CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2020

Christian Dalton – University of Tennessee  •  Elijah “Bo” Pless – Milligan College
Tanner Shivley – Carson-Newman University  •  Kori Smith – University of Tennessee

Christian Dalton participates in a session at the 2017 Winter Leadership Institute

Kori Smith participates in improv at the 2019 Scholar Winter Leadership Institute

Bo Pless cleans base boards during the 2018 Scholar service day at Ottway School

Tanner Shivley plays corn hole at the 2018 annual Scholar pool party
The Niswonger Foundation was established in 2001 to make a positive and sustainable difference in education in Northeast Tennessee. This dream was envisioned by Scott M. Niswonger, Chairman Emeritus of Landair Transport, Incorporated and Forward Air Corporation. These companies, founded by Mr. Niswonger, were the first two Greeneville-based companies to be taken public in the history of Greene County, Tennessee. Jointly, the companies have combined annual revenue approaching two-billion dollars and employ more than 9000 people.

With the success of his two companies, the philosophy of “Learn, Earn, Return™” was created. Using the innovative model of now having a private, for-profit logistics company, Landair Transport, support a not-for-profit educational foundation, the goal of bringing rigorous, relevant, and cost effective programs to public education became a mission. Fundamental to the success of the Niswonger Foundation has been a clear focus on removing constraints to educational innovation and problem solving, thus allowing local school systems to better provide for student needs. By building school programs that are research based and sustainable, the Niswonger Foundation has become a recognized voice for educational reform in the State of Tennessee, while nurturing the next generation of leaders.

The bases for the Foundation’s work are the School Partnership program and the Scholarship and Leadership program. The Niswonger Foundation expands its philosophy of “Learn, Earn, Return™” beyond Northeast Tennessee through involvement in numerous statewide educational initiatives. In addition, the Foundation shares a percentage of our operating funds for grants to other not-for-profit agencies for programs that support our mission “To create opportunities for individual and community growth through education and other sustainable projects.”

Contributions to support these life-changing projects can be made online at www.niswongerfoundation.org.
While we will soon “ring in” the New Year, 2020 is unlikely to be forgotten. A global pandemic can provide a powerful test of resiliency. Of the tremendous things we can say about our Scholars, this year has taught us that resilience is at the top of that list, followed closely by courage, tenacity and caring concern for others.

We celebrate their strong resolve, as we have watched them adapt and thrive during a time of uncertainty and change. The adage “When times get tough, the tough get moving,” comes to mind. Instead of complaints, they have been excited to find solutions to problems, to share those ideas with each other and to step-up as thoughtful leaders at their universities. They have exhibited a resiliency that is both inspiring and contagious.

The Alumni Scholars are no exception. As an example, Trey Dodson (Class of 2016), a Jefferson County native, decided what better time could there be to put into action a long-time dream to collect historical information from the senior citizens of our communities. His concern for losing such important stories and memories, led to the idea of interviewing and recording these oral histories. The time was right, given that so many individuals in senior living facilities are finding themselves isolated from family. Knowing this would take a lot of ingenuity and “boots on the ground,” he reached out to the current Scholars. Trey recruited John Turner, Mabel Olson, Rithvik Vutukuri, Trent Dickerson, Derek Driskill, Gustavo Castillo, Jasmine Martin, Lorraine Hayes, Macy Noe and Sam Hensley to create and initiate this project. Project Let’s Chat was born, and the dream has become a reality. These amazing and inspirational stories are being collected on a website (coming soon) that can be accessed by anyone interested in learning more about the history of their communities from people who have observed and lived that history.

The most difficult area of change has been in the design of the Scholars leadership development program. They have creatively adapted to virtual meetings replacing in-person training and networking. They have found new ways to support each other through social media and by opening more intentional lines of communication. In other words, they have been leaders - which is exactly why they were selected as Niswonger Scholars. We often hear stated that “hindsight is 20-20.” While obviously this relates to an eye chart, this may well become an even more prophetic statement in the future. We do believe that as they reflect on the lessons they have learned in 2020, our Scholars will become stronger, wiser and more resilient leaders for the future of our region.

“I can be changed by what happens to me, but I refuse to be reduced by it.”

Maya Angelou

Resilience • \\rih-ZIL-yunss\ • noun. 1. an ability to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change. - Merriam-Webster
Levi graduated with honors and distinction from Cocke County High School. He is the son of Tony and Gayla Blazer. He served as president of Future Business Leaders of America, Student Council National Honors Society, and as a member of Key Club, Principal’s Student Council, Beta Club, and the Math Club. He competed in Scholars’ Bowl for two years and served as the editor of his high school yearbook, the Chanticleer. He earned first place in the regional Future Business Leaders of America parliamentary procedures competition and went on to place at the state and national levels. His awards include Cocke County’s AP Human Geography award as well as the English I Honors award. He participated in Cross Country, Track and Field and Tennis. He volunteered with Angel Tree Ministries, Edgemont Elementary School and Friends of Tennessee’s Babies.

Levi is attending Belmont University, where he majors in Public Health and Communication. He is a member of Phi Kappa Tau fraternity and serves on the Dean’s student advisory board. He volunteers with University Ministries and Belmont Best Buddies.

Brittany is a graduate of Johnson County High School. She is the daughter of Billy Church and Tammy Branch. She served as the vice president and brass captain of the Johnson County High School Bands, music director of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Sargent in Arms of the National Technical Honors Society, secretary of the National Latin Honors Society, and as a member of the Latin Club, National Honors Society, Motorsports Club, Future Farmers of America, Chess Club, Media Club and ETSU Upward Bound. She served her community by volunteering at Johnson City Medical Center, Niswonger Children’s Hospital, and Calvary Baptist Church.

Brittany is attending Austin Peay State University with a biology and chemistry major and a minor in Religious Studies. She achieved the Dean’s List both semesters of her freshman year and is a recipient of the Dean’s Scholarship. She
volunteers at the Educational Opportunity Center. She was accepted into Eta Pi chapter of TriBeta (BBB - National Biological Honors Society). Brittany plans to pursue a career in education.

Emily Laurel Ellison
University of Tennessee, Senior

Emily, daughter of Eric and Patricia Ellison, graduated as valedictorian of Cocke County High School. She was a member of the Cocke County FFA livestock judging, dairy judging, envirothon, parliamentary procedure, and veterinary science teams. She was selected as the Tennessee FFA Eastern Region Star Farmer, and won the Eastern Region Forage Production Proficiency, and the Tennessee State FFA Sheep Production Proficiency. Emily served as president of both the Cocke County FFA and the Tennessee Junior Sheep Producers Association. She was an active member of the Cocke County 4-H, Cocke County High School Principal’s Council, National Honors Society, Mu Alpha Theta Math Club and Beta Club.

Emily attended Clemson University through her junior year, where she majored in Animal and Veterinary Science with a minor in Biological Sciences. She was accepted as an early admission to the doctoral program in Veterinary Medicine at the University of Tennessee. While at Clemson, she was a member of Sigma Alpha and served on the disciplinary committee. She was a member of the Clemson University Professional Greek Council and the Tigers for Tigers conservation club. She served as a member of Women in Animal and Veterinary Science Living and Learning Community (WAVS) and as a member of the WAVS leadership council. She also served as a tutor and mentor for WAVS. She volunteered at the Oconee County Humane Society. Emily plans a career in veterinary medicine, serving both large and small animals.

Lorraine Faith Hayes
Wake Forest University, Senior

Lorraine, daughter of Eloine and Keith Hayes, graduated from Cloudland High School with honors and distinction. She served as Youth Leadership Delegate, Varsity Cheerleading Captain, Senior Class President, Bible History Club President, and Relay for Life Club President. Her awards include, Highest ACT Score Award, Principal’s Pride Award and UCA All-American Cheerleader. She has completed volunteer hours through Salvation Army, MARSH blood drives, Johnson City Medical Center, Operation Christmas Child Processing Center and multiple mission trips with her church.

Lorraine is attending Wake Forest University on a pre-law track. She is a peer leader within the WFU Conduct System, and in Students to Students, a campus ministry. She is a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority, the Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce for the Panhellenic and Mortar Board Honors Society, where she serves as president. She was elected vice president of the Wake Forest Habitat for Humanity Chapter. She was selected to serve as an Intercultural Ambassador at Wake Forest.

Tyler James Myers
University of Tennessee, Senior

Ty, son of Corey and Denise Myers, graduated first in his class with a 4.0 GPA from Tennessee High School. He served as a member of National Honor Society, Beta Club and Student Council. He was selected for Student Congress on Policies in Education in 2015. He was selected as Senior Class High Court King. He is the Founder, President and CEO of Poor Boy Gadgets. He serves his community with the Chamber of Commerce, Love-N-People, Adaptive Aquatics and Highlands Fellowship Church.

Ty is attending University of Tennessee-Chattanooga and majoring in Biology. He serves as a leader in the YoungLife program near his campus.
Sarah, daughter of Beth and the late Mark Douthat, graduated with honors from West Greene High School. She served as senior class vice president, was junior class president, and was the student representative for the Greene County School Board. She served as vice president of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and First Priority, and chairman of the Parliamentary Procedure team. She has served as secretary, vice president and president of the Future Farmers of America. She was voted “Best All Round” by her senior class. She served as a member of National Honor Society, National English Honor Society and National Society for High School Seniors. In service to her community, she has volunteered with Special Olympics, Samaritan’s Purse-Operation Christmas Child Processing Plant, School Clean up Days, and the McDonald Outreach Center.

Sarah is attending the University of Tennessee at Martin. Her major is Health and Human Performance Public Health.

Alexis is a graduate of Unicoi County High School and the daughter of Crystal Winston. During her time at UCHS she served as president and section leader of the marching band, senior class secretary and homeroom representative for Student Council. She served as a member of National Honor Society, Beta Club, Book Club, Spanish Club, Student’s Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), secretary for the Christian Student Union and as the Chick-Fil-A Leader Academy secretary. She is a Track and Field athlete. Her awards include, Chemistry II Award and the Marching Band’s Most Excellent Junior Award.

Alexis is attending Tennessee Technological University with an Engineering major. She was re-elected as Senator for the College of Engineering. She was elected executive secretary for the Student Government Association; and president of the Society of Women Engineers. She is the student representative
for the Academic Misconduct Committee, the Task Force for Academic Affairs, and the University Curriculum Committee. She is a member of Phi Kappa Phi. She serves as a tutor for the engineering department at TTU.

Jasmine graduated from Morristown-Hamblen High School East. She is the daughter of Jennifer and Casey Cook. While at Morristown East, she served as a member of Student Council, Spanish Club and Science Club. She participated in Scholars Bowl. She achieved the honor roll every academic year 1st through 12th grade. Her other awards include, AP English Award and AP Scholar Award. She volunteered as a mentor at Meadowview Middle School.

Jasmine is attending University of Tennessee-Knoxville and is majoring in Communications and Business. She was selected as Assistant Director of Communications for the Student Basic Needs Coalition (SBNC).

Rithvik is the son of Sunitha Gunda and Suresh Vutukuri, and he graduated from Dobyns-Bennett High School with distinction. He is a National Merit Semifinalist. Rithvik received the AP Psychology Award, is a National AP Scholar, and an AP Scholar with Distinction. He served as president of the Student Council, President of both Mu Alpha Theta and the Beta Club. He was a builder, designer and programmer in Robotics and participated in the Science Olympiad and the National Science Bowl. He has volunteered with Holston Valley Medical Center, H.O.T.S. (Higher Order Thinking Skills), Operation Gratitude, Middle School Math Day and Rubiks Cube Lessons.

Rithvik is attending Tulane University and majoring in Neuroscience. He was elected president of the Premedical Society; Chair of Faculty and Alumni Relations for The School of Sciences and Engineering; as Internal Vice President of the Science and Engineering Honor Society; and as vice president for the Minority Association of Pre-Med Students. He received a grant from the Center of Engaged Learning and Teaching and a second grant from Newcomb-Tulane College to fund an independent research project.

Aubrie is the daughter of John and Kim Strange and a graduate of Cocke County High School. She is an AP Scholar with Honors, and a Furman Scholar. She served as Student Body President, Key Club historian, Cocke County FFA chapter vice president, Spanish Club treasurer, Beta Club secretary, National Honor Society historian, Yearbook editor and Debate Club assistant clerk. She was a National Qualifier in the Future Business Leaders of America Agribusiness Competition. She enjoyed volunteering with Tennessee’s Babies with Special Needs, the Key Club, Volunteer Riders of Knoxville, and CCHS Red Regiment.

Aubrie is attending Samford University and majoring in Public Relations. She received the 2020 Gulf South Summit Award for Outstanding Student Contributions to Service Learning in Higher Education.
Makayla Lashay Davis
East Tennessee State University, Sophomore

Makayla is the granddaughter of Carolyn Dean of Mosheim. She graduated from West Greene High School with a 4.0 GPA. While at West Greene, she served as an officer in FCCLA and president of the Blue and Gold Club. She was a member of the National Honor Society, National English Honor Society, Tennessee Tomorrow, and Future Business Leaders of America. She was a cheerleader; and a student athlete, playing both soccer and tennis.

Makayla is attending East Tennessee State University. Her major is English with a minor in secondary education.

Trenton Chase Dickerson
University of Tennessee, Sophomore

Trent graduated with honors and distinction from Morristown-Hamblen High School East. He is the son of Phillip and Tina Dickerson. He was a member of the 31 + ACT club, a National Merit Commended Student, and an ambassador for the Student Congress on Policies and Education. He served as President of the Advanced Choir at Morristown East and was selected to perform with the All-State Honors Choir in Nashville his junior and senior year. As a member of the school’s DECA club, Trent achieved 3rd place in the Sports and Entertainment Marketing category of the state-wide competition his sophomore year. He worked for two and a half years at Hobby Lobby, and during the summer after his junior year, earned an internship with Morristown Utilities Systems. He enjoys serving his community through Student Council, Change One Person Everyday (C.O.P.E.), and with his church, leading worship and helping during bible school.

Trent is attending the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and majoring in computer science. He was selected to work in a Co-op with the Fed-Ex Supply Chain in Memphis for summer 2020, spring 2021 and fall 2021.
Aisling is the daughter of Jim and Kate Hagan. She is a graduate of honors and distinction from David Crockett High School, where she served as Student Body President, FFA President, and was an active member of the BETA club. She served as Student Representative on the Washington County Board of Education and attended the Tennessee Governor’s School for Agricultural Sciences. She is a three-time state FFA champion and twice National runner-up in Floriculture, Nursery/Landscaping, and Forestry. She served her community by volunteering with multiple organizations in the town of Jonesborough as well as Mountain States Health Alliance, and the Washington County Public Library.

Aisling is attending the University of Tennessee-Knoxville with an Agricultural Education major.

Erica Seal is the daughter of Jennifer Greene and Carl Seal. She graduated Hancock County High School with honors and Distinction. Throughout her high school career, she received various awards for academic distinction. She served as 4-H President, FFA Vice President, and as a member of FBLA, Spanish Club, and Fine Arts Club. Erica has volunteered in her 4-H Club, helped organize the local demonstration room for the Hancock County Fall Festival, and served as an AmeriCorps member. She has also completed volunteer hours through Operation Christmas Child and MARSH Blood Drives.

Erica is attending East Tennessee State University with a Nursing/Pre-Med major.

John is the son of John and Crystal Turner of New Market. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Jefferson County High School. He captained the JCHS Scholar’s Bowl team for two years. He also served as President of Jefferson County High School’s Leo Club. He worked for The Standard Banner newspaper covering a variety of sports across the county. He was a graduate of the Jefferson County Youth Leadership Program. He has volunteered through the Chamber of Commerce, The Jefferson County Clerk’s office, Habitat for Humanity, Appalachian Electric Cooperative, and the Dandridge Lion’s Club.

John is attending the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, with a major in Marketing. He received a $1,000 per year scholarship to participate in the Heath Integrated Business and Engineering Program.
Gustavo Castillo, son of Sara Perez, is a graduate of Morristown East High School. He served as president of Student Council and participated in the TRIO program at Tusculum University. He was a member of the Psychology Club, Beta Club, Interact Club, and PSI Alpha High School National Honor Society. He received state recognition twice in the Talent Identification Program. He was a participant in Tennessee American Legion Boys State, where he was elected House of Representatives Minority Leader. He was selected for Youth Leadership of Morristown. He is an avid sports fan and was a starter for the Varsity Soccer and Football teams at Morristown East High School.

Gustavo is attending the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina. He is studying exercise science.

Derek Driskill is originally from Cocke County and a graduate of Cocke County High School. He is the son of Randy and Angel Driskill. At CCHS, he served as National Honors Society president, Beta Club secretary, Key Club Treasurer, and team captain for Scholars Bowl. He was a member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Mu Alpha Theta, ACT+30 Club, and Walters State Community College Spanish Honors Society. He was team captain of the cross-country team, and the track team. He was a Boys’ Nation Finalist.

Derek is attending Carson-Newman University and majoring in Education (English, Science, Mathematics). He was accepted to Student Government as a freshman delegate.
Macy Danielle Noe
Vanderbilt University, Freshman

Macy Noe is originally from Hamblen County. She graduated from Morristown/Hamblen High School West. She is the daughter of David and Kathy Noe. Macy served as Student Body President, Mu Alpha Theta president, ALA Girls State Delegate, Student Congress on Policies in Education Delegate, Beta Club secretary, and Team Captain of Scholars Bowl. She was selected to serve on the Superintendent’s Student Advisory Council. She was a member of the Speech and Debate Club, Morristown Youth Leadership, and Science Club.

Macy is attending Vanderbilt University. She is majoring in Chemical Engineering. She is a member of VSVS (Vanderbilt Student Volunteers for Science).

Samuel J.D. Hensley
East Tennessee State University, Freshman

Samuel Hensley is from Greene County, he graduated from South Greene High School. He is the son of Tommy Hensley and Elizabeth Murray. During his time at South Greene, he was the recipient of WoodmenLife Chapter 111 American History Award. He was a published writer for The Greene County Pioneer. He was awarded fifth place in Public Speaking at Tennessee Future Business Leaders of America State Conference and won the short story competition at the Andrew Johnson Women’s Club 2018 Division four short story competition. He served as president of his senior class, an officer in the Technology Club, and an officer in Future Business Leaders of America. He was a member of National Honors Society, Student Council, SGHS Talent Search, prom committee, and National Society of High School Scholars. He was the announcer for various school events, such as, baseball, softball and pep rallies and served as the baseball statistician and manager.

Sam is attending East Tennessee State University, where he majors in Education (History, Science, Mathematics). He is a junior senator with Student Government.

Mabel Baleigh Olson
Tennessee Technological University, Freshman

Mabel is from Sullivan County and a graduate of Sullivan East High School. She is the daughter of Melissa Pope and William Olson. At Sullivan East, she served as Student Council president, Homecoming Chair, SkillsUSA CAD president, and Mu Alpha Theta secretary/treasurer. She was a Peer Tutor for math students. She was a member of National Honors Society, Beta Club, and was a senior leader on the Sullivan East Lady Patriot Basketball Team. She earned third place in technical drafting at SkillsUSA State Competition and a Certificate of Merit in Personal Finance, CAD 1 and CAD 2. She was nominated by her principal for the EPIC Award. She was recognized by Middle Tennessee State University for outstanding academic dedication as a freshman, to be a part of the True Blue 100.

Mabel is attending Tennessee Technological University and majoring in Mechanical Engineering. She is a member of UCSC (University Christian Student Center).
Go to www.niswongerfoundation.org/scholars and select “Meet Our Alumni” to see complete biographical information

CLASS OF 2006

Dr. Jessica Epley Burchette
Cocke County High School, Newport, Tennessee
Tusculum University, Biology with Medical Concentration
East Tennessee State University, Doctor of Pharmacy
Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice,
East Tennessee State University, Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy

Nicholas “Nick” Shaun Darnell
South Greene High School, Greeneville, Tennessee
Tusculum University, Elementary Education
East Tennessee State University, Masters in Education
East Tennessee State University, Education Specialist
Assistant Principal, West View Middle School,
Morristown, Tennessee

Dr. Morgan Hammer Krapf
Greeneville High School, Greeneville, Tennessee
Emory University, Chemistry
Drexel University, M.D
Physician/Partner, Advocare Burlington County OBGYN,
Mt. Laurel, New Jersey

Dr. Ethan Emerson Reynolds
Greeneville High School, Greeneville, Tennessee
Carson-Newman University, Biology & Chemistry
University of Tennessee-Memphis, M.D.
Private Practice Anesthesiologist, St. Louis, Missouri

Elizabeth Batson Tetrick
Greeneville High School, Greeneville, Tennessee
Emory University, English
Development Consultant, Boys & Girls Club of Elizabethton/Carter County, Johnson City, Tennessee

CLASS OF 2007

Dr. Katie Baker
Greeneville High School, Greeneville, Tennessee
Furman University, Health & Exercise Science
University of Alabama-Birmingham, Masters in Public Health

East Tennessee State University, DrPH
Associate Professor, East Tennessee State University,
College of Public Health, Johnson City, Tennessee

Virginia Hines Pfeifer
Science Hill High School, Johnson City, Tennessee
Boston University, Political Science & International Relations
George Washington University, Masters in Public Health
Director of Technology Value Management,
Advisory Board Company, Johnson City, Tennessee

Joseph Landon Watson
Greeneville High School, Greeneville, Tennessee
Furman University, Political Science
University of Tennessee College of Law, Doctor of Jurisprudence
Partner - Waller, Lansden, Dortch and Davis, Nashville, Tennessee

Bradley Scott Brown
Elizabethton High School, Elizabethton, Tennessee
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Engineering and Finance
Harvard Business School, MBA
Analyst, KKR, Menlo Park, California

Casey Jackson Frantz
Lincoln View High School, Van Wert, Ohio
St. Francis University, Health Sciences
Radiologic Technologist/CT Technologist,
The Allergy and Asthma Center, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Brittany Vogt Jorgenson
Science Hill High School, Johnson City, Tennessee
Bucknell University, Classics & Comparative Humanities
Assistant Athletics Director, Manager of Projects & Licensing,
University of Delaware Athletics Department
CEO, Storybrook Farm Bed & Breakfast, Jonesborough, Tennessee

CLASS OF 2008

Adam Joshua Miller
Hampton High School, Hampton, Tennessee
Tusculum University, Business Administration
East Tennessee State University, MBA
Software Developer/DERMS Administrator,
BrightRidge, Johnson City, Tennessee

Sara Smith Noe
West Greene High School, Mosheim, Tennessee
Carson-Newman University, Elementary Education
Stay-at-home mother, Morristown, Tennessee

Brandi Ricker Shelnutt
Paulding High School, Paulding Ohio
University of Michigan, Education
Carson-Newman University, Masters, Counseling/School Counseling
Stay-at-home mother, Greeneville, Tennessee

Katie Elizabeth Williams
Unaka High School, Elizabethton, Tennessee
University of Tennessee, Public Relations
Arizona State University, Elementary Education
Marketing Consultant, San Francisco, California

CLASS OF 2009

Natalie Neas Coleman
Cocke County High School, Newport, Tennessee
Vanderbilt University, Secondary Education and English
English and Reading Teacher, Sumner County Schools,
Gallatin, Tennessee

Benjamin Keefauver Fox
Daniel Boone High School, Gray Tennessee
Washington University, Business Administration
Bryant University, MBA
Offensive Coordinator, Centre College, Danville, Kentucky

Kyle Wesley Holliday
Van Wert High School, Van Wert, Ohio
Ohio Wesleyan University, Accounting
Certified Public Accountant, Vancrest Healthcare Services, Van Wert, Ohio
Dr. Dorothy “Elizabeth” Loy
University High School, Johnson City, Tennessee
University of Pennsylvania, Biochemistry
University of Pennsylvania, PhD
Internal Medicine Residency, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado

Brandon Todd Reeser
Elizabethon High School, Elizabethon, Tennessee
Furman University, Philosophy and Asian Studies
Emory University, Doctor of Jurisprudence
Attorney, Wilson & Heyward, LLC, Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina

Dr. Brady “Cole” Seaton
Greeneville High School, Greeneville, Tennessee
Vanderbilt University, Biomedical Engineering
East Tennessee State University, M.D.
Radiologist, University Radiology, Greeneville Community Hospital East, Greeneville, Tennessee

CLASS OF 2010

Christopher Morgan Brown
Unicoi County High School, Erwin, Tennessee
East Tennessee State University, English and Secondary Education
Head Football Coach and Honors English Teacher, Red Bank High School, Chattanooga, Tennessee

Patrick Carder Brown
Greeneville High School, Greeneville, Tennessee
Purdue University, Landscape Architecture
Landscape Architect, Ross/Fowler, P.C., Knoxville, Tennessee

Dr. Thomas Massey Cully
Lincolnview High School, Van Wert, Ohio
Indiana Wesleyan University, Biology/Pre-Medical
Cornell University, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine
Dairy Veterinarian, Maria Stein, Animal Clinic, Maria Stein, Ohio

Abigail Ricca Daniels
Van Wert High School, Van Wert, Ohio
Ohio Wesleyan University, Pre-professional Zoology
Macquarie University, Wildlife Conservation
Donor Development Officer, Greenpeace Australia Pacific, Sydney, Australia

Lucas Edward Deloach
Elizabethon High School, Elizabethon, Tennessee
Vanderbilt University, Political Science
University of Virginia, Doctor of Jurisprudence
Employment Counsel at Upwork, Chicago, Illinois

Jessica Verran-Lingard
Science Hill High School, Johnson City, Tennessee
Vanderbilt University, Mathematics and Political Science
Stanford Law School, J.D./MBA
Intellectual Property Associate, Gunderson Dettmer, LLP, San Francisco, California

Chelsea Goodson Long
Greeneville High School, Greeneville, Tennessee
University of Tennessee, Finance
Director of Purchasing and Administration, Aldi, Incorporated, Prairie Village, Kansas

Adriana Maria Penalba
Morristown East High School, Morristown, Tennessee
Georgetown University, Accounting and Finance
University of Texas at Austin, Business Administration
Financial Analyst, American Airlines, Dallas, Texas

Rian Carl Rainey
Van Wert High School, Van Wert, Ohio
The Ohio State University, Computer Science, Engineering and Entrepreneurship
Software Engineer, CoverMyMeds, Columbus, Ohio

Moziano “Trey” Samuel Reliford
Jefferson County High School, Dandridge, Tennessee
Sewanee: The University of the South, History and Political Science
Stanford Law School, Doctor of Jurisprudence
Associate, Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton and Garrison, LLP, New York, New York

Todd Blakely Skelton
Volunteer High School, Church Hill, Tennessee
University of Tennessee, Business Law and Corporate Governance
University of Tennessee, Haslam College of Business, MBA
University of Tennessee, College of Law, Doctor of Jurisprudence
Chief Legal Counsel, Strategic Acquisitions Group, Knoxville, Tennessee

Meredith Wachs Stevens
Johnson County High School, Mountain City, Tennessee
College of William & Mary, Mathematics and English
American University, Teaching Secondary Mathematics
Mathematics Teacher, Greeneville High School, Greeneville, Tennessee

CLASS OF 2011

Matthew Lee Bible
West Greene High School, Mosheim, Tennessee
Tennessee Technological University, Chemical Engineering
Advanced Chemical Engineer, Eastman, Kingsport, Tennessee

Lauren Williams Bible
Greeneville High School, Greeneville, Tennessee
East Tennessee State University, Business Administration
Stay-at-home Mother, Greeneville, Tennessee

Emily Rose Hollingsworth
Gatlinburg-Pittman High School, Gatlinburg, Tennessee
Belmont University, Entrepreneurship
Corporate Marketing Project Specialist, Clayton Homes, Knoxville, Tennessee

Sean Michael McCullough
Jefferson County High School, Dandridge, Tennessee
Notre Dame University, Marketing
Northwestern University, MBA
Consumer Insights Manager, Conagra Brands, Chicago, Illinois

Rachel Ann Mixon
Cherokee High School, Rogersville, Tennessee
Purdue University, Mechanical Engineering
Purdue University, Masters in Engineering
Indiana University, Business Management
Manufacturing Engineer, Grundfos’ Peerless Pumps, Indianapolis, Indiana

Tyler Lee Boyd
Greeneville High School, Greeneville, Tennessee
Vanderbilt University, Ecology, Evolution and Organismal Biology
Virginia Tech University, Dairy Science
General Manager, Jerseyland Sires, Hilmar, California
Ian Charles Sams  
Providence Academy, Johnson City, Tennessee  
University of Alabama, Political Science  
Democratic Communications Consultant, Washington, DC

**CLASS OF 2012**

Taylor Ashby Grindstaff  
Jefferson County High School, Dandridge, Tennessee  
East Tennessee State University, Psychology and Sociology  
Carson-Newman University, School Counseling  
Austin Peay University, Pursuing Master’s in Education Administration  
Counselor, Jefferson County High School, Dandridge, Tennessee

Elizabeth Ann Jones  
Science Hill High School, Johnson City, Tennessee  
Clemson University, Mechanical Engineering  
Tech Staff Engineer in Fibers Manufacturing, Eastman, Kingsport, Tennessee

Dr. Jordan Lakota Kim  
Morristown West High School, Morristown, Tennessee  
University of Tennessee, Microbiology  
East Tennessee State University, M.D.  
Practicing Family medicine at CHI Memorial Integrative Medicine Associates, Chattanooga, Tennessee

Lawrence “Law” Wayne Loving, III  
University High School, Johnson City, Tennessee  
Tulane University, Public Health and Economics  
East Tennessee State University, MBA  
Director, Career & Workforce Readiness, Niswonger Foundation, Greeneville, Tennessee

Rachel Gabrielle Witt  
Johnson County High School, Mountain City, Tennessee  
Vanderbilt University, Anthropology and Art History  
Doctoral Candidate in Anthropology, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana

**CLASS OF 2013**

William Ross Brummett  
Jefferson County High School, Dandridge, Tennessee  
Elon University, Religious Studies  
Program Manager, Co-Curricular Service, Honey W. Nashman Center for Civic Engagement & Public Service, George Washington, University, Washington, D.C.

James Michael Durham  
Chucky-Doak High School, Afton, Tennessee  
Notre Dame University, Marketing

Johneshia Tasha Good  
Science Hill High School, Johnson City, Tennessee  
Milligan College, Biology  
East Tennessee State University, Nursing  
Nurse, Johnson City Medical Center, Johnson City, Tennessee

**CLASS OF 2014**

Alexander “Alex” James Croghan  
David Crockett High School, Jonesborough, Tennessee  
Lipscomb University, Chemistry  
Records Technician/Coder, Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Mountain Home, Tennessee

Yaying Wang  
Greeneville High School, Greeneville, Tennessee  
Emory University, Psychology and Neuroscience  
Duke University, Physician Assistant (PA)  
Physician Assistant with CVS Minute Clinic, Durham, North Carolina

**CLASS OF 2015**

Jordan Frye Shields  
Sullivan East High School, Kingsport, Tennessee  
University of Tennessee, Social Work  
University of Tennessee, Masters of Social Work

**CLASS OF 2016**

Michael “Gage” Armstrong  
Chucky-Doak High School, Afton, Tennessee  
East Tennessee State University, Biology and Health Sciences  
Laboratory Technician, Eastman, Kingsport, Tennessee

Nathaniel “Trey” Xavier Dodson, III  
Jefferson County High School, Dandridge, Tennessee  
Vanderbilt University, Human and Organizational Development  
Human Capital Senior Consultant, Deloitte, Dallas, Texas

Dr. Ivory Janee Shelton  
Unicoi County High School, Erwin, Tennessee  
Wake Forest University, Religion, Biology and Chemistry
Wake Forest School of Medicine, M.D.
Pediatric Residency, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee

Matthew Stephen Sheppard
Sullivan South High School, Kingsport, Tennessee
Clemson University, Industrial Engineering
Clemson University, Masters in Mechanical Engineering
Mechanical Engineer, Itron, West Union, South Carolina

Richard Wade Vradenburgh
West Greene High School, Mosheim, Tennessee
Tennessee Technological University, Mathematics
University of Virginia, Masters in Mathematics
Teaching Mathematics at the Commonwealth Governor’s School, Stafford High School, Fredericksburg, Virginia

CLASS OF 2017

Raini Rowenhorst Armstrong
David Crockett High School, Jonesborough, Tennessee
East Tennessee State University, Anthropology, Culture and Health, Kingsport Child Development Center, Kingsport, Tennessee

Kaitlyn “Katie” Shields Arnold
Pigeon Forge High School, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee
University of Tennessee, Agriculture, Leadership, Education and Communication (ALEC)
Agriculture Education Teacher, Jefferson County High School, Dandridge, Tennessee

Samuel “Sam” Lucas Brashears
Sullivan North High School, Kingsport, Tennessee
Wake Forest University, English, Chemistry and Biology
East Tennessee State University, Quillen College of Medicine, Pursuing Doctor of Medicine

Matthew Johann Grimm
Daniel Boone High School, Gray, Tennessee
University of Tennessee, Nursing
Tusculum University, Nursing/Family Nurse Practitioner Nurse, Kingsport Primary Care, Kingsport, Tennessee

Dustin Cole Howser
Tennessee High School, Bristol, Tennessee
Vanderbilt University, Mechanical Engineering
Mechanical Engineer, Nuclear Fuel Services, Erwin, Tennessee

CLASS OF 2018

Hope Marie Adkins
Volunteer High School, Church Hill, Tennessee
Carson-Newman University, Family and Consumer Sciences Education
Alumni Relations Coordinator, Carson-Newman University, Jefferson City, Tennessee

McKenzie “Kenzy” Reynolds Potter
North Greene High School, Greeneville, Tennessee
University of Tennessee, Accounting/Information Management
University of Tennessee, Masters in Accounting
Staff Auditor, Blackburn, Childers & Steagall, Johnson City, Tennessee

Kristen “Alora” Ricker
South Greene High School, Greeneville, Tennessee
Milligan College, Biology/Chemistry
East Tennessee State University, Quillen College of Medicine, Pursuing Doctor of Medicine

Dillan Wayne Shults
Cosby High School, Cosby, Tennessee
Tennessee Technological University, Electrical Engineering
Electrical Engineer, Jarden Zinc, Greeneville, Tennessee

Madeline Danielle Standbridge
Sullivan East High School, Kingsport, Tennessee
University of Tennessee, Biomedical Engineering
East Tennessee State University, Pursuing a Masters in Public Health

CLASS OF 2019

Courtney Sherry Johnson
Gatlinburg-Pittman High School, Gatlinburg, Tennessee
Maryville College, Exercise Science
South College, Knoxville, Tennessee, Pursuing a Physical Therapy Degree

Morgan Alexandra Thomas
Science Hill High School, Johnson City, Tennessee
Clemson University, Chemistry
Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy, pursuing Doctor of Pharmacy, Johnson City, Tennessee

CLASS OF 2020

Christian Michael Dalton
Hancock County High School, Sneedville, Tennessee
University of Tennessee, Agriculture, Knoxville, Tennessee
Pursuing a Master’s of Animal Science Degree, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee

Elijah Charles Pless
Elizabethton High School
Milligan College, Engineering
Engineer, Eastman, Kingsport, Tennessee

Tanner Lynn Shivley
Sullivan South High School, Kingsport, Tennessee
Carson-Newman University, Youth Athletics and Recreation Management
Group Development Coordinator, Mossy Creek Counseling, Jefferson City, Tennessee

Kori Lynn Smith
Chuckey-Doak High School, Greeneville, Tennessee
University of Tennessee, Biochemistry and Cellular and Molecular Biology
Knoxville, Tennessee
Ten-Month Ministry and Leadership Training Program, Thrive Residency, Knoxville, Tennessee

Zachary Tyler Ward
Volunteer High School, Church Hill, Tennessee
University of Tennessee, Chemistry/VolsTeach
Three-Year Missionary Tour with Chi Alpha

Matthew Hunter Widener
David Crockett High School, Jonesborough, Tennessee
East Tennessee State University, English
English Teacher, David Crocket High School, Jonesborough, Tennessee

Trenton Blake Yount
Hancock County High School, Sneedville, Tennessee
University of Tennessee, Mechanical Engineering
Thermal Design Engineer, Raycap/Stealth, Charleston, South Carolina
“I want to see in the Scholars a determination to learn as much as possible; the commitment to earn a living that supports their families and communities; and a desire to return in greater measure than has been given to them.”

-Scott M. Niswonger