



NEWS RELEASE

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Hoover Presidential Foundation Names 2022 Uncommon Students

WEST BRANCH, IOWA – June 8, 2022 – Fifteen high school seniors from across Iowa have been selected by the Hoover Presidential Foundation as members of the Hoover Uncommon Student Class of 2022. The students applied 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 projects the students propose should demonstrate the values that Herbert Hoover exemplified in his life of public service.

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. Each of the 15 finalists will receive a \$1,500 cash award at the completion of the program. Four of those will be selected to receive an additional \$10,000 scholarship each, for a total of \$11,500!

The Hoover Uncommon Student Class of 2022 and their projects include:

1. Kiersten Knobbe from AC/GC High School in Guthrie Center. Her project: *Creating A Water Filtration and Sanitation System For Developing Countries.*
2. Alina Markutsya from Ames High School. Her project: *A Gymnastics Opportunity For Kids From Low-Income Families.*
3. Emily Murphy from Ankeny High School. Her project: *Stop Pollution. Be the Solution. Recycle!*
4. Anirudh Soni from Johnston High School. His project: *Tekram Marketing.*
5. Jeffrey Zou from Johnston High School. His project: *Vojo.*
6. Sanya Oli from Linn Mar High School in Marion. Her project: **Mental* Health Equals Wealth-Reducing Stigma and Increasing Awareness.*
7. Ethan Strecker from Prairie High School, Cedar Rapids. His project: *STEAM Leadership Training Program.*



8. Connor Fogarty from Valley High School, West Des Moines. His project: *Dev Do Good Virtual Hackathon*.
9. Claire Gu from Valley High School. Her project: *AI for IA*.
10. Isabel McGrane from Valley High School. Her project: *West Des Moines Valley Southwoods Tree Nursery*.
11. Ethan Hooten from Waukon High School. His project: *Wolfpack Theater Company*.
12. Alexandra Poppen from West Branch High School. Her project: *Angel Meals*.
13. Srimaan Aravamudhan from West High School, Coralville. His project: *Paintings for a Smile*.
14. Emma Allen from West Marshall High School, State Center. Her project: *See Color*.
15. Josie Boyle from Western Dubuque High School. Her project: *Feeding My Community to Help Lessen the Impact Of Meat Shortages*.

The students and their families will attend an orientation weekend at the Hoover Campus later this month. They will meet alumni from the program and pick up helpful skills to aid them during their projects. They will spend the summer developing their projects and present their results before a panel of judges in October. Each will earn a \$1,500 cash award and four students will be selected for a \$10,000 scholarship. To learn more about the Uncommon Student Award program, visit UncommonStudent.org.

About the Foundation

The Hoover Presidential Foundation promotes and supports the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum, National Historic Site, and other programs that enhance the understanding of Herbert Hoover as president and humanitarian.

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