2022 National DHIA Scholarship Recipients

Glenn Barnes, Lawrenceville, PA
Jeffery and Pamela Barnes
Agriculture Engineering
Oklahoma State University
Lancaster DHIA
A member of a first place State FFA Land Judging team, Glenn Barnes also served his FFA chapter as secretary and sentinel. His other high school activities included Student Council, National Honor Society, cross country, soccer, basketball, baseball and track. Glenn also volunteers for the Millerton Volunteer Fire Department as a first responder. In the Pennsylvania Junior Holstein Association, he participated in the dairy bowl and won a video contest. For Maple Knoll Farm, Glenn milks cows, cleans stalls, feeds calves and heifers, prepares the total mixed ration, plants and harvests corn, mows and rakes hay, and repairs broken machinery.

Maggie Cronk, Henning, MN
Barry and Janine Cronk
Animal Science/Pre-Vet at North Dakota State University
Minnesota DHIA
A high school class valedictorian, Maggie Cronk participated in choir, National Honor Society and Knowledge Bowl, and served as stage director for school musicals and as yearbook assistant editor. She was the East Otter Tail County Dairy Princess. At North Dakota State University, Maggie’s activities include Saddle & Sirloin Club, Pre-Vet Club and Bison Dairy Club (BDC). For BDC, she is the treasurer and Ag in the Classroom co-chair. With the goal of becoming a large animal veterinarian, Maggie has worked at two animal clinics. Duties ranged from scheduling appointments to restraining animals to assisting with surgeries by monitoring vitals and handing tools to the veterinarian performing the surgery.

Aaron Dukelow, Abbotsford, WI
Chris and Monica Dukelow
Farm and Industry Short Course at University of Wisconsin
VAS/AgSource Dairy
With a strong work ethic – at school, on the job and with his family’s farm – Aaron Dukelow ranks first academically in his high school class. As an FFA member, he has served as chapter secretary and vice president, and helps with the chapter’s test plot. In 2018 and 2021, Aaron placed second in the Wisconsin Association of FFA Safe Tractor Operator Contest. He is also involved in National Honor Society and plays football and basketball. In addition to working on his family’s 450-cow dairy, Aaron works for a mobile welding business. His career goal is to become part owner of his family’s farm and develop a more efficient business.
Rachel Durst
Loren and Julie Durst
Agriculture Education at University of Wisconsin-Platteville
Indiana State Dairy Association

The Kickapoo Class of 2021 salutatorian, Rachel Durst was involved in high school marching band, polka band, wind ensemble and concert band. As an FFA member, she served as chapter president and secretary, participated in dairy judging and was a food pantry volunteer. At the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Rachel is a member of Sigma Alpha Professional Ag Sorority, Pioneer Dairy Club, Collegiate Farm Bureau and UW-Platteville Ag Ed Society. For her 4-H club, Rachel served as president, vice president and secretary, and competed in the UW-Madison Dairy Quiz Bowl. She also participated in National Junior Holstein Dairy Jeopardy.

Mindi Freed, Timberville, VA
Steven and Anna Freed
Dairy Science and Political Science at Virginia Tech
Lancaster DHIA

With an interest in agricultural policy, Mindi Freed wants to improve agriculture across Virginia and the East. To prepare for a career with the U.S. Department of Agriculture or Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, she has worked for Ridge View Dairy LLC as a parlor worker, Baker Pork as a pork processing and sales intern, and Southern States as a social media and marketing intern. Her college activities include Dairy Club program coordinator and Block and Bridle Club secretary. Additionally, she strengthens her advocacy skills by participating in Virginia Young Farmers and serving as a Virginia Dairy Princess.

Justyne Frisle, Prairie Farm, WI
Dean and Leslie Frisle
Dairy Science at University of Wisconsin-Madison
Minnesota DHIA

As a 4-H member, Justyne Frisle topped (overall and oral reasons) the North American International Livestock Exposition Dairy Judging Contest and was named the Barron County Fair Outstanding Exhibitor and Barron County Fair Supreme Champion in Showmanship. Her high school activities included Family, Career and Community Leadership of America (president and parliamentary procedure team), FFA (reporter, vice president and co-president), forensics, softball, basketball, volleyball, National Honor Society and Pep Club. Justyne is a member of Youth and (Should this be Youth for Christ?) Christ, serving as treasurer. This group prepares and presents worship services.

Brianna Hill, Gregory, MI – Joe Drexler Scholarship Winner
Brian and Jodi Hill
Animal Science at Michigan State University
CentralStar Co-op DHI Services

The class valedictorian, Brianna Hill participated in several high school programs, including cross country (team captain), soccer (team captain), National Honor Society and Student Council, and served as class secretary. A member of the Livingston County 4-H Club, she has served as secretary, president and Cloverbud mentor. At Michigan State University (MSU), she is involved in Dairy Club and Collegiate Farm Bureau Club. Currently, Brianna is working on an Enogen nutrition study at MSU. On her family’s dairy farm, she fed calves, milked cows, carried out bookkeeping tasks, performed minor veterinary work and did field work.
Madelynn Hoffman, Manheim, PA
Curt and Psuche Hoffman
Animal Science at Cornell University
Lancaster DHIA

Aiming to become a large animal veterinarian, Madelynn Hoffman is specifically interested in reproductive anatomy and physiology, and plans to focus her research on microbiology and genetics. Her interest in these areas stems from her involvement in Science Club, dairy bowl, dairy judging, Junior Holstein Club, 4-H and FFA. Also, she participated in Student Council, Speech and Debate Club, cross country (served as captain) and track and field. Last year, the Pennsylvania Livestock Association recognized Madelynn as the Outstanding FFA Member. She placed third individually in the FFA Dairy Evaluation and Management competition.

Lila Sloan, Davis, IL
Angela and Tim Litow
Agribusiness at University of Wisconsin-Platteville
Dairy Lab Services

A two-year FFA chapter president, Lila Sloan competed in FFA prepared speech competitions. Her other high school activities included class president, National Honor Society, cheerleader, softball and Student Council. Lila is serving as the Illinois Junior Holstein state vice president and is a past treasurer. She won the National Junior Holstein Prepared Speaking Contest (intermediate division). At the state level, she took first place in senior showmanship and Junior Jeopardy. Lila plans to pursue a career in marketing for an ag-related company. She has a strong passion for the dairy industry and enjoys talking with and making connections with people.

Emily Starceski, Sherman, NY
Paul and Robin Starceski
Animal Science/Dairy Management at Cornell University
Lancaster DHIA

The Cornell University Dairy Science Club president and past secretary, Emily Starceski also belongs to Cornell Collegiate Farm Bureau (past public relations chair) and Sigma Alpha Professional Agriculture Sorority (past alumni chair). During high school, she was active in FFA (president), basketball, National Honor Society and Fellowship of Christian Students. In 2019, Emily placed second in the New York State FFA Association Employment Skills contest and was a member of a National FFA Association Agriculture Mechanics and Technology silver-winning team. She plans to pursue a career that helps dairy farmers produce high-quality milk.

Clara Thompson, Plainview, MN
Donny and Holly Thompson
Animal Science/Pre-Vet at University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Minnesota DHIA

Both the Agriculture Department and English Department MVP, Clara Thompson excels in leadership, dairy bowl and dairy judging. For FFA, she served as president, vice president and Dairy Cattle Evaluation and Management coach. Also, Clara acts as a Minnesota Junior Holstein Association director and 4-H club president. In 2017, her team won the Minnesota Junior Holstein Intermediate Quiz Bowl and in 2020, her 4-H team won the Regional Dairy Project Bowl. For dairy judging, she placed fourth overall in the 2021 Minnesota 4-H Dairy Judging Contest and eighth overall at the North American International Livestock Exposition.