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## News Release

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### **WRIGHT-HENNEPIN AWARDS \$29,800 IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO LOCAL STUDENTS**

**Rockford, Minn. (June 3, 2024)** — Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) recently awarded \$29,800 in scholarships to 21 local students to help them continue their education. WH's scholarship program began in 1988 and has awarded more than \$709,750 to local students. Scholarships are made possible with funding from unclaimed capital credits as well as contributions from diversified businesses under WH Holding. WH and WH Holding are proud to provide scholarships to assist students in furthering their education.

The scholarship fund was created after a state law was passed allowing unclaimed capital credits to be put into an education fund. This allows WH to invest in the area's youth without impacting members' electric rates.

#### **WH local school scholarship**

WH provides one scholarship to each school in its electric service area to award to an outstanding student pursuing higher education. The scholarship winners are selected by the school themselves. WH also offers one "at-large" scholarship for students who are homeschooled or attend a school neighboring WH's electric service territory. The following recipients received a WH local school scholarship this year:

- Allison Heyne, Annandale High School
- Colten Borden, Buffalo High School
- Carly Zeidler, Dassel-Cokato High School
- Aubrey Wittwer, Delano High School
- Harriet Sandager, Heritage Christian Academy
- Wyatt Glessing, Howard Lake -Waverly -Winsted High School
- Gautham Barani, Maple Grove High School

- Nicholas Lind, Maple Lake High School
- Lauren Mullis, Monticello High School
- Sindri Bonner, Orono High School
- Jethro Harding, Osseo High School
- Jacob Eisentrager, Rockford High School
- Palmer Willegalle, Rogers High School
- Ava Haus, St. Michael - Albertville High School
- Nevaeh Meyer, Terra Nova School
- Natalie Boersma, Watertown-Mayer High School
- Aleena Varghese, Wayzata High School
- Owen Holm, Wright Technical Center
- Maria Krotz, Benilde - St. Margaret's High School (at-large scholarship)

### **Edward R. Slebiska Memorial Lineworker Scholarship**

Each year, the Edward R. Slebiska Scholarship is awarded in the name of the cooperative's first CEO to individuals planning to become electric lineworkers. During his time as CEO, Slebiska helped the cooperative bring reliable and affordable electricity to rural Wright County and western Hennepin County. The recipients of the 2024 Edward R. Slebiska Memorial Lineworker Scholarship are:

- Griffin Berndt, St. Michael - Albertville High School
- Owen Holm, Wright Technical Center

### **Basin Electric Scholarship**

Basin Electric Power Cooperative annually awards a scholarship to its distribution cooperative members. Basin is one of WH's wholesale power suppliers, and is headquartered in Bismarck, N.D. The member recipient of this year's Basin Electric Scholarship is:

- Madelyn Hunt from University of Minnesota - Twin Cities.

Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association is a member-owned, not-for-profit electric utility that provides power to rural Wright County and western Hennepin County. The

cooperative has been a corporate citizen to the area since 1937 and currently serves more than 59,000 electric accounts. It is headquartered in Rockford, Minn.

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*WH's 2024 scholarship winners were invited to a banquet at the cooperative's Rockford headquarters May 23, 2024.*