



# NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Hoover Uncommon Students to earn \$30,000 in Scholarship Awards

**WEST BRANCH, IOWA – Oct. 10, 2014** – Fifteen high school seniors from across Iowa have each earned a \$1,000 cash award for their work on a special project this summer. On Saturday, Oct. 18, they'll present their work before a panel of judges and three will earn an additional \$5,000 scholarship to the college or university of their choice. The presentations are open to the public and begin at 9 a.m. in the Figge Auditorium at the Hoover Presidential Library-Museum. They will run every 20 minutes until complete, with a break for lunch. All awards will be presented at the conclusion of the presentations.

Students apply for the program in their junior year by submitting a proposal for a project showing entrepreneurship, community or humanitarian service, conservation, or special use of technology. The 15 finalists then spend the summer working their projects and recording results. They are scored entirely on the merits of their work. Grades, test scores and financial need are not evaluated.

This year's 15 finalists and their projects include:

Emma Baker	West Liberty	Summer Reading Program for at Risk Readers
Ashley Brown	Wapello	Hope From Within
Catelyn Graham	Grinnell	Intergenerational Relationship Enrichment
Caleb Hoffman	Muscatine	Helping Students 'Catch a Vision' for Their Future
Lexington Kennard	Ankeny	The Development of Teens Against Human Trafficking Team Curriculum & Handbook
Miranda Liebsack	Paullina	Stay Strong & Carry On
Ankur Parupally	Cedar Rapids	Water Filtration Education
Paige Plate	Nevada	Painting our Town
Shalini Raichur	Muscatine	Blankets for Babes
Erica Ramirez	Columbus Junction	Cultural Connections: The Bridge
Riley Ries	Vinton	Operation Backpack
Lucia Ruppert	Norwalk	The Adventures of Lucy and Lulu
Megan Slattery	Calamus	Putting Mockridge Back on the Map
Elliot Suiter	Johnston	Harnessing the Wind
Jena Van Marel	Sheldon	Glimpse of Change

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The panel will include:

Helen Howe, Trustee Emeritus and former USA committee member  
Muscatine

Senator Robert Dvorsky  
Coralville

Patricia Hand, Academic Programs Manager (Ret.)  
Herbert Hoover Presidential Library Association  
Iowa City

Taylor Stout, 2007 Uncommon Student  
Muscatine

Cynthia Fobian Willham, Ph.D., chair  
Communication Consultant and Adjunct Professor, Henry B. Tippie College of Business, University of Iowa  
West Des Moines

Gov. Robert Ray, Honorary Co-Chair  
Former Iowa Governor and Trustee, Hoover Presidential Foundation  
Des Moines

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