

Community Involvement

I have been a member of my local 4-H club for the past nine years. Throughout those years, I have held multiple offices as club historian, reporter, and photographer, and I have participated in community service events such as raking leaves for the elderly and serving dinner. I am an avid participant in our county fair through my 4-H projects, and next summer, I plan to participate in the local county fair queen pageant. As part of the St. Thomas Aquinas Pastorate (my local Catholic parish), I was a Mass server for eight years, and I have played the flute with the Pastorate choir since I was 12 years old. I have also done service work at the Parish Office helping out with various office jobs.

I have performed at a Catholic Daughters of America meeting for their monthly entertainment several times.

Multiple local nursing homes have regularly invited me to come sing and play flute for the residents. I have also helped organize games for the residents at the Shady Rest Care Center in my community.

I take voice lessons from a teacher in a neighboring community, and I have had several opportunities to sing and perform for her church's activities and concerts.

I participated in the Bill Riley Talent Search at the local competition level, and I made it to the preliminary round at the Iowa State Fair.

For the past four years, I have competed in the Iowa State Fair Yodeling Contest and won first place each time. As a result, I appeared on the Des Moines KCCI Channel 8 News, and I was featured in the Teen Spotlight on Dubuque's Channel 9 KCRG News. I was also interviewed on several local and Midwest radio stations.

I was asked by Chuck Offenburger to be a performer along the Raccoon River Trail during a biking event near Des Moines, Iowa.

I was also invited to sing and yodel at the Guttenberg Oktoberfest with a local polka band for two years.

Last summer, I was asked to perform a musical theater song in a community drama reunion event.

As a strong pro-life supporter, I protest weekly at a local abortion clinic.

I have served meals at local soup kitchens and homeless shelters, and I plan to organize more students to help.

Every Christmas season, I participate in Operation Christmas Child by filling shoeboxes with little gifts and toiletries for children in third-world countries.

This February, I am going to Haiti for ten days with eleven other people to perform mission work in orphanages and villages and visit our sister parish there.

School Involvement

Throughout high school, I have been heavily involved in the drama department. I have been a cast member in three spring musicals, and I held leading roles in two of them. I received the Outstanding Performer and the Best Supporting Actress awards for my performances. I have also been a part of plays put on by the drama department, and I received Best Actress for one of those productions.

I have also been a member of Speech, both as a large group and individual participant. Last year I was selected as an Iowa All-State Performer for Individual Musical Theater.

As a strong pro-life supporter, I am a member of Students for Life at our school. I have attended the March for Life in Washington, D.C., the past five years to show my support for life and to stand up for what I believe in.

I am a four-year member of Spanish Club.

I am also involved in Campus Ministry as a music minister by cantoring and playing flute at school Masses.

Choir is very important to me, and this is my fourth year as a chorus member. I have been a member of Concert Choir, Treble Choir, and Jazz Choir for three years and have earned a varsity letter multiple times. I have auditioned for the Iowa All-State Choir three years and was recalled this past year. I have participated in the Iowa High School Music Association (IHSMA) Solo and Small Ensemble Festival and received Division I ratings for all of my performances. Last spring, I received a perfect score at the local festival and was selected to perform at the Outstanding Performer Festival.

I have been involved in Marching Band, Concert Band, Pep Band, and Jazz Band intermittently throughout my sophomore, junior, and senior years. I have performed solo and ensemble pieces at the IHSMA Solo and Small Ensemble Festival and received all Division I ratings.

This year I was able to join FFA (officially known as Future Farmers of America) as this is our school's first year in offering the program to students. Even as a first-year member, I was selected through an application process in our club to attend the FFA National Convention and Expo in Louisville, Kentucky. This past fall, I placed sixth in the District Soil Judging Contest and second as part of a soil judging team. I was also asked by our club advisor to compete in the State Convention Talent Show in the spring.

This past fall I was chosen by the student body as the 2013 Homecoming Queen, and I was invited by America's Favorite Homecoming Queen Inc. to attend the Liberty Bowl.

Last year, I was selected to be a member of the Dubuque Area Youth Leadership Council (DAYLC). Additionally, I was recognized as an Outstanding Leader at one of the events held for DAYLC participants.

After writing essays and doing community, school, and parish service work, I was also inducted into the National Honor Society.

Sophomore year, I was elected to Student Council as a class delegate.

I participated in Cross Country as a junior varsity runner my sophomore and junior years.

I have been on the High Honor Roll every year, and I have also received recognition for having over a 4.0 GPA all four years.