



Pierre Educational Foundation

“Partnership in Academic Excellence”

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(Pierre) – The Pierre Educational Foundation will host its Evening of Excellence on Thursday May 6th at the Ramkota Convention Center. The event begins with a social hour at 5:30 pm followed by dinner and program beginning at 6:00 pm. BankWest is the presenting sponsor of the event.

The Evening of Excellence will recognize the top 46 students of the 2021 graduating class as Scholars of Excellence. Each of these students have achieved a 3.75 grade point average or better through their academic career. The winners of the scholarships awarded by the Pierre Educational Foundation will also be announced. The Foundation scholarships include:

Charles “Lindy” and Shirley Feeney Scholarship (\$1,000)

Herbert and Irene Emde Family Scholarship (\$1,000)

Pierre Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship (\$1,000)

Shaw Family Scholarship (\$1,000)

Edith and Richard Warder Scholarship (\$1,000)

Mortenson Family Scholarship (\$1,600)

Spilde Family Scholarship - College (\$2,500)

Spilde Family Scholarship – Technical Institute (\$2,500)

James and Gertrude Mueller Scholarship Fund (\$3,500)

Schliessmann Family Scholarship (\$4,000)

The Evening of Excellence will also recognize 29 educators nominated for the BankWest Educator of Excellence. The nominees are selected by the 2021 Scholars of Excellence. Nominations are based on the educator’s impact on the education and lives of the students. The winner of the 2021 BankWest Educator of Excellence will receive \$1,500 award sponsored by BankWest.

“We are excited to be able to celebrate the achievements of these outstanding students in person this year,” said Jennifer Stalley, Executive Director of Pierre Educational Foundation. “While 2020’s Evening of Excellence took place virtually, we plan to take necessary precautions with social distancing to be able to recognize the 2021 Scholars and Educators in Excellence in person this year.”

The Evening of Excellence will include a pre-dinner art display by the students competing in the state art competition under the direction of Jill Kokesh.

Beginning Tuesday, April 6th, the Pierre Educational Foundation Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Pierre-Educational-Foundation-104740412918384/>) will

highlight each scholar and nominated educator leading up to the Evening of Excellence on May 6th. Make sure to like and follow the Facebook page.

The 2021 Scholars of Excellence and the 2021 BankWest Educator of Excellence Nominees are listed below.

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Educator of Excellence Nominees

Hope Armstrong
Rodd Bauck
Terry Becker
MacKenzie Blake
Karla Blemaster
Kelly Brandt
Megan Deal
Vasthi Gibson
Jenny Hodges
Guy Hunter
Teresa Johnson
John Kalda
Becky Kitts
Chad Kringel
Joseph Lehman
Shawn Lewis
Kim Livermont
Mackenzie McKeithan-Jensen
Jay Mickelson
Brianna Postma
Jay Schwartz
Greg Starr
Christina Staskewich
Steve Steele
Greg Stluka
Amber Stout
Elizabeth Vogt
Becky Walsh
Paula Weeldreyer

2021 Scholars of Excellence

Adeline Abernathy
Andie Allison
Regan Bollweg
Collin Brueggeman
Eleah Carda
Joseph Cremer
Bennett Dean
Brooke Easland
Morgan Eckert
Cord Ellis
Delaney Engbrecht
Taylor Evans
Andrew Gordon
Kenzie Gronlund

Devin Hemmelman
Seneca Hertel
Ajaye Hicks
Miah Kienholz
Arielle Kiepke
Jacob Larson
Zachary Letellier
Gabriella Linn
Houston Lunde
Emma Lusk
Micheala Magner
Levi McKinley
Jordan Morley
Morkeia Mutchelknaus
Carlee Natvig
Morgan Nelson
Allison Ondricek
Isaac Polak
Paige Pollreisz
Tessa Putzier
Conlan Rendell
Nolan Rounds
Christopher Schultz
Malia Schumacher
Savannah Shrake
Alexandra Smith
Gabriel Valle
Luke Venner
Aubre Westover
Austyn Wiebe
Raegan Wiebe
Mesa Winder

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