

**Niswonger Foundation Board Update**  
**Wednesday, February 14, 2018**  
**Scholarship and Leadership**

**Scholar Updates**

Recent News

- Winter Training was held on December 21-22. The text was “*What Got You Here Won’t Get You There*” by Marshall Goldsmith.

Academic Achievement

The following Scholars maintained a 4.0 gpa for the Fall Semester 2016:

- Hope Adkins (Carson-Newman University, senior, family and consumer sciences education)
- Emily Ellison (Clemson University, freshman, animal and veterinary science)
- Lorraine Hayes (Wake Forest University, freshman, business administration/pre-med)
- Bo Pless (Milligan College, sophomore, engineering)
- Matthew Widener (East Tennessee State University, junior, English/secondary education)

All Scholars had an outstanding fall semester, with the lowest reported gpa at 3.34.

Service Achievement

- Our “shining stars” with community service for fall semester were Brittany Church (75 hours), Madeline Standbridge (60 hours) and Tanner Shivley (51 hours). A total of 811 hours of community service was completed by our Scholars during fall semester 2017.

Study Abroad

- Alora Ricker (Milligan College, senior, biology/pre-med) is completing a study abroad program in Florence, Italy for spring semester 2018. Alora is completing 16 hours of core, arts and language courses.

New Scholars

- **Our New Scholars’ Dinner is planned for Thursday, April 26, 7:00 p.m. at the General Morgan Inn. All Board members and spouses are encouraged to attend.**
- A press release for our New Scholars was issued in January.
- Contacts have been made with new Scholars and their families to offer assistance with college selection, scholarship applications, etc.
- College selection update:
  - Sarah Douthat (West Greene) UT Martin, biology or chemistry/pre-med
  - Alexis Harvey (Unicoi County) Tennessee Tech, electrical engineering
  - Jasmine Martin (Morristown East) Appalachian State University, communications/business

- Aubrie Strange (Cocke County) TBD/likely Furman, mass communication/journalism
- Rithvik Vutukuri (Dobyns-Bennett) TBD, pre-med
- Home visits are currently being scheduled.

Scholar News

Please see attached.

Summer Training

The tentative agenda for Summer Training is as follows:

Outdoor Challenge (Sophomores)	May 19 - 22
Challenge “Survival Picnic”	Tuesday, May 22
Bahamas (Freshmen)	May 24 - 27
Freshmen Orientation	Monday, May 28
Training Week	May 28 – June 1
<b>*Senior Dinner</b>	<b>Tuesday, May 29</b>
<b>*Board Luncheon</b>	<b>Wednesday, May 30</b>
Annual Day of Service	Thursday, May 31
Normandy Trip (Seniors)	June 2 - 11
New York City (Juniors)	August 2 - 5

*\*Board Members and Spouses especially encouraged to attend.*

*Additional details regarding training week will be provided as finalized.*

**Scholar Alumni Updates**

- The 2017 Scholar Alumni Reunion was held on Saturday, December 16 at the General Morgan Inn.
- Please see attached Alumni Scholar News

## Niswonger Scholar News!



**Hope Adkins** (Carson-Newman University, senior) earned Carson-Newman January Student Service Spotlight for excellence in University student service-leadership. She is student teaching at Bearden High School during her spring semester.



**Levi Blazer** (Belmont University, freshman) has been selected to serve on the College of Health Science & Nursing's advisory board at Belmont. He has been initiated into Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity. He participated in a mission trip to St. Louis Missouri, during his fall 2017 semester.



**Brittany Church** (Austin Peay University, freshman) earned the Dean's List for her fall 2017 semester.



**Emily Ellison** (Clemson University, freshman) achieved a 4.0 gpa for her first semester at Clemson.



**Lorraine Hayes** (Wake Forest University, freshman) earned the Dean's List for her fall 2017 semester. She received a 4.0 gpa for her first semester at Wake Forest.



**Ty Myers** (UT Chattanooga, freshman) has become a leader in the YoungLife program and will be serving at a high school near his campus.



**Bo Pless** (Milligan College, sophomore) has been accepted to the Oxford Summer Programme at Oxford University.



**Alora Ricker** (Milligan College, senior) has been accepted to East Tennessee State University James H. Quillen College of Medicine. She is studying abroad in Italy for her spring semester.



**Morgan Thomas** (Clemson University, junior) is one of nine students at her university to be working with a collaborative team to edit, review, and test the accuracy of a new Organic Chemistry Textbook for Norton Books.

## Alumni Scholar Updates



**Bradley Brown** (Class of 2008) has accepted a position with KKR Financial Services in California, investing in technology companies. He and his wife Jenna are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Nayva.



**Jordan Frye** (Class of 2015) recently earned her Master Social Worker license in the state of Tennessee.



**Taylor Grindstaff** (Class of 2012) in addition to her current position as counselor at Jefferson County High School, Taylor has accepted a position with the Tennessee State Department of Education as a Counselor Coach. She will be assisting other high school counselors in East Tennessee in transition to the new state counseling program requirements.



**Kyle Holliday** (Class of 2009) has returned to his home town of Van Wert, Ohio and has accepted a position as accountant for Van Crest Healthcare Center.



**Trey Reliford** (Class of 2010) and his wife Kristina's wedding was featured in ESSENCE Magazine: <https://www.essence.com/love-sex/weddings#RefifordReign>