

## ROTARY CLUB OF LEXINGTON 2022 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

### **JACK T. BRYDEN GREAT TEACHER AWARD**

#### **Kenna Womack Jasper, Lexington Christian Academy**



Kenna Jasper has been a biology teacher at Lexington Christian Academy (LCA) for sixteen years. During her career, she has taught regular and honors first year biology, Advanced Placement (AP) biology, genetics, and microbiology. Mrs. Jasper also leads mission trips and serves as the Science

Department Chair at LCA. She won LCA's Ruth Coppler Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2016 as well as the Campbellsville University Excellence in Teaching Award in 2021.

She is the daughter of Gordon and Brenda Womack and grew up attending public schools in Grayson, Kentucky. She went on to earn a biology degree from Georgetown College and a master's in secondary science education from the University of Kentucky (UK). She has been married to Jeff Jasper for 23 years and has three children: Kaylen, Kyle and Kori, all of whom attend or graduated from LCA. Her favorite part of teaching has been "watching her students go on to become incredible people who love the Lord, serve their communities, and are successful in their careers and families."

### **NOMINATOR**

#### **Milo Golding**



Milo Golding, son of Yanya Yang, is a national artistic award winner in Google's 2021 Doodle for Google Art Competition. For that competition, he created a piece that he titled, "Finding Hope." As he mourned the death of his father, he used art to advocate for health equity in rural and marginalized communities. Milo is also a Governor's Scholar. In 2019, he started Sanguine Path, a not-for-profit dedicated to providing children in vulnerable circumstances with school supplies, care packages, and Christmas gifts. He has consistently used his art to help visualize ideas for social good. He says, "Art establishes dialogue and opens hearts." Milo will attend Stanford University.

### **ALL-FAYETTE COUNTY ACADEMIC TEAM**

#### **Flavia Davis, Tates Creek High School**



Flavia Davis is about to graduate from Tates Creek High School and go on to Northern Kentucky University to study pre-law. She is the daughter of Christopher and Jennie Marie Davis. Her recommender said, "Flavia is one of the most caring and hard-working students I have taught in my 19

years of teaching. I am beyond impressed by her academic performance and leadership skills." She has served as tutor for those who came behind her. She sings in the choir and competes on the swim team, where she received the Heart of a Commodore Award for best overall sportsmanship.

#### **Emily Duerler, Lexington Christian Academy**



Emily Duerler will graduate from Lexington Christian Academy with high honors. She is the daughter of Lisa and Keith Duerler. She has lettered and earned three bars in soccer, was an All-City Honorable Mention, and received the All-Academic Team Soccer Award. She has been the secretary of the

National Honor Society, where she organized the weekly meetings, inducted new members, and coordinated service projects. Active in her church, she has volunteered weekly in the nursery, prepared meal packs for Haiti, and led kids in Sunday worship and church retreats. She plans to attend the University of Tennessee to study nursing.

#### **Sydney Bryson, Bryan Station High School**



Sydney Bryson, a senior at Bryan Station High School, is the daughter of L. Sebastian and Tina Bryson. During high school she was active in the National Honor Society and Beta Club and served as the NAACP vice president, a Bryan Station Ambassador, and the Hispanic Honor Society chairperson.

She was on the Honor Roll and won National Spanish Assessment Recognition as well as the Black History Month Contest for the NAACP Youth Council. Sydney plans to pursue her passion for the environment and climate change by studying biological engineering at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in the fall.

#### **Gabrielle Belcher, Frederick Douglass High School**



Gabrielle Belcher, a senior at Frederick Douglass High School, is the daughter of Denise and Thomas Belcher. She is a National Honor Society and Beta Club member, Student Council vice president, and the recipient of Academic Awards in AP Literature and advanced Algebra Two.

Gabrielle was also Student of the Month in September 2019. She has held leadership positions in varsity sports and DanceBlue, earning both Most Improved and best Offensive Player for volleyball, and a total of seven Academic Excellence Awards for tennis and volleyball. She plans to attend Marshall University and study international business.

**David Reinhart, Lexington Catholic High School**

David Reinhart has been named the valedictorian of Lexington Catholic's class of '22. While he plans to attend Xavier University to study mechanical engineering, he also enjoys playing the piano day in and day out, and he adores his dachshund, named "Tater." He is an avid runner and

has excelled in Cross Country, placing in the top 25 in the All-State Cross-Country Team in 2021, the region 4 Class 2A Individual Champion, and 4th place in the Class 2A State Finals. He volunteered in DanceBlue to raise money for cancer research, participates in Backpack Buddies, and most recently helped with bake sales and food drives to raise money for Ukraine. David is the son of Colleen and Todd Reinhart.

**Donya Nikouharf, Lafayette High School**

Donya Nikouharf, a First Generation Scholar at Lafayette High School, regularly engages both sides of her brain. The daughter of Alireza Nikouharf and Elham Khosravy, Donya is part of the School for the Creative and Performing Arts (SCAPA) and the school's pre-engineering program. Her school

activities include Beta Club, Mu Alpha Theta (math honor society), National Honor Society, and National Art Honor Society, just to name a few. She volunteers at the Children's Theater and the Carnegie Center as a tutor. She was a manager of Girls' Basketball and worked as a trainer at Chick-fil-A and held an internship in a dental practice. She plans to attend UK for a degree in biology to pursue a career in dentistry.

**Logan Justice, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School**

Logan Justice will graduate from Paul Laurence Dunbar High School and will attend the University of Kentucky to study public policy and integrated strategic communications. He is the son of Heather and Grover Justice. He is a regular weekly volunteer at Ronald McDonald House.

After serving as sophomore class president, Logan was elected Student Council president in the middle of the COVID pandemic and became determined to hold the best DanceBlue ever to raise money to fight pediatric cancer. He has served as a leader of Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America. He was appointed to the Kentucky Education Commissioner's Student Advisory Council and served as representative on the Commonwealth Education Continuum, a union between the Governor's office, the Department of Education, and the Council on Post-Secondary Education. As a student journalist and editor-in-chief of the PLD school newspaper, he has numerous publications in School Newspapers Online.

**Griffin Sims, Henry Clay High School**

Griffin Sims is the son of Laura and Teague Sims. At Henry Clay High School he was inducted into the National Honor Society and earned the Algebra Two, Pre-Calculus, and 4.0 Awards. He is an AP Scholar with Distinction and was accepted into the Governor's Scholars Program.

Griffin served as The Lexington School Ambassador and the ASPIRE Student Athlete Leadership Conference Representative. He was the Varsity Lacrosse Team captain and coached Youth Lacrosse as well as serving as a peer tutor and the overall chair for DanceBlue. He plans to attend Vanderbilt University to study civil engineering.

**2022 ROTARY SCHOLAR****McKenna Sun, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School**

From Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, McKenna will attend the University of Pennsylvania to study biochemistry. One of her true passions, however, is teaching. Despite being separated by 7,000 miles and a 12-hour time difference, for the past five years McKenna has served a dozen students

in China, teaching them English and engaging in cross-cultural conversations. McKenna has also worked tirelessly promoting environmentalism. She started the National Green Schools Society and has partnered with international companies organizing park cleanups. She aims to serve both people and the environment. She also enjoys music and loves to share it with others as she volunteers at Baptist Hospital, playing the piano in the cancer patient lobby. She has been the president of the Bluegrass Youth Sustainability Council and developed an eco-friendly business model while participating in the Governor's School for Entrepreneurs. Her recommender said, "McKenna is a workhorse of positivity that truly inspires people."

**DELTA HEALTHCARE SCHOLARSHIP****Matthew Skinner, University of Kentucky Medical School**

Matthew Skinner, the son of Roger and Sherry Skinner, hails from Cadiz, Kentucky. He is currently enrolled full time at the University of Kentucky Medical School. A 4.0 graduate of Murray State with a degree in Biology. While at Murray State he was the recipient of many awards and graduated

with honors. Service to others has been a definite cornerstone of his life. Traveling to Haiti as a volunteer, Matthew and his team built a school and there he learned that there are two forms of service: physical and emotional. Interestingly, Matthew learned that the emotional service provided by the people he helped was their service to him. That experience was the impetus for other mission trips to Guatemala, Jamaica, Arizona, and New York, and led ultimately to his choice of a career in medicine. Even as a busy med student, Matthew has gotten involved in our community by volunteering at the Salvation Army Clinic and serving as a mentor through the Area Health Education Center. He hopes to practice medicine right here in Kentucky.