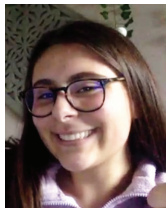


55TH ANNUAL SIMON LAZARUS, JR., HUMAN RELATIONS AWARDS WINNERS AND FINALISTS

2020 JUNIOR WINNER AND FINALISTS



Caitlin Broderick, Wyoming High School
2020 Simon Lazarus, Jr., Human Relations Awards Winner

Caitlin is a junior who has been involved as a participant and leader in a remarkable array of volunteer activities while attending Wyoming High School. She's been shaped by service experiences in Chicago, where she learned about generational poverty and in Costa Rica, where she encountered the struggles of indigenous people. Caitlin is extremely proud of several endeavors, including her role as an intern at the Federal Public Defender's office and then working with Project LEAD where she helped launch a twice weekly after-school program for Central American immigrants in Carthage, focusing on reading, English, homework help and cultural assimilation. Her experience at the Public Defender's office encouraged her to assist those who can't help themselves and her ultimate goal is to attend law school where she intends to become a public defender and published author.

Another one of Caitlin's proudest accomplishments was coordinating and leading the Community Climate Change Rally for which she wrote an article and poem that were published in Wyoming's community newsletter. Following the event, she led a discussion about climate change for a local youth group. Her passion is writing, and she felt herself emerge as a leader through the process, culminating with her role as the primary speaker in front of several hundred school and community members. Some of her many other service interests include Project H.O.P.E. (Help Our Planet Earth), Relay for Life, food pantry work, Ohio Teen Ambassador Board, and A Characteristic Attitude (where she dresses up as a Disney character at charity events). She also took a two-week behavioral neuroscience course at the University of Michigan so that she could better serve others. Caitlin is a member of Model United Nations, the National Honor Society and helped lead a writing group to promote equal rights and social justice.

BY CHARLEY FRANK, 2020 LAZARUS JUDGE

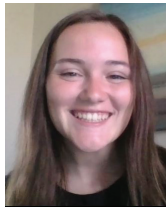


Alivia Hyland, Saint Ursula Academy
Finalist

When Alivia and her twin were just 13, they created an organization to support the elderly population by going to community nursing homes and painting the nails of elderly residents. They called their selfless service "Color of Love". Since the pandemic hit, Alivia is humbled and patient. She realizes now, more than ever before, the importance of social distancing, especially with regard to older, more vulnerable people. In addition to "Color of Love", Alivia has led the Saint Ursula Academy Social Justice Club for two years. What is most impressive is how she researches each issue she encounters and then puts her learning into action. She is passionate about making sure others understand the importance of the work of the Social Justice Club. She also finds time to mentor and tutor her "Bulldog Buddy" classmates.

Alivia's biggest inspiration is her mother, Janet, a nurse practitioner. The pandemic crisis has helped Alivia to appreciate her mother's hard work and compassion even more. Alivia loves to swim and to spend time with her sister Caitlin and with her mom. They are all very close. Her sense of humor is unique, inviting and infectious. In the years to come, it will be an important asset when she becomes a therapist or works with her teacher, Miss Temper, in the Community Service Department. I look forward to witnessing the change she will create.

BY TYRA PATTERSON, 2020 LAZARUS JUDGE



Hannah Laman, Loveland High School

Finalist

When she was only 9 years old, Hannah, along with her brother, founded a nonprofit to provide books for young people who cannot afford them. It is impressive enough that she created a nonprofit at such a young age, but even more impressive that she has persisted and developed it into an organization that has delivered some 165,000 books to more than 100 schools in our region. Not only does she understand that she is helping others but says of her work with the organization that it has “shaped me as a person, as I have grown up with it, and it has put me out of my comfort zone and taught me how to lead others in pursuing their goals as well as helping others.” Hannah has not given of herself just to make a college application look better. She does community service with intrinsic motivation straight from the heart. An innovator, an entrepreneur and a leader, Hannah truly embodies the values of the Simon Lazarus, Jr., Human Relations Award.

BY JAMES BUCHANAN, 2020 LAZARUS JUDGE



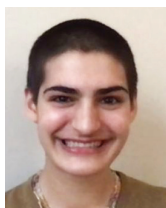
Anna MacLennan, Anderson High School

Finalist

Anna is a bright, young woman operating on a level much higher than most. She refuses to accept accolades, honors and recognition for her own sake. Her joy lies in genuinely seeing others grow and be inspired to pursue their dreams. And, that is why she started Girl Power Politics. What started as a single event geared towards empowering young girls and women into political engagement has since blossomed forth into an ever-growing movement of young girls across the world. Anna started through local activism earning a seat on the local Hamilton County Women and Girls Commission, where she led with conviction and managed to get several recommendations passed addressing women’s rights and equality. In addition to politics, Anna also has a passion for the STEM fields, especially astrophysics. As a Junior, Anna has several years of experience as a student ambassador for Back To Space, a program geared to bringing the STEM fields into pop culture. Anna has been a guest speaker at local schools to encourage youth, and genuinely finds inspiration when she can light a spark in someone else.

Anna is a multi-dimensional leader who credits her personal character ‘hands down’ to her own mother, who moved from China to Canada as a young woman to start a new life with her husband. “My mom has always been empowering and encouraging, never pushing me to do anything I didn’t want, but supporting me to pursue my dreams.” Anna plans to attend university with a double major in astrophysics and political science, remaining heavily involved with Girl Power Politics, hoping that her organization continues to grow, helps encourage girls across the world to graduate STEM fields, pursue their dreams and help make their voices heard. Anna’s list of achievements is only just beginning, but she is not interested in being in it just to build her resume. With the utmost integrity and sincerity, Anna simply wishes to inspire her peers while focusing on the impact and feeling grateful for the difference one voice can truly make. May the universe continue to bless her, always!

BY JAIPAL SINGH, 2020 LAZARUS JUDGE



Tamar Sella, Walnut Hills High School

Finalist

Tamar is an amazing young woman who has a passion for volunteerism and for expanding cultural awareness among disparate groups of people. When I spoke to Tamar to let her know she’d been selected as a finalist for the 2020 Simon Lazarus, Jr., Human Relations Award, she described the impact that her family’s journey has had on her desire to help others. It’s a journey that’s been both sorrow-filled and filled with great joy, and Tamar has channeled the lessons she’s learned from her loved ones, especially her parents, to focus on gaining knowledge from different perspectives and building understanding among diverse populations. She also loves to use her love of food to help others overcome issues dealing with food insecurity.

When I asked Tamar what she would like to study in the future, she expressed a degree of uncertainty, which is quite natural for a junior in high school. She’s interested in anthropology, sociology, physics and engineering, and art and design. She told me she wants to explore these interests further and pursue a path that helps others, a laudable goal for a remarkably talented person. I have no doubt she will find a way to make this world a better place.

BY TODD DYKES, 2020 LAZARUS JUDGE

2020 SENIOR WINNER AND FINALISTS



Jillian Rice, Indian Hill High School
2020 Simon Lazarus, Jr., Human Relations Awards Winner

Jillian's own words powerfully express her passion about the work she has done: "With every turn of a faucet I expect water to come out, and being a competitive swimmer... I have enough water to go beyond staying clean and hydrated, I have it in such abundance I can use it as a source of recreation. Seeing the enormous role water plays in my life made me question why I wasn't doing something to make sure everyone in their world had access to at least enough water to stay alive."

Jillian began working at an international organization which paired her with a small village in the Dominican Republic. For years she struggled to raise both money and consciousness to help provide the most basic needs for water that we all take for granted. She worked hard at it from parades, to glow sticks, to "Bravo Bouquets," to athletic events to selling Girl Scout cookies—everything she could do to succeed in her goal. Through her efforts thousands of dollars have been raised that will make profound differences to the lives of those less fortunate than we who have water in such abundance. Jillian is described by a leader who knows her as "unassuming, kind, dedicated and...beyond humble." Jillian is exactly the kind of young adult that the Simon Lazarus Award should recognize and honor and is truly deserving of this award.

BY JAMES BUCHANAN, 2020 LAZARUS JUDGE



Sean Fallis, Bethel-Tate High School
Finalist

Sean is a high school senior who has creatively found ways to turn his curiosity about challenging situations into workable solutions. Many of the steps he has taken to help people and the planet have morphed into opportunities for other young people to understand the impact gestures of kindness and hope can have on large groups of people and the environment.

In a conversation with Sean, he talked about the influence that a teacher has had on his volunteer spirit. Sean said this teacher emphasizes the importance of helping others and standing up for one's beliefs. This is a lesson that Sean has put into practice. It is a lesson that should serve the world well as Sean continues on his life's journey. Sean is a person who lives by the belief that it makes his "heart happy to give."

BY TODD DYKES, 2020 LAZARUS JUDGE



Abby Jarrold, Archbishop McNicholas High School
Finalist

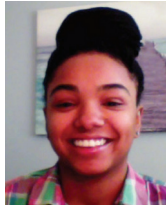
Abby is a remarkable, self-driven high school student. She has been on both the dean's list and the student council for all four years, a member of the National Honor Society for two years and holds an academic ranking. Her extracurricular activities include leadership positions in the Art National Honor Society, the Hope Squad, and Hands Across Campus. Her service activities include peer mentor, retreat leader, and leadership positions in many other initiatives. Abby has been on her school's tennis team and ski club.

Abby spoke of her maternal grandmother Kathy, the person she considers to be the greatest influence on her life and aspirations. In particular, she credits her grandmother's positive attitude and resilient personality for giving her a strong sense of compassion. She will always remember her saying, "Remember how beautiful this life is."

Abby has won the respect of her peers and teachers at McNicholas High School, where she was nominated Queen of the Mardi Gras. Abby will attend Ohio State University. Her application essay was in response to the prompt, "What fictional character are you most like, and why?" She chose to discuss what she shares with Nala, a character in *The Lion King*. Among them are her desire to improve our communities, her dedication to family, a desire to give love, her bravery, and her love of adventure. Abby's essay earned her acceptance into the Advocates for Community and Education Scholars program. This program works to expand the knowledge and leadership qualities of students by allowing them to interact with faculty and community leaders about important educational, social, economic and political issues that affect our communities.

Abby is an exceptional, highly motivated, young adult with commendable aspirations. She's very interested in business, membership in advocacy groups, and participation in any activities that help to achieve social justice. After college, she wants to have a service-based career, one that will help the marginalized members of our community. There are many indications that Abby will help to make changes that our entire country needs.

BY TYRA PATTERSON, 2020 LAZARUS JUDGE



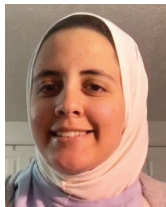
Jordynn Jenkins, Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy
Finalist

Jordynn believes in the power of a helping hand. She is overflowing with enough compassion and joy to light up the world. Jordynn, the eldest of five, was raised by her mother, a single parent with a “heart of service, a heart for sacrifice.” Jordynn considers her mother to be her greatest influence, her greatest source of strength, and knows that her lineage of strong women also comes from her grandmother. When asked what her greatest personal accomplishment has been, Jordynn—without hesitation—acknowledged her leadership extends first and foremost to her younger siblings. As a young child, Jordynn always saw the need to help others and followed her mother’s lead to always give, even when a person may not have much. She loves seeing her younger siblings adopt that spirit and show their own interest in volunteerism.

As a graduating senior at Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy, Jordynn has affected the culture of her fellow students and the entire school through her selfless leadership. She initiated Undivided, a student-led assembly addressing issues of culture and race. What began as a simple conversation quickly became an opportunity and turned into what Jordynn sees as her greatest accomplishment—bringing her community together. Undivided has become an annual school event where guest panelists are invited to address students’ questions for engaging conversation and growth. It has even sparked the creation of a Black Student Union, inviting all students to continue the discussions in various formats throughout the school year. Despite the current obstacles of the ongoing pandemic through her senior year, Jordynn has found ways to continue these conversations through online tools enabling her to reach her fellow students and grow her leadership.

Jordynn’s character extends deep as she recently had to forfeit her last season in high school basketball due to ACL surgery while captain of her school’s team. Despite her personal loss, she continued to attend practices and games and displayed true humility, gratitude, and team spirit for the younger players. Jordynn is currently deciding on a college. She is interested in political science and government with a goal of becoming a criminal justice attorney one day. She is a music aficionado, loves to fish, loves to write, and is learning to play the steel drums. She is a breath of fresh air this world truly needs!

BY JAIPAL SINGH, 2020 LAZARUS JUDGE



Dalal Shalash, Mercy McAuley High School
Finalist

Dalal is a senior at Mercy McAuley who, according to her school reference, “stands above the rest” because of her engagement in extracurricular activities and passion for making their school the best it can be through empathy, service, and respect for all. Service hours aren’t required at Mercy McAuley but according to Dalal, they are the activities that she loves. Her passions include Mock Trial, Academic Team, Global High School Club, Key Club, visiting senior homes, and The Fearless Initiative which focuses on mental health and inclusion. This initiative was created at Mercy McAuley and incorporated by other schools. She started the Student Spotlight Campaign which highlights a student committed to diversity. She also traveled to Birzeit, Palestine for an international service camp where she worked alongside different religions and nationalities at a war-stricken school.

Dalal’s proudest accomplishments include winning community service awards sponsored by the Mayor of Cincinnati and the Anthony Muñoz Foundation. She says she was inspired by two individuals—her Mercy McAuley service coordinator who always has an idea for the 700 girls at the school and the works of Malala, the 22-year old Pakistani Nobel laureate and activist for female education. She is specifically inspired by Malala’s fight for education, especially as Dalal’s mother grew up in Jordan and wasn’t allowed to attend school. Her parents sacrificed a great deal to send their 11 children to private school. Dalal enjoys theater and orchestra and loves to paint and journal. She wants to work toward a common goal and will do so while attending The Ohio State University where she won the Morrill Scholarship. She is focused on law school with a dream to work for a nonprofit.

BY CHARLEY FRANK, 2020 LAZARUS JUDGE