

NRA Foundation Awards \$20,000 in College Scholarships

The [NRA Foundation](#) has awarded \$20,000 in scholarships to youths from all over the United States as part of the 2009 [Youth Education Summit](#) (Y.E.S.) [Grand Scholarship Contest](#). This year, there were many outstanding applications to review. Scholarships were awarded to:

\$6,000 to Tanner Brooks of Walkerton, Indiana
\$4,500 to Virginia "Ginger" Macfarlan of Siloam Springs, Arkansas
\$4,500 to Charles French of Paradise, Montana
\$3,000 to Tyler McGee of Apple Valley, California
\$1,000 to Levi Heffelfinger of Tucson, Arizona
\$500 to Savannah Haden of Russellville, Missouri
\$500 to Marquee Lucas of Soldotna, Alaska

Since 1996, The NRA Foundation has managed the Y.E.S. program every summer in order to encourage America's youth to become informed and dynamic citizens. The seven-day, expense-paid, educational experience in the nation's capital provides an exciting opportunity for select high school sophomores and juniors across the United States. While in Washington, D.C., students meet members of Congress, learn the significance of the Constitution, visit with scholars and experts, and tour national landmarks. This experience gives them an understanding of the federal government while learning the importance of an individual's active participation in government affairs.

Students applying for the Grand Scholarship are required to attend the previous summer's Y.E.S. program. After attending Y.E.S., the students are asked to submit two projects in a portfolio format. The first is to communicate their experience at Y.E.S., and how it has contributed to their personal growth. The students are asked to present it to members of their community (i.e. *Friends of NRA* banquet, television/radio interview or local newspaper). The second is to introduce an NRA program that they learned about during their Y.E.S. experience to their community, and relay the results of the program in their portfolio.

"I never would have thought that a week could change my life, but that is exactly what the Y.E.S. program did for me," said 2008 Y.E.S. Alumni Tabitha Zant. "This is an adventure that no ordinary summer camp can provide and I highly encourage you to apply."

Much of the money that funds Y.E.S. is raised through [Friends of NRA](#), a grassroots fund-raising program which utilizes banquets, auctions, to foster community involvement, raise money, and give 100% of the net proceeds to qualified local, state and national programs. For more information about the Youth Education Summit, visit www.friendsofnra.org/yes or contact Laura Dindal, Event Services Manager, at (800) 672-3888, extension 1354, or email her at ldindal@nrahq.org.

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