



## VFW 2008-2009 NATIONAL VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

**Natale Szabo**, a senior at Medical Lake High School has been named the first place winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$30,000 T.C. Selman Memorial Scholarship Award provided by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Natale plans a career as a Middle East news correspondent (broadcast communications) and was sponsored by VFW Post 3386 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Airway Heights, Washington.

**Elizabeth Dickerson**, a homeschooled sophomore, has been named the second place winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$16,000 Charles Kuralt Memorial Scholarship Award provided by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Elizabeth plans a career as a librarian and was sponsored by VFW Post 6941 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Wellington, Ohio.

**Jennifer Eckert**, a senior at Mt. Desert Island High School has been named the third place winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$10,000 VFW Scholarship Award provided by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Jennifer plans a career as a doctor and a writer and was sponsored by VFW Post 109 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Ellsworth, Maine.

**Anna Shafer**, a senior at Heritage Christian Academy has been named the fourth place winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$7,000 LeRoy Moorehead Memorial Scholarship Award. This award was provided by former Heavyweight Boxing Champion George Foreman in memory of his father. Anna plans a career as an electrical engineer and technologist for a federal agency to help with national security. She was sponsored by VFW Post 4801 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Pinedale, Wyoming.

**Rebecca Suzanne Jordan**, a senior at Orem High School has been named the fifth place winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$5,000 Floyd County VFW Post 3281, New Albany Indiana Scholarship Award. She plans a career as a novelist or a journalist and was sponsored by VFW Post 4918 and its Ladies Auxiliary in American Fork, Utah.

**Luke Davis**, a senior at Heart and Hands School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$5,000 Rehoboth Beach Post 7447 and Auxiliary Department of Delaware Scholarship Award. Luke plans a career in engineering or medicine and he was sponsored by VFW Post 7534 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Village of Howard, Wisconsin.

**Shelby Stanton**, a sophomore at Keene High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$4,000 Department of Minnesota William F. Halsey Memorial Scholarship Award. Shelby plans a career as an actor and plans to major in communications and she was sponsored by VFW Post 799 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Keene, New Hampshire.

**Breckyn Moore**, a senior at Methacton High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$3,500 Department of New York and its Ladies Auxiliary/Reverend Albert G. Salmon Memorial Scholarship Award. Breckyn plans a career in law and she was sponsored by VFW Post 7878 and its Ladies Auxiliary in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania.

**Gail Peak**, a senior at Madison Consolidated High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$3,000 Department of Indiana and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Gail plans a career in physical therapy and athletic training and she was sponsored by VFW Post 1969 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Madison, Indiana.

**Carolyn Braus**, a senior at St. Mary's Central High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$3,000 Joseph and Irene Hansen Memorial Scholarship Award. Carolyn plans a career in music performance or music business and she was sponsored by VFW Post 1326 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Bismarck, North Dakota.

**Margaret Cody**, a homeschooled sophomore, has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,500 Daniel Sean Wallace Memorial Scholarship Award. Margaret plans a career in music and she was sponsored by VFW Post 5062 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Livingston, Tennessee.

**Gordon Allen**, a sophomore at Analy High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,500 Troy and Sandy Rothbart Memorial Scholarship Award. Gordon plans a career in law, advertising, or journalism and he was sponsored by VFW Post 3919 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Sebastopol, California.

**Brent McFerrin**, a senior at Tennessee High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 All American Post 284 Scholarship Award. Brent plans a career as an architect and he was sponsored by VFW Post 6975 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Bristol, Virginia.

**Christina Benson**, a homeschooled junior, has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Arthur W. Jones VFW Post 7564 and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Christina plans a career in early childhood education and she was sponsored by VFW Post 1859 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Carrollton, Michigan.

**Hannah Harrington**, a sophomore at Burr and Burton Academy has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Bernard J. Michels, Post 9610 and Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Hannah plans a career in medicine and she was sponsored by VFW Post 6471 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Manchester, Vermont.

**Lucas Wagner**, a senior at Manhattan High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Cramer/Harrell Scholarship Award. Lucas plans a career in engineering and he was sponsored by VFW Post 1786 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Manhattan, Kansas.

**Sarah Swygard**, a senior at American Christian School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Alabama Scholarship and the Department of Georgia James H. "Sloppy" Floyd Memorial Scholarship Awards. Sarah plans a career as a high school teacher and she was sponsored by VFW Post 10099 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Dewey, Oklahoma.

**Patience Van Ellis**, a senior at North Chicago Community High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Arizona and Auxiliary Harry A. Kosht Memorial Scholarship Award. Patience plans a career as a news reporter and she was sponsored by VFW Post 1293 in Waukegan, Illinois.

**Nerissa Rosado**, a senior at Academia Bautista has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Arkansas and its Ladies Auxiliary Les Thone Memorial Scholarship Award. Nerissa plans a career in computer animation and media arts and she was sponsored by VFW Post 12057 in San Juan, Puerto Rico (Department of Latin America/Caribbean).

**Katherine Kelley**, a junior at Madisonville-North Hopkins High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of California and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Katherine plans a career in international relations and diplomacy and she was sponsored by VFW Post 5480 in Madisonville, Kentucky.

**Marc Bartel**, a senior at Susitna Valley High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Colorado and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Marc plans a career in law enforcement and he was sponsored by VFW Post 3836 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Talkeetna, Alaska.

**Lucia Tosatto**, a senior at Sacred Hearts Academy has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Connecticut and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship and the Stephen and Elsie Riordan Memorial Scholarship Awards. Lucia plans a career in architecture and she was sponsored by VFW Post 1540 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Honolulu, Hawaii.

**Dane Carter**, a senior at Fort Walton Beach High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Florida John M. "Jack" Carney Scholarship Award. Dane plans to join the Air Force, pursue an Aerospace Engineering career, and then work in public service and seek election to State Senate or House of Representatives. He was sponsored by VFW Post 7674 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Fort Walton Beach, Florida.

**Meg Henrikson**, a senior at Yankton High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Georgia R. D. "Bulldog" Smith, Jr. Scholarship and the Department of Ohio Chester J. Koch Memorial Scholarship Awards. Meg plans a career in law and she was sponsored by VFW Post 791 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Yankton, South Dakota.

**Luis Figueroa-Velez**, a sophomore at Ansbach Middle High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Hawaii and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Luis plans a career in either music, art, computer engineering, or astronomy, and he was sponsored by VFW Post 10708 in Illesheim, Germany (Department of Europe).

**Connor Phillips**, a junior at El Dorado High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Idaho and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Connor plans a career in graphic design and he was sponsored by VFW Post 2413 and its Ladies Auxiliary in El Dorado, Arkansas.

**Jeralyn Westercamp**, a senior at John F. Kennedy High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Illinois and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Jeralyn plans a career as a hospital administrator and she was sponsored by VFW Post 788 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

**Jocelyn Runice**, a sophomore at C. Milton Wright High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Kansas and its Ladies Auxiliary Robert R. Whipple Memorial Scholarship Award. Jocelyn plans a career in fashion journalism and fashion design and she was sponsored by VFW Post 11377 in Bel Air, Maryland.

**Leandra Garcia**, a sophomore at West Las Vegas High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Kentucky and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Leandra plans a career as a flight medic and she was sponsored by VFW Post 1547 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Las Vegas, New Mexico.

**Emily Brence**, a sophomore at Carter County High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Maine Scholarship "to Remember the U.S.S. Maine" Award. Emily plans an agriculture-related career and she was sponsored by VFW Post 7885 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Ekalaka, Montana.

**Jeslyn Jones**, a senior at Enterprise High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Massachusetts Edward A. Nardi Scholarship Award. Jeslyn plans a career as a lawyer and she was sponsored by VFW Post 6683 in Enterprise, Alabama.

**Yuko Gruber**, a junior at Carolina Forest High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Michigan and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Yuko plans a career as a pediatric surgeon (and do pediatric cancer research) and she was sponsored by VFW Post 7735 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

**Douglas Waterman**, a homeschooled sophomore, has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Mississippi Toxie K. Stapleton Post 6473 Luther J. Cox Memorial Scholarship Award. Doug plans a career in music education and he was sponsored by VFW Post 3886 in Caldwell, Idaho.

**Timothy Pullano**, a senior at Golden Senior High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Mississippi VFW and Ladies Auxiliary Bernard McClelland Memorial Scholarship Award. Timothy plans a career in history and secondary education and he was sponsored by VFW Post 4171 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Golden, Colorado.

**Drew Fuchs**, a senior at Tantasqua Regional High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Missouri and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Drew plans a career in biology and he was sponsored by VFW Post 6055 in Southbridge, Massachusetts.

**Joshua Yawn**, a senior at Camden County High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Nevada and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Josh plans a career in international affairs and diplomacy and he was sponsored by VFW Post 8385 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Kings Bay, Georgia.

**Sabrina McCutchan**, a senior at Wills Point High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of New Hampshire Dan and Jean Loud Memorial Scholarship Award. Sabrina plans a career as an economist and she was sponsored by VFW Post 9171 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Canton, Texas.

**Molly Woodfield**, a senior at Southwestern Central School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of New Jersey Howard E. Vander Clute Memorial Scholarship Award. Molly plans a career as an elementary and art education teacher and she was sponsored by VFW Post 53 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Jamestown, New York.

**Sebastian Husein**, a senior at Tempe Preparatory Academy has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of New Mexico and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Sebastian plans a career as a material science engineer and he was sponsored by VFW Post 7401 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Chandler, Arizona.

**Kate Rexon**, a freshman at Jefferson High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Pennsylvania Joseph L. Vicites Memorial Scholarship Award. Kate plans a career as a veterinarian and she was sponsored by VFW Post 1296 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Bloomington, Minnesota.

**Zachary Prettyman**, a senior at Milford High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Tennessee Cooper T. Holt - John Furgess Scholarship Award. Zach plans a career in a business-related field (possibly accounting) and he was sponsored by VFW Post 6483 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Milford, Delaware.

**Breanna Lebsack**, a senior at Canyon Springs High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Department of Wyoming and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Breanna plans a career in broadcast journalism and she was sponsored by VFW Post 10047 and its Ladies Auxiliary in North Las Vegas, Nevada.

**Joel Walden**, a junior at Henley High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Ervin and Lorraine Rothenbuhler Scholarship Award. Joel plans a career in entertainment marketing and he was sponsored by VFW Post 1383 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Klamath Falls, Oregon.

**Laura Durst**, a junior at Woodstock Academy has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Francis Tallman Memorial Scholarship and the Robert A. Stock

Memorial Scholarship Awards. Laura plans a career as an elementary school teacher and she was sponsored by VFW Post 1523 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Putnam, Connecticut.

**Matthew Rogers**, a senior at LaSalle Academy has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Fridley VFW Post 363 and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Matt plans a career as a lawyer and he was sponsored by VFW Post 2339 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

**Sarah Hayden**, a senior at Farmington High School, has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Gilbert N. Nelson - Post 1326 and their Auxiliary - Bismarck, North Dakota Scholarship Award. Sarah plans a career as an English teacher and a horseback riding instructor and she was sponsored by VFW Post 5896 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Farmington, Missouri.

**Timothy Lin**, a senior at Presbyterian Christian School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Jesse A. Lewis Memorial Scholarship Award. Timothy plans a career in radiation oncology and he was sponsored by VFW Post 3036 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

**Marcus Sattler**, a senior at Zama American High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Juanita Crowe-Durbino, Department of Tennessee Scholarship Award. Marcus plans a career in computer graphics and 3D visual arts and he was sponsored by VFW Post 9612 in Camp Zama, Japan (Department of Pacific Areas).

**Ryan Kosyla**, a senior at Eastern Regional High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Larry W. Rivers Scholarship and the Department of Illinois Scott Post 4183 Scholarship Award. Ryan plans a career in law, politics and government and he was sponsored by VFW Post 6253 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Berlin, New Jersey.

**Jessica Bailey**, a senior at Nebraska Christian School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Mr. and Mrs. James H. Black Scholarship and the Jane Young Memorial Scholarship Awards. Jessica plans a career in law and she was sponsored by VFW Post 1347 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Grand Island, Nebraska.

**David Nelson**, a homeschooled sophomore, has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Ray Sisk Scholarship Award. David plans a career in video and he was sponsored by VFW Post 9755 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Washington, DC.

**James Palanica**, a junior at Providence High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Roy Chandler VFW Post 762 and Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award. Jimmy plans a career as a foreign service officer and international business relations and he was sponsored by VFW Post 2423 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Indian Trail, North Carolina.

**Nathan Mickinac**, a junior at Oak Glen High School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Silver Spring Memorial Post 2562 Scholarship Award. Nathan plans a career as a radiologist and he was sponsored by VFW Post 6450 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Chester, West Virginia.

**Philip Kimsey**, a junior at Grace Christian School has been named a winner in the 2009 National Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$2,000 Walter and Doris Marshall Memorial Scholarship and the Southern Conference Scholarship Awards. Philip plans a career in business and he was sponsored by VFW Post 1736 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Alexandria, Louisiana.