

National CCAA 2015 Scholarship Recipients

The National CCAA Scholarship is awarded to college-bound high school seniors from various geographic regions who will attend one of the National CCAA member institutions in the fall. For Fall 2015, the National CCAA awarded eight one-time \$1,000 awards. They herald from across the country and Africa. They are excited for their first year of study at one of our member schools, and they have big plans for their futures.

We asked scholarship winners five questions to learn more about them. Here are their responses to those questions.

Victoria Anderson



High School: Little Flower Catholic High School for Girls
Philadelphia, PA
Gwynedd Mercy University, PA

Why did you choose the school you are attending? I chose Gwynedd Mercy because I want to become a nurse. Nursing is one of their top majors, and it is a highly regarded program. Also, the campus is not that big, so it will be teacher and student friendly for me. A smaller campus will be easier for me because the classroom sizes are small, just like high school. Finally, I wanted to go to Gwynedd since I was a sophomore in high school when I started going there for a summer program for Upward Bound. I just loved it.

What is your major? My major is undecided, but on track for nursing.

What are your hobbies? My hobbies include Girl Scouts, cello, softball, Philadelphia sports, greeting at church, working at Shop Rite, and hanging out with my best friend.

What is your favorite book or band? My favorite band is Florida Georgia Line.

What is your future plan? I plan to become a nurse and maybe furthering my education to become a nurse practitioner.

Itzel Matamoros



High School: Divine Savior Holy Angels High School
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Marquette University, WI

Why did you choose the school you are attending? Throughout all of my four years in high school, I always knew Marquette was an option for me. While other schools seemed to be a good fit, Marquette has always felt like "the perfect fit for me." I was initially drawn to MU because it is close to home, and it has a rigorous curriculum. However, along the years, more factors have drawn me there. I like the welcoming environment and overall support towards students that the faculty at Marquette provide. I also like that while located in a city, MU still manages to keep its community as its own world. I believe that Marquette does an amazing job at providing its students with multiple opportunities to volunteer, gain internships, and get involved around campus, and does so in ways that most other colleges in Wisconsin cannot.

What is your major? I am in the Biomedical Sciences program, but am considering a switch to Biology. I want to emphasize my studies in animal care and believe that the courses in Biology will have a greater emphasis on it than Biomedical Sciences.

What are your hobbies? I enjoy camping and canoeing. In fact, this summer I am working as a boating instructor at a Boy Scouts of America camp in the northern part of Wisconsin. For two months I will be living in a tent and will be teaching children in the BSA about canoeing. I truly believe this is an amazing opportunity for me to meet new people while enjoying two activities that I love. I also enjoy spending time with animals. I have three dogs and spend as much time with them as possible. I love studying their behavior and seeing how love and compassion shapes them into the caring and compassionate family members that they have become. I am a strong advocate for animal rights and hope to be a voice for them when needed.

What is your favorite book or band? My favorite book is Little Bee by Chris Cleave. I love how the book portrays the hardships that immigrants encounter in a first person perspective, but does so in a different manner than most authors. He manages to create a connection between the reader and the author in ways that allow the reader to find ways to relate to the characters and care for them. I also enjoy the plot of the story and how it has an unexpected ending.

What is your future plan? In the future, I aspire to become a veterinarian who specializes in care for house pets. I also enjoy learning about other cultures and other languages; thus, I hope to travel to many different countries.

Bleasin Roberts



Murphy High School
Mobile, AL
Spring Hill College, AL

Why did you choose the school you are attending? I chose Spring Hill College for three reasons: When I visited, I fell in love with the college. The campus is beautiful, and the people

are very friendly and welcoming. It's a small, liberal arts college which is my desired place to study. The acclaim associated with the University is irrefutable.

What is your major? I plan to major in Electrical Engineering.

What are your hobbies? My hobbies include playing the guitar and working with sound boards in my free time.

What is your favorite book or band? My favorite book is Paper Towns, by John Green.

What is your future plan? I plan to study Engineering at Spring Hill College and obtain an advanced degree.

Amy Cowser



Marian Catholic High School
Chicago Heights, IL
Lewis University, IL

Why did you choose the school you are attending? I chose Lewis University because the second I stepped on campus it felt like home. The campus was exactly how I've imagined college my entire life.

What is your major? My major is Nursing.

What are your hobbies? My hobbies include reading, going to the gym, and hanging out with my friends.

What is your favorite book or band? The Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling is my favorite book series.

What is your future plan? My plan for the future includes becoming a nurse.

Mark Peicker



Bishop Guertin High School
Nashua, NH
Merrimack College, MA

Why did you choose the school you are attending? I chose Merrimack College because I have always done better at schools that have a smaller class size and a tough and strict learning environment.

What is your major? I am planning to major in Business Management and minor in Sports Management.

What are your hobbies? I love football, and I look forward to trying out for the team my sophomore year after I get settled during my freshman year.

What is your favorite book or band? My favorite Band is Aerosmith.

What is your future plan? I hope to get a job in consulting or in the financial branch of a company.

Sophia Schiavone



Central Catholic High School
Portland, Oregon
Dominican University of California, CA

Why did you choose the school you are attending? I chose Dominican University of California based on the location and strong academic and athletics.

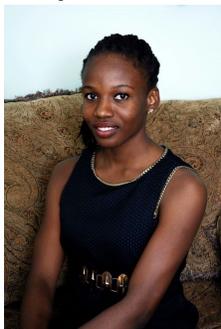
What is your major? I will major in nursing while attending Dominican University of California.

What are your hobbies? I love to golf, hike, and go to the beach.

What is your favorite book or band? I like to listen to Milky Chance.

What is your future plan? My plans for the future are to attend nursing school, travel abroad with Doctors Without Borders, and become a physician's assistant.

Mary-Frances Nwokedi



Nigerian Navy Secondary School
Ojo - Lagos Nigeria West Africa
Aquinas College, TN

Why did you choose the school you are attending? I chose Aquinas College because I wanted to attend a Catholic college with a low student to teacher ratio where students can receive individual attention from teachers. Aquinas College is an institution that emphasizes ~~on~~ the value of the human person.

What is your major? I am a nursing major.

What are your hobbies? My hobbies are reading, painting, dancing, singing and volunteering.

What is your favorite book or band? My favorite books are John L. Mason's "An Enemy Called Average" and Matthew Kelly's "The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic".

What is your future plan? After getting my Bachelor's degree in nursing science, I plan to further my studies in obstetrical nursing to provide prenatal and antenatal care to patients experiencing pregnancy complications and also care during labor and delivery.

Nathaniel Dvorozniak

Cresskill High School

Cresskill, New Jersey

Saint Michael's College, VT