



DENISE MERRILL
SECRETARY OF THE STATE
CONNECTICUT

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- PRESS RELEASE -

**SECRETARY MERRILL PARTNERS WITH
SHOPRITES[®] OF CONNECTICUT TO HONOR
8TH AND 12TH GRADE STUDENTS FOR
EXCELLENCE IN CITIZENSHIP**

SECRETARY OF THE STATE AWARDS CONNECTICUT SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR
COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT.

Hartford – Secretary of the State Denise Merrill today released the names of nearly 170 8th and 12th grade students in the state of Connecticut recognized this year for modeling exceptional citizenship in their communities. Among those students recognized for *Excellence in Citizenship* awards, the most outstanding selected high school senior and 8th grader from each of the five Congressional districts was awarded a monetary scholarship funded by ShopRites[®] of Connecticut Supermarkets, through donations to the Connecticut Citizenship Fund. Established in 1992, the fund is a not-for-profit arm of the Secretary of the State's office whose mission is to encourage civic participation. Connecticut schools are encouraged to nominate an 8th or 12th grade student for the honor. Outstanding 8th graders were awarded scholarships of \$250, while the exceptional winners among high school seniors won financial scholarships of \$1,000 each, sponsored by ShopRites[®] of Connecticut.

“It is such an honor to recognize our brightest stars and the future leaders of our communities,” said Secretary Merrill, Connecticut's chief elections official. “It is very encouraging to see young people who are not only serious about their own success, but recognize the importance of giving back to their community. I am sure the parents and teachers of all of our awardees are very proud. With so many model citizens among this state's 8th and 12th graders, it has not been easy selecting the top contenders. But, I am delighted to honor the selected students for their display of outstanding citizenship. You are role models not only for your younger siblings and peers, but for all of us in public service as well. I am very grateful to ShopRites[®] of Connecticut Supermarkets for being the Signature Sponsor of the Excellence in Citizenship awards. It is wonderful that together we can reward the good deeds of students who embody the essence of good citizenship in our state.”

Ken Capano, President of Five Star Supermarkets/ShopRite®, said, “We are pleased to support the children in our communities who have exemplified what model citizenship is all about in Connecticut. We are extremely proud of all their efforts and wish them continued success.”

The Connecticut Citizenship Fund has a long tradition of enhancing civics education in Connecticut schools, and encouraging civic participation in our wider community. Awards were granted to students who actively participate in community activities, exhibit high levels of scholarship and are strong leaders.

Students who won 2012 *Excellence in Citizenship* Awards in are listed below (photos of some award recipients are available upon request):

Office of the Secretary of the State
2012 Excellence in Citizenship Awards

Monetary Award Winners
12th Grade Winners Granted \$1,000 Scholarship
8th Grade Winners Granted \$250 Scholarship

Congressional District 1

12th Grade: Jennifer Ros, William H. Hall High School, West Hartford
8th Grade: Bethany Kanter, Granby Memorial Middle School, Granby

Congressional District 2

12th Grade: Glenn Holmes, Valley Regional High School, Deep River
8th Grade: Olivia Taite Grace Baker, Mansfield Middle School, Storrs

Congressional District 3

12th Grade: Sarah Day Chess, Stratford High School, Stratford
8th Grade: Leonid Furaro, Strong Middle School, Durham

Congressional District 4

12th Grade: Kenneth L Giangregorio, Shelton High School, Shelton
8th Grade: Jasmine Clark, St. Ann School, Bridgeport

Congressional District 5

12th Grade: Michael Mossbarger, Newton High School, Sandy Hook (Newton)
8th Grade: Alexandra Lotko, Newton Middle School, Newton

8th Grade Award Recipients

Student Name	School Name	Town
Alex Callinan	North Canaan Elementary School	North Canaan
Alex Smithline	Mabelle B Avery Middle School	Somers
Alexander Rupp-Coppi	Walter C Polson Middle School	Madison
Alexaner Scaperotta	Middlebrook School	Wilton
Alyssa Sachs	Walsh Intermediate School	Branford
Anna Krowiec	Joseph Melillo Middle School	East Haven
Ava Laren Gallo	Hillcrest Middle School	Trumbull
Bennet Sage	Plainfield Central Middle School	Plainfield
Brenna Marquis	Captain Nathan Hale Middle School	Coventry

Brianna Reeves	Stafford Middle	Stafford Springs
Caitlin Wardlow	Flood Middle School	Stratford
Cameron Pluta	Central Middle School	Greenwich
Carley Jagel	Smith Middle School	Glastonbury
Daniel DeHay	Timothy Edwards Middle School	South Windsor
Delaney Ruiz	Lincoln Middle School	Meriden
Devon Sharafanowich	West Shore Middle School	Milford
Drake Corrigan	Middlesex Middle School	Darien
Elena Peters	Sage Park Middle School	Windsor
Elizabeth Considine	Rippowan Middle School	Stamford
Elizabeth Llanos	Broadview Middle School	Danbury
Emily Hennessey	Lee H Kellogg School	Falls Village
Emma Sanders	John Read Middle School	Redding
Francesca McGill	E C Adams Middle School	Guilford
Georgios Kutrubis	Nathan Hale Middle School	Norwalk
Hazim Korkutovic	Naylor / CCSU Leadership Academy	Hartford
Isabelle Guilmette	Portland Middle School	Portland
Jacob Stuart Carlson	Carl C Cutler Middle School	Mystic
James Brino	Joseph A DePaolo Middle School	Southington
Jared Mihalcik	Har-Bur Middle School	Burlington
Jennifer Cullers	Wheeler Middle/High School	North Stonington
John Matthew Gerber	Roger Ludlowe Middle School	Fairfield
Jon Hagenow	Suffield Middle School	Suffield
Josephine Evan	Wooster Middle School	Stratford
Julia Audibert	Tyrrell Middle School	Wolcott
Julia Mae Allegretti	Pomfret Community School	Pomfret Center
Justin E Marceau	Robert E Fitch Middle School	Groton
Kaleigh Studdert	Rochmabeau Middle School	Southbury
Kendall Ross	Shepaug Valley Middle School	Washington
Keyy Quinn	Sherman School	Sherman
Kristen Dutertre	High Horizons Magnet School	Bridgeport
Kyla Barry	Bristol Middle School	West Hartford
Lauren Higani	Madison Middle School	Trumbull
Lia Ferri	Hamden Middle School	Hamden
Liam Gallagher	Whisconier Middle School	Brookfield
Madeleine Boccardi	Amity Regional Middle School-Bathany	Bathany
Madison Brown	Saint Aedan/Saint Brendan Catholic School	New Haven
McKenzie Watt Byrne	North Western Regional Middle School #7	Winsted
Megan Ritchie	Albert D Griswold Middle School	Rocky Hill
Megan Smith	Jockey Hollow School	Monroe
Micajah J Smith	Roton Middle School	Norwalk
Michaela Bourey	Dr Helen Baldwin Middle School	Canterbury
Michella Meheran	Canton Middle School	Canton
Mikael Tessema	Park City Magnet Science + Technology Magnet	Bridgeport
Molly McElroy	West Side Middle School	Groton
Nicholas Adamou	Schaghticoke Middle School	New Milford
Nicole Speranzo	Tyrrell Middle School	Wolcott
Olivea Kieffer	Dodd Middle School	Cheshire
Olivia Dowiewicz	Hamden Middle School	Hamden
Olivia Triplett	Ledyard Middle School	Gales Ferry
Patrick Briscoe	St Rose of Lima School	Newtown
Rachel Farney	New Fairfield Middle School	New Fairfield
Reanna Sahoo	Carl C Cutler Middle School	Mystic

Rose Chelednik	Bethel Middle School	Bethel
Samantha Breier	Thomaston High School	Thomaston
Samantha Hasenbalg	East Granby Middle School	East Granby
Samantha Susanne Aube	Avon Middle School	Avon
Samuel Morris	Westbrook Middle School	Westbrook
Sarah Calamita	North Branford Intermediate School	North Branford
Sarah Harkins	East Haven Academy	East Haven
Sloane Rodia	Shelton Intermediate School	Shelton
Theresa Durkee	Salem Middle School	Salem
Timothy Gleacher	Torrington Middle School	Torrington
William T Lesorvage	Turn of River Middle School	Stamford
Xhesika Sejdiraj	Brooklyn Middle School	Brooklyn
Zachary Lozinak	Barnard Environmental Studies Magnet School	New Haven
Zachary Wagner	Woodbury Middle School	Woodbury

12th Grade Award Recipients

Student Name	School Name	Town
Alec J Lynde	Lyman Hall High School	Wallingford
Alec M Lessard	St Joseph High School	Trumbull
Alexander Weselcouch	Nathan Hale-Ray High School	Moodus
Alice Ham	Farmington High School	Farmington
Alison Lanzi	Wilton High School	Wilton
Alissa Maffuid	Bacon Academy	Colchester
Amanda E Moore	Branford High School	Branford
Andrew Danielson	Parish Hill Middle/High School	Chaplin
Andrew Henderson	Cheshire High School	Cheshire
Andrew Keens	East Lyme High School	East Lyme
Andrew Smyth	New Fairfield High School	New Fairfield
Ashely Oyola	John F Kennedy High School	Waterbury
Aubrey Waz	Woodstock Academy	Woodstock
Bree Ann Currier	Portland High School	Portland
Brian Fisher	Nonnewaug High School	Woodbury
Brian Michalka	Bethel High School	Bethel
Carlie Cave	Montville High School	Oakdale
Casey Robert Watts	O H Platt High School	Meriden
Celiann Urena	Bulkeley High School	Hartford
Courtney Lavoie	Putnam High School	Putnam
Destiny Harris	Riverside Education Academy	New Haven
Devyn Kangas	Wolcott High School	Wolcott
Diana Ramadan	West Haven High School	West Haven
Edwin Serrano	Enlightenment School	Waterbury
Elizabeth Sinopoli	Henry Abbott Technical High School	Danbury
Emily Perzanoski	The Morgan School	Clinton
Emilyann Polzella	North Branford High School	North Branford
Emma Blauvelt	Somers High School	Somers
Erica Proto	North Haven High School	North Haven
Genesis Medina	Wilby High School	Waterbury
Gilmar Queiros	Naugatuck High School	Naugatuck
Gysel Montufar	James Hillhouse High School	New Haven
Jameik Heron	A I Prince Technical High School	Hartford
Jazmine Nikole Thompson	Wilby High School	Waterbury
Jennifer Tatnell	Bunnell High School	Stratford

Jessica Barnet	Wolcott High School	Wolcott
Joanna Pagano	Daniel Hand High School	Madison
Joshua Russo	Francis T Maloney High School	Meriden
Kelly N Roche	The Morgan School	Clinton
Leon Peschel	Southington High School	Southington
Madeline Daly	Danbury High School	Danbury
Maggie Finn	Torrington High School	Torrington
Marissa Fournier	Norwich Technical High School	Norwich
Mary Kraynak	Ansonia High School	Ansonia
Mary Patricia Klein	Lyme-Old Lyme High School	Old Lyme
Matthew Oullette	Jonathan Law High School	Milford
Megan Maynard	Griswold High School	Griswold
Melanie Cruz	H C Wilcox Technical High School	Meriden
Melanie R Badin	Coginchaug Regional High School	Durham
Michael Bradley	Cromwell High School	Cromwell
Michael Thomas	Cheshire High School	Cheshire
Michael TJ Williams	Northwestern Regional High School	Winsted
Molly Bushey	RHAM High School	Hebron
Morgan E Matt	Canton High School	Canton
Nevin Ounpoo-Adams	Bolton High School	Bolton
Nicholas Boretsky	Daniel Hand High School	Madison
Nicholas Richardi	Mark T Sheehan High School	Wallingford
Nicole Damaschi	Connecticut IB Academy	East Hartford
Patrick Curtin	Trumbull High School	Trumbull
Patrick Madley	East Haven High School	East Haven
Porter Reim	Ledyard High School	Ledyard
Preeti Srinivason	Glastonbury High School	Glastonbury
Rachel Roberts	Haddam-Killingworth High School	Higganum
Rebecca Borovsky	Lewis S Mills High School	Burlington
Ricky Crespo	Waterbury Arts Magnet School	Waterbury
Ronan M Lucey	Conard High School	West Hartford
Ryan Dickey	John F Kennedy High School	Waterbury
Sabrina Brown	Bloomfield High School	Bloomfield
Samantha O'Brien	Common Ground High School	New Haven
Sarah Amy Hafele	Thomaston High School	Thomaston
Shannon Patricia Burke	Conard High School	West Hartford
Shaylah McQueen	James Hillhouse High School	New Haven
Stephanie Ortiz	University High School of Science and Engineering	Hartford
Stephanie Orts	Seymour High School	Seymour
Taylor Jane Downs	Marianapolis Preparatory School	Thompson
Taylor Vann	Coventry High School	Coventry
Tessa Mae Roy	Wheeler Middle/High School	North Stonington
Victoria Ho	Suffield High School	Suffield
Woody Jean Pierre	Westhill High School	Stamford
Zachary Holmes	Watertown High School	Watertown