

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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National Dairy Shrine Announces Student Recognition Scholarships

Denmark, WI. The National Dairy Shrine is pleased to announce the recipients of the Student Recognition scholarships for 2018. The Student Recognition program recognizes graduating seniors planning a career related to the dairy industry who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, academic ability, and a sincere interest in dairy cattle. Each university is allowed to nominate up to two candidates for this recognition in any given year. The highest winner receives a \$2000 award, the second a \$1500 award and the other winners receive \$1000 awards.

The top award winner of \$2000 is **Gabriella Sorg from Hastings, Minnesota** who majored in Animal Science and Agricultural & Food Business Management at the University of Minnesota. Gabriella has been a leader in many campus groups including Gopher Dairy Club, Beta of Clovia Sorority and the Midwest ADSA Student Affiliate Division. Ms Sorg was honored as the Outstanding Student in Animal Science at the University of Minnesota in 2017 and the Outstanding Senior by the Gopher Dairy Club in 2018. Gabriella will be attending graduate school in Agricultural Economics at the University of Minnesota.

The second award of \$1500 goes to **Laura Jensen of Comstock, Wisconsin**. She is graduating from the University of Minnesota with a degree in Animal Science. Laura grew up on a Guernsey dairy and served as National Guernsey princess in 2016. Ms Jensen has competed successfully nationally in Dairy Cattle Judging, Dairy Challenge, and Dairy Bowl. Ms Jensen also served as the president of the Gopher Dairy Club. Laura plans on attending graduate school to study dairy genetics or reproductive physiology.

The next \$1000 recipient is **Jordan Siemers from Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin**, who received an Animal Science degree from Cornell University. Mr. Siemers was the winner of the National 4-H Judging contest in 2014 and placed 6th overall in the National Collegiate Judging Contest in 2017. Jordan has excelled in the showring as well, owning the 2015 Wisconsin Holstein Cow of the year. After several valuable internships focusing on genetics and marketing, Jordan is now employed as a Sire Analyst at Select Sires.

Then **Emma Brenengen from Middletown, Maryland**, who majored in Animal Science at Penn State University. Emma has been very active on the Penn State campus as President of the Penn State Dairy Club, competing on the Dairy Judging and Dairy Challenge teams and competing at the ADSA Student Affiliate Paper Presentation contest. After graduating Ms Brenengen has started a career with Alta Genetics as a Technician Team Leader in Pennsylvania.

Following is **Kirby Krogstad from Baltic, South Dakota**, who majored in Dairy Production at South Dakota State University. Kirby was the high individual at the 2017 Collegiate Dairy Judging Contest and been involved in numerous campus organizations, including serving on the Executive Committee of the SDSU Students Association. After finding his future from a summer internship with Quality Liquid Feeds Mr. Krogstad is furthering his education in Dairy Nutrition attending Graduate School at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Next is **Marina Sweet from London, Ohio**, who was an Animal Science - Bioscience major at the Ohio State University. Marina has served as President of the Buckeye Dairy Club and Secretary of the College of Food, Agricultural & Environmental Sciences Student Council. Ms Sweet has competed in Dairy Challenge, OSU Junior Dairy Quiz Bowl and Academic Quadrathlon teams. Marina was active in the Food Animal Medicine Club, Poultry Science Club and the Pre-Veterinary Medical Association. After graduating Magna Cum Laude, Marina will be attending Veterinary School at OSU this fall.

Next is **Jill Seiler from Valley Center, Kansas** who majored in Agricultural Communications & Journalism at Kansas State University. Ms. Seiler has been very active in the National Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow organization serving as Vice President, as well as President of the Kansas State Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow. Jill has also been active in Kansas & National Junior Holstein activities, Dairy Challenge and Dairy Judging. Ms Seiler is pursuing a career in dairy communications and marketing.

The final senior recognition honoree is **Nicole Hardy from Perkasio, Pennsylvania**, who was a major in Dairy Science at Virginia Tech. Nicole has been part of the Virginia Tech Dairy Judging Team, ADSA SAD Quiz Bowl team and President of Sigma Alpha. Nicole was named the 2018 Outstanding Senior in Dairy Science by the College of Agriculture and Life Science. After an opportunity to collaborate on a research project on calf raising at Virginia Tech and an internship for Provimi / Cargill on Calf research Ms. Hardy plans to attend graduate school for an advanced degree in Calf and Heifer Nutrition & Management.

The annual National Dairy Shrine Scholarship & Awards Banquet will be held in Madison, Wisconsin, on Thursday October 4th at 5:30 PM. For more information about the students being recognized by National Dairy Shrine or tickets for the Awards Banquet, contact the NDS office at info@dairyshrine.org. Additional information on National Dairy Shrine membership or other activities is also available at www.dairyshrine.org. Dairy enthusiasts are encouraged to become a part of the most important dairy organization helping to inspire future dairy leaders, honor current dairy leaders, preserve dairy history, and promote the dairy industry.

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Pictures are available if desired. Please contact info@dairyshrine.org to obtain photos of the honorees.