, has always been a dream of mine. With a desire to make a difference, I get excited about the opportunity in the future of giving people the confidence to smile when they were embarrassed before. As well as, eventually, building a non-profit community of dentists and hygienists motivated and dedicated to partner with local clinics with the intention of strengthening and empowering comprehensive care to children and their smiles. Making a difference in less fortunate communities near and far will allow me and the organization to expand our limits and lend a helping hand whenever the opportunity arises. I am beyond excited for this next chapter of my life! However, once a wildcat, always a wildcat.

Region 1 At-Large: Lauren Hayes, Wild Rose High School

My name is Lauren Hayes, and I am from Wild Rose High School. In the fall of 2021, I am going to attend the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and I plan to major in Communication Sciences and Disorders. I have always had a passion for working with people - especially kids. I wish to provide these children with the opportunity to flourish. I wish to help them learn that their disability isn't going to stop them from reaching their potential. The most rewarding part of becoming a Speech-Language Pathologist will be watching kids grow and succeed. In my time at Wild Rose, I have participated in a variety of activities: Key Club, Spanish Club, Letterman's Club, National Honor Society, theater, volleyball, and golf. I am also one of my class representatives for Student Senate and my class Vice President. My dream is to become a Speech-Language Pathologist in a rural Wisconsin school district and help children use their voice and be strong for themselves.



Region 4 At-Large: Connor Romandine, Oconto Falls High School

My future education goal is to study musical theatre and earn my Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at the University of Montana in Missoula. I plan to maintain academic excellence while participating in many activities both in school and in the community. After earning my Bachelor's degree, I would like to pursue a professional career in musical theatre and share my talents throughout the world.

This would include being a summer musical theatre director for Missoula Children's Theater, becoming a professional /singer for Disney World in Florida, and being selected as an actor/singer on Broadway for a New York production or traveling troupe. I know that the road to success will be filled with challenges and disappointment, but I am eager and ready to embark on this journey to pursue my dream.