

DOUGLAS L. HOEFT
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

2021

Junior College Recipients

Gabriella Hernandez – Elgin High School going to Elgin Community College

Writing down her feelings helped Gabriella deal with her depression. Her father's Parkinson's disease took a toll on the family, but she has realized who she is. "I am strong. Powerful." She is now working towards becoming successful and independent. She is interested in the health professions and plans to become a nurse.

Emily Kish – South Elgin High School going to Joliet Junior College

Emily and her mother have overcome homelessness. Emily became independent at an early age to help take care of her mother, who suffered from depression. Working in a veterinary hospital has not only provided needed funds but defined Emily's future. She is studying to become a Veterinary Technician and hopes to continue her education to become a Veterinary Surgical Technician.

Mitchell Romero – Larkin High School considering junior college

Mitchell wants to break the cycle of poverty in his family by getting a college education in computer science. He has had struggles finding a balance between the stresses of high school and his job. A teacher says, "Mitchell tried his best to stay focused in school and sought help when needed, which is a great skill for a teenager to have."

Four year college Recipients

Emma Fang – Saint Charles North High School going to University of Chicago

Studying philosophers has given Emma a way to deal with the poverty which causes a difficult family situation. Amblyopia and Raynaud's disease have not been adequately treated due to the financial hardships, but Emma is determined to become a college professor. She says, "I have come to value knowledge far over the material."

Janalis Harrison – Elgin High School going to Western Illinois University

Coming from a family that does not value education and being an Afro-Latina are reasons for Janalis to pursue higher education. When a freshman in high school, her best friend died and she has learned to deal with the pain. She hopes to have a career in Criminal Justice and says, "everything I accomplish in life will be in the thought" of her friend who died, and as an example to girls like her.

Jake Mangers – Batavia High School going to Iowa State University

Playing sports has always been a big part of Jake's life. In middle school, he learned that a diagnosis of Idiopathic Juvenile Osteoporosis would preclude not only sports, but running around with friends. Determination, physical therapy, and experimental medication helped Jake become strong enough to

make the school baseball team in his sophomore year. He is thankful for the people who supported him and believed in him.

Noah Smith –Saint Charles North High School going to University of Alabama

Early in his school career, Noah was diagnosed with Auditory Processing Disorder, which affected his ability to remember auditory information and auditory sequencing. By working harder than most students do and improving his writing and reading skills, Noah has been able to keep good grades. He hopes to get a BA in Electrical Engineering and his MBA in a five year program at his university.