



AP[®] SCHOLAR AWARDS

For Immediate Release

Date: October 7, 2020

Sixty-two students at Smithville High School have earned AP Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP Exams during the 2019-2020 school year.

The College Board's Advanced Placement Program[®] (AP[®]) provides academically prepared students with the opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses while still in high school, and to earn college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the AP Exams.

About 22 percent of the 2.2 million students worldwide who took AP Exams performed at a sufficiently high level to also earn an AP Scholar Award.

The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students' performance on AP Exams.

At Smithville High School:

Joshua Grandstaff has been awarded the **AP International Diploma Award**. Joshua is the first Smithville High School student to earn this award. The AP International Diploma designation is given to students who meet the following criteria:

- Students must score a 3 or higher on 5 or more AP Exams, in the following content areas:
 - Any two (2) eligible AP world language or English exams, if the exams are across two different languages.
 - One AP Exam offering a global perspective
 - One AP Exam from either the sciences or math and computer science
 - One additional AP Exam (can't be English or a world language)

Jonah Palmer earned the **AP Capstone Diploma**. The AP Capstone Diploma is granted to students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on 4 additional AP Exams of their choosing.

Noah Cline, Joshua Grandstaff and Alexander Sharkey are recognized for earning the **National AP Scholar Award** which is given to students in the United States who receive an average score of at least 4 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams.

Thirteen current students and recent graduates qualified for the **AP Scholar with Distinction Award** by earning an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. These students are Dayton Brown, Noah Cline, Sarah Coffman, Makayla Ferguson, Joshua Grandstaff, Delaney Hirst, Eastlyn Koons, Josephine Martorana, Paige Myers, Carter Pate, Colton Roach, Alexander Sharkey, and Caleb Teachout.

Twelve current students and recent graduates qualified for the **AP Scholar with Honor Award** by earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. These students are Ryan Baas, Luke Becker, Aliva Calvert, Riley Foster, Mason Hedgecorth, Rhiannon Maynes, Darron McCauley, Katelin Meek, Nathan Noll, Rylie Parr, Wesley Pryor, and Michael Urton.

Thirty-seven current students and recent graduates qualified for the **AP Scholar Award** by completing three or more AP Exams with scores of 3 or higher. The AP Scholars are Taylor Baldwin, Gretchen Block, Kaylee Bridges, Arlee Cado, Emma Chevalier, Elise Denney, Madelyn DeYoung, Courtney Dull, Joseph Engle, Michael Fletcher, Ian Gustitus, Kelsey Hankins, Summer Heckert, Jack Holland, Jaedra Hopkins, Nicholas Johnson, Katherine Kasten, Elliott Knight, Samantha Leonard, Brianna Lewis, Kendra Matzek, Cody McKimens, Leighya Mcneely, Joel Murphy, Emily Newton, DaVonna Nickerson, Jonah Palmer, Annie Postlewait, Alexis Riggins, Caleb Sanders, Regan Schmidt, Talon Scott, Cassie Sherwood, John Weis, Deanna Wilson, Jacob Wornson, and Kai Yim.

Through 34 different college-level courses and exams, AP provides willing and academically prepared students with the opportunity to earn college credit or advanced placement and stand out in the college admission process. Each exam is developed by a committee of college and university faculty and AP teachers, ensuring that AP Exams are aligned with the same high standards expected by college faculty at some of the nation's leading liberal arts and research institutions. More than 3,800 colleges and universities annually receive AP scores. Most four-year colleges in the United States provide credit and/or advanced placement for qualifying exam scores. Research consistently shows that AP students who score a 3 or higher on AP Exams (based on a scale from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest) typically experience greater academic success in college and have higher college graduation rates than students who do not participate in AP.

The College Board is a mission-driven not-for-profit organization that connects students to college success and opportunity. Founded in 1900, the College Board was created to expand access

to higher education. Today, the membership association is made up of over 6,000 of the world's leading educational institutions and is dedicated to promoting excellence and equity in education. Each year, the College Board helps more than seven million students prepare for a successful transition to college through programs and services in college readiness and college success — including the SAT® and the Advanced Placement Program. The organization also serves the education community through research and advocacy on behalf of students, educators and schools.

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