

## CLASS OF 2026 SENIOR AWARDS NIGHT

*Scholarships and Awards are listed below, partially obtained from a script read during Awards Night, and are listed in order of presentation.*

### **AMERICAN RED CROSS SCHOLARSHIP (\$500)**

The American Red Cross Scholarship is awarded through participation in the American Red Cross Blood Drive held at Treynor High School. This scholarship is based on community service, academics, and activity participation in the spring National Honor Society blood drive. Here to present tonight is our secondary school nurse, Cory Young. This year's recipients of the American Red Cross Scholarships are **Luke Christensen and Kiera Vorthmann**.

### **BARB KALLESEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (\$500 now, \$500 with first classroom)**

The Barb Kallesen Memorial Scholarship was founded to honor the legacy of an extraordinary teacher, principal, mentor, and lifelong learner. Mrs. Kallesen inspired the career paths of many individuals, including members of her own family. Following her example, three family members have gone on to teach within the Treynor School District: her daughter, Mrs. Lisa Chambers, and her granddaughters, Mrs. Mallory White and Mrs. Alyssa Chambers. Barb believed deeply in supporting students, encouraging growth, and helping young people reach their full potential. The first portion of Barb's scholarship supports the education of a future teacher, with a secondary donation awarded when the recipient gets their first classroom. Barb's daughter and granddaughters are here tonight to present the award. The recipient of the Barb Kallesen Memorial Scholarship this year is **Nora Konz**.

### **CAREER EDVANTAGE SCHOLARSHIP**

Our Career EdVantage program through Treynor High School leads to a full scholarship at Iowa Western Community College or financial assistance with workforce development post high school. Through the program, students work with our career coach, Chris Grala. Our Career EdVantage graduates this year include **Taylor Black, Isaac Butts, Corey Eitmann, Grant Fisher, Audrey Gayer,Carolynn Knott, Elsie Mausbach, and Luke Parrott**.

### **EUGENE & AUDREY STEWART MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (\$4000)**

The Eugene and Audrey Stewart Memorial Scholarships are awarded to Treynor students planning to attend a trade school after graduation. The scholarship was formed to honor Eugene and Audrey Stewart who believed strongly in extending education beyond high school and also the value in mastering a trade. Eugene was a lifelong educator who began his teaching and coaching career at Treynor and finished it 35 years later at Iowa School for the Deaf. Audrey drove a school bus for the Treynor school district for nearly four decades. The founders of this scholarship are Rick and Valerie Reed. Valerie is a daughter of Eugene and Audrey and is here to present the award tonight. The recipients of the Eugene and Audrey Stewart Memorial Scholarships this year are **Taylor Black, Corey Eitmann, and Luke Parrott**.

### **FINNEGAN FAMILY SCHOLARSHIPS (\$1000)**

The Finnegan Family Foundation is a charitable fund that awards scholarships to high school students in southwest Iowa each year. The Foundation was set up as a memorial to Ken Finnegan, who was the elementary school principal in Oakland, Iowa from 1974 – 1994. Here to present the scholarships tonight are Ken's wife, Nancy Finnegan and his daughter, Amy Carolus. This year's recipients of the Finnegan Family Scholarships are **Nora Konz and Zoey Zadalis**.

### **GRIST MILL SCHOLARSHIP**

Deanna Fender presented the Grist Mill Scholarship to **Delaney Mathews**.

### **JUNIOR TREYNOR WOMEN SCHOLARSHIPS (\$900)**

The Junior Treynor Women sponsors multiple scholarships for seniors who excel in academics, activity participation, service, and citizenship. This year's recipients of the Junior Treynor Women Scholarships are **Gabrielle Blanchard, Luke Christensen, Molly Coffman, Emry Honkomp, Delaney Jorgenson, Ellie Kinsella, Colton Lane, Drew Meyers, Claire Schrage, Elyse Winchell, and Lilly Yochum.**

### **KEN & TAMI HEKTER TRADE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP (\$200)**

The Ken & Tami Hekter Scholarship is for students attending trade school after high school graduation. The positives of trade school include fast, affordable and practical pathways to high demand careers. Ken Hekter went to trade school after graduation and it has worked out very well for him. He is able to repair his own heavy equipment machinery, which is saving a lot of money on repair bills. The recipients of the Ken & Tami Hekter Trade School Scholarships this year are **Isaac Butts and Keatyn Dirks.**

### **MENTZER FAMILY SCHOLARSHIPS (\$500)**

Mike and Gina Mentzer are Treynor parents who work in agriculture and healthcare and love the Treynor Community School District. They believe in our students and appreciate the teachers and staff here. The Mentzers have generously donated funds to support students who are pursuing careers in agriculture and healthcare. Their agriculture scholarship is going to **Lilley Casson** who plans to study Ag Science at Central Community College. Their healthcare Caring Cardinal Scholarship is going to Jett Sornson who plans to become a physician assistant after studying Nutrition & Health Sciences at UNL.

### **RICHARD P. WENNINGHOFF SCHOLARSHIP (\$20,000)**

The late Richard P. Wenninghoff was a Treynor High School graduate and farmer between Underwood and Crescent. He left a generous endowment fund with multiple scholarships that are selected by a committee within the Southwest Iowa Educational Foundation. The following students were recognized at a SWIEF breakfast this morning, but we want to acknowledge them tonight as well. This year's recipients of the Richard P. Wenninghoff Memorial Scholarships are **Molly Coffman, Sierra Goss, Ellie Kinsella, Addie Minahan, Claire Schrage, Corbin Thien, Iris Thompson, Lanee Wasenius, and Lilly Yochum.**

### **OTHER SOUTHWEST IOWA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS (\$1000)**

The Southwest Iowa Educational Foundation manages multiple scholarships for students across southwest Iowa. In addition to the nine Wenninghoff recipients, we had five seniors receive other SWIEF scholarships. First, **Jett Sornson** received the Dr. Arthur and Dorothy Strobehn Memorial Scholarship. **Drew Meyers** earned a Council Bluffs Soccer Club Scholarship. **Andrew Kalstrup** received the Julia and Gary Funkhouser Scholarship. **Collin Reineke** received the Council Bluffs Hy-Vee Food and Drug Stores Scholarship, and **Iris Thompson** earned the Council Bluffs Retired School Personnel Scholarship.

### **SHARI NIELSEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Shari Nielsen was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dick and Rita Nielsen who attended Treynor High School. She was tragically killed in a car accident between her sophomore and junior years. She was involved in flag corps, drill team, and multiple athletics. Her family gives one scholarship in her memory. Shari's sister, Lisa White, is here to present the certificate. This year's recipient of the Shari Nielsen Memorial Scholarship is **Anna Sausedo.**

### **SONS & DAUGHTERS OF IMOGENE SCHOLARSHIP**

Joe Nebel, the Vice President of the Sons & Daughters of Imogene presented the scholarship to **Ellie Kinsella.**

### **ST. PAUL LUTHERAN SCHOLARSHIPS (\$1000)**

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Treynor is recognizing seniors for their selfless service to the congregation and their outstanding dedication to upholding the values of St. Paul's mission. Scholarship committee member, Kevin Pingel, is here to present the awards. The recipients of the St. Paul Lutheran Scholarships this year are **Sophia Pedersen, Claire Schrage, Lanee Wasenius, and Kiera Vorthmann.**

### **TEAMMATES MENTORING SCHOLARSHIP (\$4000)**

The TeamMates Mentoring Program offers multiple scholarships for graduating seniors. We have one senior who has participated in TeamMates for over five years, and he earned the Iowa Western Community College TeamMates Scholarship this year. His mentor, Phil Waggoner, has spent a lot of time coming to school and connecting with him on fishing, farming, and trap shooting amongst many other topics. Congratulations to the recipient of this scholarship, **Taylor Black.**

### **TRENT COLLINS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

The Trent Collins Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of Trent Collins who was a 1993 graduate of Treynor High School. It is given to one senior who plans to work in a healthcare or computer science career. Trent had many interests in school and particularly enjoyed playing trumpet in the marching and jazz bands. Trent was also active in the school musicals and enjoyed spending time with friends. This year's recipient of the Trent Collins Memorial Scholarship is **Elyse Winchell.**

### **TREYNOR AMERICAN LEGION SCHOLARSHIP (\$1000)**

The Treynor American Legion Post 725 sponsors multiple scholarships for seniors based on citizenship, activity involvement, and academic achievement. Legion members are here to present the awards. This year's recipients of the Treynor American Legion Scholarships are **Taylor Black, Luke Christensen, Dane Gutttau, Ethan Hill, Fuschia Johnson, Clare Keiner, Drew Meyers, Iris Thompson, Lilly Yochum, and Zoey Zadalis.**

Additionally, the American Legion recognizes one senior for their good citizenship and being an upstanding person. This student receives a scholarship and their name engraved on a plaque here at the high school. This year's recipient of the American Legion Good Citizenship Award is **Clare Keiner.**

### **MILITARY RECOGNITION**

We also want to acknowledge four seniors who have enlisted or are planning to enlist in the U.S. military. First, the United States Navy's primary mission is to defend the nation at sea, maintaining freedom of the seas and deterring aggression. We have three seniors joining the U.S. Navy. Please give **Ayden Asmus, Macy Davis, and Audrey Gayer** a big round of applause. We have another senior who has enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. The United States Marines are a family that fights together, finding individual purpose in a collective cause—the protection of our Nation and the advancement of its ideals. Please give a big hand to **Chase Killinger.**

### **TREYNOR MUSIC BOOSTER SCHOLARSHIP (\$500)**

The Treynor Music Boosters awards scholarships to seniors who were involved in choir or band during high school. They encourage Treynor graduates to continue their music education or activities in college. This year's recipients of the Treynor Music Booster Scholarships are **Brooklyn Casey, Delaney Jorgenson, Andrew Kalstrup, and Clare Keiner.**

### **TREYNOR OPTIMIST CLUB SCHOLARSHIP (\$500)**

The Treynor Optimist Club motto is “Friend of Youth” and is very active in encouraging youth activities. They sponsor scholarships for graduating seniors to encourage them to further their formal education. Dale Willenborg, the president of the Optimist Club, is here to present certificates to the following recipients: **Taylor Black, Gabrielle Blanchard, Luke Christensen, Ethan Hill, Delaney Jorgenson, Clare Keiner, Colton Lane, Alec Lovely, Addie Minahan, Claire Schrage, Iris Thompson, Kiera Vorthmann, Lanee Wasenius, Lilly Yochum, and Zoey Zadalis.**

### **JUNIOR OPTIMIST CLUB (\$500)**

Additionally, the Junior Optimist Club is an organization within Treynor High School with Shelly Bailey as the sponsor. The club promotes service within youth with various projects throughout the year. This year three seniors will be awarded a scholarship based on their significant contributions to the JOI Club. They are **Molly Coffman, Dane Gutttau, and Ellie Kinsella.**

### **TRISTAN WHITE WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP (\$500)**

In memory of Tristan White, the Treynor Community Wrestling Booster Club awards scholarships to seniors who are involved in the Treynor wrestling program and seek to recognize the impact a person can make on others’ lives through their character, discipline, love of family, and teamwork. These are all attributes Tristan exhibited. Treynor wrestling coaches, Cory Young and Cody Kingery, are here to present certificates to this year’s recipients. The Tristan White Wrestling Scholarship recipients are **Carolynn Knott, Elsie Mausbach, Addie Minahan, and Jett Sornson.**

### **IOWA WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE CERTIFICATES, DIPLOMAS, & DEGREES**

Through the state’s Senior Year Plus program, Treynor Community School District pays for students to take courses through Iowa Western Community College. Many seniors this year earned certificates, diplomas, or Associate degrees so we would like to acknowledge them at this time. First, students earning a certificate or diploma from IWCC include **Taylor Black, Corey Eitmann, Luke Parrott, Nolan Scott, Elyse Winchell, and Zoey Zadalis.**

For the first year, we had multiple students complete at least 60 credit hours of Iowa Western Community College coursework and earn an Associate’s degree in conjunction with their high school diploma. These students include **Molly Coffman, Sierra Goss, Dane Gutttau, Fuschia Johnson, Ellie Kinsella, Addie Minahan, Jeffery Owen, Nolan Scott, and Iris Thompson.**

### **OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS**

Now we would like to recognize seniors who have received college or other outside scholarships.

- **Taylor Black** - Council Bluffs Building & Trade Association Scholarship, West Pottawattamie County Farm Bureau Scholarship
- **Gabby Blanchard** - University of Minnesota College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences Scholarship and University of Minnesota National Scholarship
- **Hailey Bothwell** - University of Northern Iowa Bright Scholars of Iowa Award, UNI Panther Achievement Award, John and Avis Moody Scholarship, UNI Inspire Award, and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant
- **Brooklyn Casey** - University of Nebraska - Lincoln Chancellor’s Scholarship, UNL Raikes Foundation Scholarship, and Fraternal Order of Police Council Bluffs Scholarship
- **Luke Christensen** - Iowa State University Forever Scholar Award and Ivy Future Leaders Award
- **Molly Coffman** - University of Iowa Scholars Award
- **Corey Eitmann** - Council Bluffs Building & Trade Association Scholarship
- **Savannah Goss** - Midland University Dance Scholarship and Midland University Honors Program Scholarship
- **Sierra Goss** - Midland University Dance Scholarship and Midland University Honors Program Scholarship
- **Dane Gutttau** - University of Iowa Scholars Award

- **Grant Fisher** - WeLead Technical Institute with tuition, tools, and housing all paid for by AgriVision Equipment and PrairieLand Partners
- **Ethan Hill** - University of Nebraska - Lincoln New Nebraskan Scholarship and UNL Housing Credit
- **Jeyden Jensen** - Iowa State University First Year Student's Award
- **Delaney Jorgenson** - University of Nebraska-Lincoln Husker Salute Scholarship
- **Andrew Kalstrup** - Iowa State University Catt Scholarship and Iowa State University Grant
- **Clare Keiner** - UNO Advantage Scholarship and Iowa Grocers Education Scholarship
- **Ellie Kinsella** - Saint Mary's College Madeleva (Mad-uh-LEE-vuh) Award, Knights of Columbus Scholarship, Saint Patrick's Church Altar Society Grant, and PEO Community Service Scholarship Award
- **Cauby Konz** - St. Patrick's Parish Scholarship, University of Iowa Scholars Award, Men's Track Member
- **Nora Konz** - Buena Vista University President's Scholarship, Build Up Iowa Scholarship, BVU Opportunity Grant, and a BVU Visit Grant
- **Alec Lovely** - Simpson College Presidential Scholarship for Men's Basketball
- **Delaney Mathews** - Western Kentucky University Full Ride Softball Scholarship, TIP Residency Scholarship
- **Hayley M** - Iowa Tuition Grant, Simpson College Dean's Scholarship, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Simpson College Speech & Debate Scholarship, and Simpson College 99 County Full Tuition Scholarship
- **Drew Meyers** - University of Nebraska - Lincoln Legacy New Nebraskan Scholar and the UNL Raikes Foundation Scholarship
- **Jude Mieska** - University of Nebraska - Lincoln In-State Tuition Scholarship
- **Addie Minahan** - University of Iowa Scholars Award
- **Luke Parrott** - Council Bluffs Building & Trade Association Scholarship, Iowa Western Community College Pottawattamie Scholarship
- **Sophi Pedersen** - Simpson College Presidential Scholarship for Women's Golf
- **Anna Sausedo** - University of Iowa Scholars Award
- **Jett Sornson** - University of Nebraska - Lincoln National First Responder Pledge Scholarship
- **Iris Thompson** - University of Iowa Scholars Award
- **Ella Thornton** - Iowa Western Community College Full Tuition Basketball Scholarship
- **Kiera Vorthmann** - Iowa Farm Bureau Scholarship
- **Elyse Winchell** - Briar Cliff Academic Achieve Scholarship, Women's Softball Scholarship, Presidential Interview Scholarship, and St. Clare Scholarship
- **Lilly Yochum** - National Council on Youth Leadership Award, PEO Community Service Scholarship, Simpson College Presidential Scholarship for Women's Soccer
- **Zoey Zadalis** - University of South Dakota Coyote Beginner Scholarship and Credit Union Scholarship

### GOVERNOR'S SCHOLAR RECOGNITION

The Governor's Scholar Recognition Program is a joint effort between the Governor's Office of the State of Iowa, the Iowa High School Athletic Association and its title sponsor, Iowa Farm Bureau. The program recognizes senior students across the State of Iowa who are one of the highest academic achievers in their schools. One Treynor senior was honored at a recognition ceremony in April and will receive a plaque today. Treynor High School's Governor's Scholar this year is **Brooklyn Casey**.

### DES MOINES REGISTER ACADEMIC ALL-STATE

The Des Moines Register acknowledges seniors across the state as high academic achievers evidenced by their GPA and ACT score. They also want nominees who are positive leaders in their schools. These seniors are recognized in the Des Moines Register. The Academic All-State Treynor High School nominee this year is **Drew Meyers**.

### **IOWA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION**

The Iowa State Bar Association and the Iowa State Bar Foundation recognize one senior for their American Citizenship Award. This student was selected for showing the qualities of strong citizenship and service and respect for our government. They will receive a certificate and medal tonight, and their name will be engraved on a plaque that will hang in the high school. The recipient of the Iowa State Bar Association American Citizenship Award is **Iris Thompson**.

### **DAR GOOD CITIZENS AWARD**

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution was founded in 1890 and its three main goals are: Historic Preservation, Education of American Youth, and Patriotism. Every year one senior is selected by the Treynor High School faculty to receive the DAR Good Citizen Award for their dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism. Here to present the award tonight is Council Bluffs chapter member, Mary Ann Ervin. Our DAR Good Citizen Award recipient and essay winner for the Council Bluffs DAR Chapter is **Jett Sornson**.

### **TREYNOR HIGH SCHOOL CARDINAL OF THE YEAR**

The Treynor High School Cardinal of the Year is an award for two seniors who best represent the Excellence that Treynor is known for. They should be good students, active, hard working, dedicated, and more than anything, good people. What makes this award most unique is that the recipients are chosen by staff at Treynor Middle & High School. Our 2026 senior Cardinals of the Year are **Jett Sornson and Molly Coffman**.

### **PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE**

The President's Education Award Program honors students who have achieved academic excellence as evidenced by their grade point average of 3.5 or higher every year in high school and their junior year state standardized test scores being at or above the 90th percentile for ELA or math. This year's recipients for the President's Award for Educational Excellence are:

- Brooklyn Casey
- Luke Christensen
- Sierra Goss
- Dane Gutttau
- Ethan Hill
- Jeyden Jensen
- Andrew Kalstrup
- Clare Keiner
- Ellie Kinsella
- Drew Meyers
- Addie Minahan
- Jeffery Owen
- Jett Sornson
- Corbin Thien
- Iris Thompson

**TREYNOR HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC LETTERS**

In order to receive an academic letter from Treynor High School as a senior, a student must obtain a 3.7 GPA the first semester of their senior year. Students will receive a certificate and pin for their academic letter.

- Ayden Asmus
- Lauren Birdsong
- Gabby Blanchard
- Hailey Bothwell
- Isaac Butts
- Brooklyn Casey
- Luke Christensen
- Molly Coffman
- Savannah Goss
- Sierra Goss
- Dane Guttau
- Ethan Hill
- Jeyden Jensen
- Delaney Jorgenson
- Andrew Kalstrup
- Clare Keiner
- Ellie Kinsella
- Carolynn Knott
- Cauy Konz
- Nora Konz
- Colton Lane
- Delaney Mathews
- Hayley M
- Drew Meyers
- Addie Minahan
- Brayden Neill
- Jeffery Owen
- Sophi Pedersen
- Collin Reineke
- Anna Sausedo
- Claire Schrage
- Nolan Scott
- Jett Sornson
- Corbin Thien
- Iris Thompson
- Ella Thornton
- Lanee Wasenius
- Elyse Winchell
- Lilly Yochum
- Zoey Zadalis

### **E. WAYNE COOLEY AWARD**

The E. Wayne Cooley Award was established in 1993 as a tribute to the Executive Director of the Iowa Girls' High School Athletic Union from 1954 to 2002. The E. Wayne Cooley nominee is recognized not only for her contributions on the playing field but more importantly her leadership in the classroom, in her school, and in her community. This year's E. Wayne Cooley Award nominee for Treynor High School is **Claire Schrage**.

### **LISA BRINKMEYER AWARD**

The Iowa Girls' High School Athletic Union also provides the Lisa Brinkmeyer Award. This award honors graduating female student-athletes who have distinguished themselves throughout their high school careers in the areas of academic achievement, athletic excellence, and leadership. The Lisa Brinkmeyer Award for Treynor High School this year goes to **Nora Konz**.

### **BERNIE SAGGAU AWARD**

The Bernie Saggau Award is presented by the Iowa High School Athletic Association's Board to a senior, male athlete at every Iowa high school. With strong academics, activity involvement, and leadership, the character and behavior of this student shall have consistently been of high quality and represented them, their family, and our school well. Our Bernie Saggau Award recipient this year is **Ethan Hill**.

### **OUTSTANDING BUSINESS STUDENT AWARD**

Tracy Petersen is proud to announce **Dane Guttau** as this year's Outstanding Business Student. As a two-year member of FBLA, he performed at the State Leadership Conference at the end of March, dominating the Securities & Investments division to bring home 8th place in the entire state. Congratulations Dane.

### **OUTSTANDING PHYSICAL SCIENCE STUDENT AWARD**

Alex Herrington presented this year's award to **Drew Meyers**. Mr. Herrington had this to say: "While Drew was an elite performer on exams, he really stood out with an insatiable curiosity for science, a rare ability to bring out the best in his classmates and the creative competency to actualize ideas with technology. I truly think that he is on track to do great things."

### **OUTSTANDING LIFE SCIENCE STUDENT AWARD**

To be eligible for the life science award, students must take at least 3 life science electives that we offer, including Anatomy/Physiology, Sports Medicine, Medical Terminology, and Human Biology. The award is based on 4 categories, Excelling Academically, High Character, Positive Class Contributions, and Integrity. Jane Leick presented this year's award to **Jett Sornson** and had this to say "Each year, this is a difficult decision, because I feel that many of my students are strong in these categories. This year is no different, but there was a student who edged his peers. He is an outstanding young man, a positive student to have in your classroom, and he works hard to excel in each class I've ever had him in. He has done very well in each of my life science courses, and has earned this award."