



RITTMAN HIGH SCHOOL

**2024
AWARDS AND
SCHOLARSHIPS**

The background consists of several overlapping geometric shapes. A large black rectangle is in the top-left corner. A smaller red rectangle is in the top-right corner. A large red rectangle spans across the middle of the page, overlapping the black one on the left and extending to the right edge. A white rectangle is in the bottom-left corner, overlapping the black one. The word "AWARDS" is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the middle of the red rectangle.

AWARDS

OHSAA SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARD

This award exemplifies the commitment that the Ohio High School Athletic Association has dedicated to academic excellence while participating in interscholastic athletics. Our recipient is:



JAKOB GIBSON

OHSAA ARCHIE GRIFFIN SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Sportsmanship, ethics and integrity are essential components of any successful athletic program. As part of an ongoing program to promote Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity, the Ohio High School Athletic Association would like to recognize students who display exemplary sportsmanship. This award is named for Archie Griffin. Mr. Griffin is an Ohio native, the only two-time recipient of the Heisman Trophy for football, and as a professional athlete, he always displayed exemplary sportsmanship. Our recipients are:



BRADYN RABER

GABRIELLE SWARTZ

NFHS AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

This award is to be presented to students who have exhibited qualities that embody good citizenship, good moral character, and good sporting behavior. Our recipients are:



NOLAN FRAME

ISABEL WARD

OHSAA COURAGEOUS AWARD

This award is intended to bring credit to a very special student who has been involved in, or supportive of, the interscholastic athletic program, and who deserves recognition for courage. For this student, his athletic career could have been cut short in the fall when he tore his first meniscus, only to return and wrestle and have a successful season. He then tore his other meniscus and was told he wouldn't be able to play Baseball, but through hard work and grit and determination, made it back and was able to play the second half of the season. For his efforts, our winner of the Courageous Student award is:



LOGAN PELFREY

WAYNE COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Each year the Wayne County sports Hall of fame selects two athletes from each school in the county who represent their school to the best of their ability while performing to the best of their abilities on the field/court/track as well as in the classroom and community. Our selections are:



JUSTIN METHENEY

SAVANNAH SMITH

OHSAA EXEMPLARY SERVICE AWARD

This Award goes to someone who helps the Athletic department throughout the year behind the scenes. Technology is a big piece in today's world and for the Athletic department we are very appreciative of this person's efforts. She has continually been a huge supporter of Rittman Athletics dating back to her cheerleading days for the Indians when she went to Rittman, to her cheering in the stands ever since. Today she comes up to the school to help us with any technology problems when it comes to microphones, sound system, ipads not working, wifi, and many other issues that arise. We would like to recognize and thank Sandi Trogdon for all she has done for Rittman Athletics throughout the years, not only has she done it through technology, but she is a former Booster club president, ticket taker, and #1 fan! We wish her well in retirement!



SANDI TROGDON



**A CADEMIC
AWARDS**

HEALTH AWARD

I am awarding Logan Chaplin the health award. Logan is very attentive, hardworking and a pleasure to have in class. Not only does he go above and beyond with his schoolwork, but he is very active in and outside of school. Logan is someone who takes his health seriously express lots of interest in class in all topics. Congratulations.



LOGAN CHAPLIN

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AWARD

I am awarding Mirage Warner a PE award. Mirage loves being active. She enjoys exercise, sports and anything that involves competition. She respects others, displays great sportsmanship, teamwork, is full of energy and is a kind person that never complains. Mirage is often the first student in the gym and the last one to leave.

I am awarding Mason Evans a PE award. Mason is a student who tries his hardest in anything he does. He gives great effort at everything and is very competitive. He is always determined to better himself at whatever he is doing and has improved in many aspects and skills involving physical activities, sports and weightlifting.



MASON EVANS
MIRAGE WARNER

ARTIST AWARD

Tonight's department award goes to an art student who has greatly impacted the art room in a variety of ways over the last few years. She frequently spends her study hall periods in my room acting as my unofficial classroom aide or making additional independent art works. She has put in countless hours into organizing the art room, cleaning supplies, and encouraging me to purge clutter. When I can't figure out how I want to approach a class project or organize a part of the room, I can always count on this student to offer rational advice or to creatively problem solve. Not only does she go above and beyond on assigned projects – but she is always diving head first into independent assignments, even if it won't count for a grade. Most recently, she has been illustrating dictionary pages after I mentioned in passing that it could be a cool project. She displays enthusiasm for creativity. She jumps in to help and encourage her peers on assignments. She is the perfect example of how to make the most out of an art class experience. Thank you for all of your hard work and congratulations.



OLIVIA SCHEHL

ENGLISH AWARD

When we look at potential candidates for the English award we look for several factors. Obviously the recipient needs to be a mature, reliable, and responsible student. Obviously the candidate needs to be an excellent reader and writer, and a good communicator. And this year's winner checks all of these boxes. But I think the quality that we are always on the lookout for, but don't always find, is originality of thought and a willingness to think outside the box. This is not a quality that is easy to come by, but it is a quality that this year's recipient has in spades.

What really makes this year's English award winner stand out is her willingness to put herself out there and try something new. She longs to be involved in her school and community, and while many of her peers stick to what they're good at or comfortable with, she has contributed to a wide variety of clubs, activities, and sports to find what she enjoys and to learn how she can make a difference. This curiosity and courage has helped her to succeed in the classroom as a writer as well. In fact, her originality of thought paired with her talent for the written word has won her more writing competitions than any other student that I have taught. In her comp classes she has written creative, original and moving essays, showcasing her intelligence, creativity, and a desire to get involved in making the world a better place.



MADILYNN KILGORE

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE AWARD

I've had Iva for 2 years now, both in my Child Development and Quest Classes. Iva is a bright and funny individual who goes out of her way to help other people, be it with homework assistance or through offering life advice. She is the first student I turn to when I am in need of anything, even if just for a good laugh after a long day. Her willingness to assist myself, her peers, and other teachers is a true testament to her character and I wish her the best of luck moving forward.



IVA ARCHER

WORLD LANGUAGE AWARD

This year's World Language Recognition goes to Emilee Richards. Emilee took both Beginning Spanish 1 and 2 classes and is graduating with 8 credit hours of Spanish. Although exactly what time she might walk in the door of class was always a surprise, once she got there her dedication and enthusiasm for learning Spanish was 5-star worthy. I wish her the best and continued success in this next phase of her learning.



EMILEE RICHARDS

MATHEMATICS AWARD

This year's Math Award is given to a student that has been impressive in every facet in the classroom. He has shown tremendous ability, consistently scoring at the top of the class. This year's recipient has also demonstrated a desire to learn, a capacity for hard work, as well as a working understanding of mathematical concepts.



ASHER WOOTEN

MUSIC AWARD FOR CHOIR

The Choral Music Award goes to a senior who demonstrates commitment to music, leadership, and promotes positive impacts on the choir program. The student understands the value of music and places the good of the ensemble above themselves. They can be depended on to put in the effort to make improvements in their music and always perform at the highest of their capabilities. Leadership is shown by stepping forward to take on new challenges, helping others to succeed, and leading by example in their actions and their musicianship. Lastly, the student awarded promotes positive impact in the choir program by volunteering their time to help complete tasks that benefit the choir program. This impact is the result of a willingness to ask what is needed rather than waiting to be told what to do.



OLIVIA LUKEHART

MUSIC AWARD FOR BAND

For this year's band award, I chose a student who has continuously proven themselves to be a leader throughout the last four years. They treat their section and the other students with respect while still holding them to high musical standards. They were paramount to this year's marching season, and have been so helpful in teaching other students to march and how to perform to a high caliber. While she was not part of the band for this entire year, her musicianship and her peppy attitude alongside her leadership skills prove how deserving she is of this award.



ALYSSA WENTZEL

SCIENCE AWARD

I am excited about this year's science department recipient. Scientists need to be curious, skeptical, and constantly questioning events around them. I have watched this student grow academically and emotionally over the past four years. I have enjoyed their inquisitive mind and curiosity as they searched for answers to their questions. They blossomed as a researcher in Forensics last year.

Their love for science is so vast that the only real question is what will they focus on and pursue in their academic studies in higher education. It makes sense that they have an unspecified major at this point (too many choices) but I am sure it will be a well deserving branch of science. And if it's not science, they will take a science mindset with them.

The RHS science department is happy to present Melody Ables with the Science Department Recognition Award this year.



MELODY ABLES

SOCIAL STUDIES AWARD

The Social Studies department would like to recognize an individual who has a passion for history. This student explores topics that go beyond what is presented in class. This student is always an able participant, and goes above and beyond outside the classroom as an active citizen by participating in the scouts. This student is currently working on becoming an Eagle Scout and is working on a Story Walk through the Rittman Nature Preserve. We thank him for his contributions in and out of the classroom.



CONNOR BUTLER

PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD

Helena and Kendall have been students who have a natural talent and eye for photography. Their enthusiasm and creativity shows through in the images they take. They have been a huge asset to RHS yearbook and webpage thanks to the many photos they have taken. Both students are always willing to help and jump in to take pictures that feature our students. Their help and dedication is appreciated.



HELENA CRETELLA

KENDALL LOUK

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

LAWS OF LIFE ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

The Laws of Life Essay Contest asks students in grades 9-12 to self-reflect and write about ethical principles that will help them develop leadership skills and their character. During the writing process, they learn more about themselves and what they stand for.

The Laws of Life Essay contest is open to schools with students in grades 9-12 throughout the following counties: Ashland, Medina, Portage, Richland, Summit and Wayne. The students are asked to self-reflect and write about ethical principles that will help them develop leadership skills and their character.

This year Rittman HS had 3 winners!

**MADILYNN KILGORE - BRONZE, CHLOE SMITH
- SILVER, AND JAMIE WARNER - GOLD**



The background consists of several overlapping geometric shapes: a large black rectangle on the left, a white rectangle on the right, a red rectangle at the top right, and a large red rectangle at the bottom that overlaps the white and black areas.

SCHOLARSHIPS

RITTMAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

This year's REA scholarship winner is an intelligent and hard-working individual. He challenged himself academically in the CCP program here at RHS and participated in numerous extracurricular activities. He was diligent in meeting deadlines, always produced quality work, and never complained. We believe his attention to detail, quiet leadership, commitment to education, and involvement will help him to find success in the field of Education.

Congratulations to this year's REA scholarship winner.



NOLAN FRAME

BRYAN WILLIAMS MEMORIAL

- Senior athletes planning to attend a 2 or 4 year accredited college.
- 3.00 GPA or higher
- Participate in at least 2 years of Varsity sports.



JAKOB GIBSON

GABRIELLE SWARTZ

RITTMAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- Attending a 4 year accredited college
- 3.00 GPA or higher
- Pursuing a business or related field of study
- Demonstrate leadership abilities and exhibit work ethic characteristics



JAIME WARNER

MOOSE LODGE #860

- Attending a 2 or 4 year accredited college
- 2.50 GPA or higher
- Community Involvement



IVA ARCHER

MADILYNN KILGORE

MOOSE LODGE #860 TRADE

- Attending a 2 or 4 year accredited college
- 2.50 GPA or higher
- Community Involvement



EMMA PYLE

WILLIAM P. & ETHEL JO HADUK

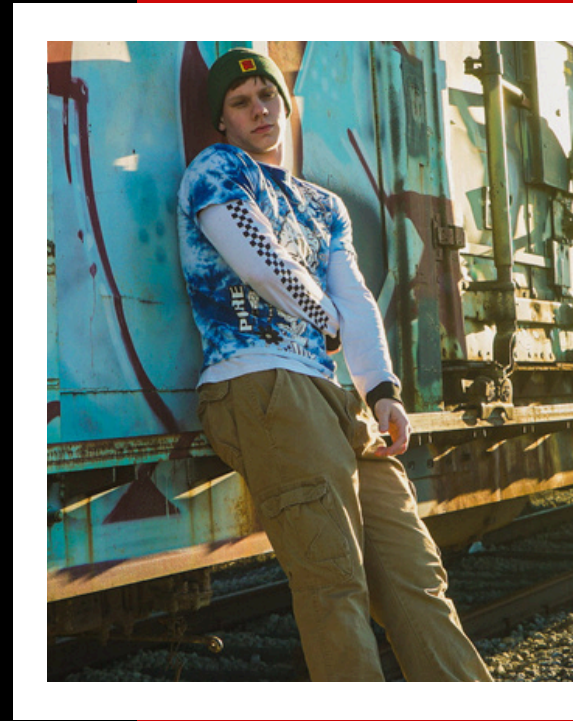
- Attending a 4 year accredited college
- Pursuing a degree in engineering or an engineering related field
- Displays good work ethic, character and decision making abilities



JOSHUA RHODES

AULTCARE YOU MATTER

The recipient of this scholarship promotes the “You Matter” message through positivity and inclusiveness. The recipient is recognized as someone who goes above and beyond in helping others around them understand their value. This can be demonstrated in how the student presents themselves through their actions, words, or ideas. In addition, the student must maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher. This year’s recipient is:



HUNTER SHREVE

MARION C. & ROBERT E BODAGER

- Attending a 4 year accredited college
- 3.0 GPA or higher
- Special consideration is given to volunteer activities and student contribution to the community



MADILYNN KILGORE

DALE & JOANNE WIDMER MEMORIAL

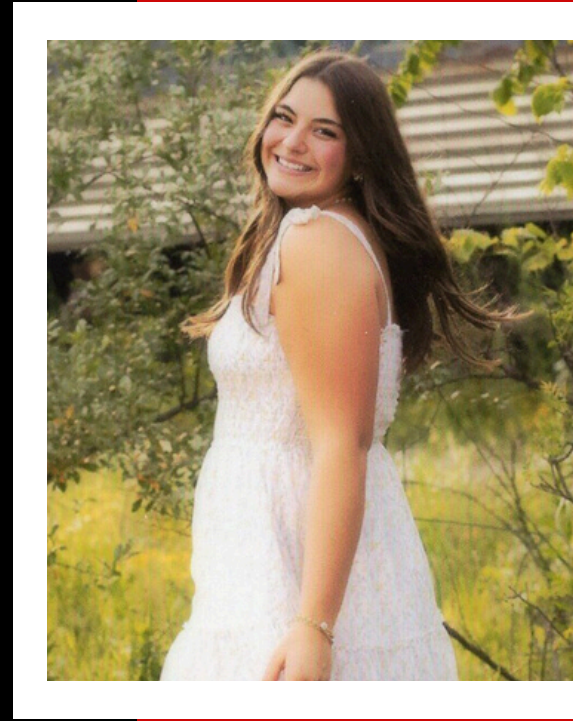
This scholarship is available to current graduating seniors of Rittman High School who may have been overlooked as scholarship candidates but have shown continued improvement, increased self confidence, and motivation to succeed in a college, university, technical school environment or apprenticeship program. Candidates should also demonstrate a desire to promote the welfare of others through community service. Special consideration is given to students pursuing careers in Auto Technology, Business, Communications, Education, Hospitality, and the HealthCare Field.



JAIME WARNER

W-R HOSPITAL MEDICAL STAFF MEMORIAL

The Wadsworth-Rittman Medical Staff Memorial Scholarship was established with funds remaining in an inter-hospital fund after the hospital was merged with Summa. The funds were all donated by members of the medical staff to support their fellow nurses and doctors. The fund is to be used to provide a scholarship for graduating seniors at Rittman and Chippewa High Schools who intend to pursue a field of study in the medical, nursing or health services professions.



GABRIELLE SWARTZ

EUGENE A. SHARICK MUSIC

The Eugene A. Sharick Music Scholarship is awarded to a senior planning to study music in preparation for a career of professional performance or teaching. Students must participate in a minimum of two years of music at Rittman High School.



CHARLEY ULLMAN

RITTMAN MASONIC & EASTERN STAR

The Rittman Masonic & Eastern Star Scholarship fund was established in 2001 from some of the assets left after the Rittman Temple Corporation was dissolved. The fund is to be used to provide a scholarship for graduating seniors at Rittman and Chippewa High Schools.



BRAYLON BUCKHOLDT

ROBERT L. & KATHLEEN M. POLSKY FOUNDATION

Robert and Kathleen always believed in giving back to the community they loved. This scholarship was created to assist local students in furthering their education.



BROOKLYNN REINHARDT

JOHN HODAVAN

John, or better known as “Ike” Hodovan was born in Akron in 1915, but lived most of his life in Rittman. A US Army Veteran of World War II, Ike was an active member of Howard A. Bair, Post 432 of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 1610. He worked for Packing Corporation of America and retired in 1978.

In his will, he bequeathed enough money to establish the John Hodovan Scholarship endowment fund at the Wayne County Community Foundation.



HELENA CRETELLA

ROGER & EVELYN HESSIDENCE AND FAMILY

A native of Rittman, Roger Hessidence served his country in WWII as an Army Officer and proudly served his community as a dedicated City Council member. Twice, he served as acting City Manager of Rittman. He married his childhood sweetheart, Evelyn Bauman who also attended Rittman High School. He and Evelyn established this scholarship in 1998 to “give something back” to the school in which his four daughters also graduated.



ASHER WOOTEN

FRANCES GERBERICH SHOOLROY

A native of Akron, Frances Shoolroy moved to Rittman, where her father operated a dairy for many years. While she attended Rittman High School for a few years, her family moved back to Akron, where she graduated from Akron South High School. She returned to Wayne County, moving to Wooster to raise her family.

As she turned 80 years old, Mrs. Shoolroy established the Frances G. Shoolroy Scholarship to honor students from Rittman and Wooster high schools. Recipients are selected for their academic achievement and leadership ability.



MADILYNN KILGORE

ED & KAREN SIMS

Available to current Rittman High School graduating seniors who have attended RHS all four years. Applicants must have participated in the RHS Marching and Concert Bands(s) all four years of high school, maintaining a minimum of a “B” in every semester of band for all four years, be in the top 50% of their graduating class, and plan to attend an accredited four-year college or university. Previous recipients majoring in music (education, performance, or composition) who have maintained a 3.00 GPA on a 4.00 scale may reapply.



EMILEE RICHARDS

LISA WEILER

FRIENDSHIP AWARD

Available to current Rittman High School graduating seniors who have attended RHS all four years. Applicants must have participated in the RHS Marching and Concert Bands(s) all four years of high school, maintaining a minimum of a “B” in every semester of band for all four years, be in the top 50% of their graduating class, and plan to attend an accredited four-year college or university. Previous recipients majoring in music (education, performance, or composition) who have maintained a 3.00 GPA on a 4.00 scale may reapply.



JAKOB GIBSON

ASHER WOOTEN

ROY BATES SCHOLARSHIP

Roy S. Bates recognizes outstanding Wayne County high school seniors who have played baseball, softball, and or basketball, have at least a 3.0 grade point average as well as demonstrate good citizenship.



NOLAN FRAME

Congratulations to all of our Scholarship and Award winners

If you would like to read additional information about our seniors and their post high school plans, please visit [Class of 2024](#).