

SJPS Foundation awards \$45,000 in scholarships

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ST. JOSEPH — Nine St. Joseph High School seniors were each awarded a \$5,000 scholarship from the St. Joseph Public Schools Foundation last week.

The foundation administers three scholarships: The Paul W. and Rose Suchovsky Scholarship, the Believe in Yourself Scholarship and the Yeager Family Foundation Scholarship.

Ed Todd honors the memory of his mother and stepfather, Paul and Rose Suchovsky, by presenting the scholarship to assist SJHS seniors who wish to pursue a degree in business.

Paul and Rose were business people and entrepreneurs who appreciated the important role business plays in building communities and providing opportunities for people, according to a foundation news release. This scholarship is intended to recognize the excellence and leadership of students who wish to apply those traits to the study of business.

This year's Suchovsky Scholarship recipients were:

- Eric Guldan, the son of John and Cathleen Guldan, who will attend the University of Michigan to study computer science, entrepreneurship and physics
- Taylor Huie, the daughter of Mike and Jackie Huie, who will attend Duke University to study biomedical engineering
- Annie Klusendorf, the daughter of Brian and Bean Klusendorf, who will attend the University of Michigan to study environmental studies and business
- Erik Rumsa, the son of Arunas and Michelle Rumsa, who will attend DePaul University to study business and music management
- Shreeja Shrestha, the daughter of Madana and Manoj Shrestha, who will study computer engineering and business at Purdue University
- Natalie Smiy, the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Alan Smiy, who will study business administration at Aquinas College

The Believe in Yourself Scholarship is funded by the Bob and Carol Gerbel and Jim and Nancy Kodis families. The scholarship was established to assist graduating SJHS seniors who wish to further their education by attending college.



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Recipients of the Paul W. and Rose Suchovsky Scholarship are, from left, Eric Guldan, Annie Klusendorf, Taylor Huie, Erik Rumsa and Shreeja Shrestha. With them is Ed Todd. Not pictured is recipient Natalie Smiy.

The Gerbel and Kodis families recognized two students who have displayed a passion for learning, who have a desire to succeed and who want to build on the foundation they received through St. Joseph Public Schools:

- Maya Fitzstephens, the daughter of David Fitzstephens and Karen Koch, who will attend the University of Michigan to study material science and engineering
- Jessica Tagudar, the daughter of Rolando Tagudar and Maria Tagudar, who will attend Grand Valley State University to study biomedical sciences

As longtime members of the community, the Yeagers feel strongly about providing an opportunity for SJHS students who want to further their education. The family established its scholarship in 2014.

This year's recipient was Erica Heathcote, the daughter of Robert Heathcote and Deborah Calley, who will attend the College for Creative Studies and study communication design.