

2016 Academic All-Stars

It's that time of year again when The Herald-Palladium honors the best and brightest high school seniors in Southwest Michigan.

This year, principals and counselors at 24 area high schools nominated 53 seniors who excelled not just academically, but also through extracurricular activities, leadership and community service.

A panel of judges chose the top 15 to be this year's Academic All-Stars. In addition to school transcripts, GPAs and test scores, the judges reviewed letters of recommendation and the students' activities outside of the classroom.

Judging the competition were Chris Spradlin, vice president of Instruction, Arts and Sciences at Lake Michigan College; Mary DelMariani, federal and state programs consultant for Berrien Regional Education Service Agency; and Gary Burdick, assistant dean of graduate programs in the College of Arts and Sciences at Andrews University.

"The process of choosing the Academic All-Stars was both rewarding and challenging," Spradlin said. "To see what these students have accomplished academically, and to learn about the contributions they have made to the schools and communities in which they live, was truly impressive and inspiring. It was a significant challenge to choose the All-Stars from the long list of students nominated. Each and every student who submitted an application deserves congratulations for the efforts they have made and the accomplishments they have achieved."

The winners will receive a \$200 scholarship funded by The Herald-Palladium and Andrews University as well as a \$250 Red Hawk Scholarship good toward a class at LMC.

The Herald-Palladium congratulates all of this year's nominees for their remarkable accomplishments in high school, and wishes them the best in their future pursuits.

-Andy Steinke, Features Editor



Matthew Reeves
Berrien Springs High School



Joshua Youngs
Brandywine High School



Nora Hafez
Decatur High School



Robert Dick
Decatur High School



Francine Barchett
Grace Christian High School



Jessica Russell
Lake Michigan Catholic High School



Adrien Beauflis
Lakeshore High School



Malika Takale
Lakeshore High School



Jessica Arend
Michigan Lutheran High School



Calla Beers
New Buffalo High School



Gabrielle Goshorn
Niles High School



Iza Graham
South Haven High School



Abby Hendrix
South Haven High School



Avery Conybeare
St. Joseph High School



Brody Roland
Watervliet High School

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