



NEWS RELEASE

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Hoover Presidential Foundation Names 2017 Uncommon Students

WEST BRANCH, IOWA – May 10, 2017 – The Hoover Presidential Foundation is pleased to name 15 students from across Iowa as finalists in the annual \$30,000 Uncommon Student Awards program. The program annually identifies and honors up to 15 Iowa high school juniors who propose and then accomplish a civic project of their own choosing and design. Grades, test scores, essays and financial need are not evaluated.

Each of the 15 finalists will receive a \$1,000 cash award at the completion of the program. Three of those could earn an additional \$5,000 scholarship each, for a total of \$6,000.

The students include:

Emma Bohn	West Des Moines	Valley High School
Kaleb Cook	Robins	Linn-Mar High School
Madelyn Davis	Fort Dodge	Manson Northwest Webster
Hannah Fusselman	Cedar Rapids	John F. Kennedy Senior High School
Alexa Gormley	Marion	Linn-Mar High School
Wesley Hanson	La Porte City	Union High School
Bihotza James-Lejarcegui	Coralville	City High School
Nandini Jayaram	Bettendorf	Pleasant Valley High School
Rebecca Johnson	Remsen	Remsen St. Mary's
JJ Kapur	West Des Moines	Valley High School
Makayla McMann	Corning	Southwest Valley High School
Danica Nolton	Grinnell	Grinnell High School
Daniel O'Hara	Robins	Linn-Mar High School
Sydney Striegel	Sigourney	Sigourney Jr./Sr. High School
Madysen Thill	Pleasantville	Pleasantville High School

The students will attend an 'Uncommon Weekend' in West Branch in June where they'll learn more about Herbert Hoover and pick up some basic marketing, fundraising and organizational skills to help them with their summer projects. In October, they'll return to the Hoover Campus to present the results of their efforts before a panel of judges. Each will be awarded \$1,000 for their work. The judges will present three students with an additional \$5,000 scholarship to be used at the school of their choice upon graduation.

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“We have a great group of students who have come up with some amazing projects,” said Delene McConnaha, academic programs manager for the Foundation. “I’m really excited to see the impact they’ll have on their home communities.”

About the Foundation

The Hoover Presidential Foundation is a private nonprofit organization for the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum and Hoover National Historic Site in West Branch, Iowa. The Foundation fosters the collection, interpretation and preservation of historical resources relating to the life, ideas and values of Herbert Hoover, 31st President of the United States.

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