

The Congressional Award

The Congressional Award

CONGRESS' AWARD FOR YOUTH

“CONGRESSIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS REPRESENT THE BEST OF AMERICA. THEY DO NOT NECESSARILY HAVE THE HIGHEST GRADES OR THE GREATEST ATHLETIC OR SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS. THEY ONLY NEED TO HAVE COMMITTED TO BETTERING THEMSELVES AND TO GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH THEY RESIDE. IT IS THE MAKING AND FULFILLING OF THAT COMMITMENT THAT MAKES THESE YOUNG PEOPLE SO EXTRAORDINARY.”

—The Honorable Harry Reid
United States Senate



“I CONTINUE TO SEE HOW LENDING A HAND
HELPS PEOPLE. EVEN THE SMALLEST THING
CAN MAKE SOMEONE’S DAY.”

—Bronze Medalist Korey Lopez ★ Las Vegas, NV



Senator Harry Reid (D-NV) greets recipients at the US Capitol during a Congressional Award leadership event.

A Message from the Chairman of the Board

It is a privilege to serve as the Chairman of the only charity of the United States Congress – the Congressional Award Foundation. Appointed to the Board of Directors by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, I am honored to serve at the pleasure of the congressional leadership to deliver this special youth program on behalf of the all members of the House and Senate.

Established by Congress in 1979, the Congressional Award Act was designed to recognize and promote service, initiative and achievement in America's youth. In the spirit of bipartisanship, the original legislation was a bi-cameral effort sponsored by Senator Malcolm Wallop of Wyoming and the late Congressman James Howard of New Jersey. The enabling legislation (Public Law 96-114) established the Congressional Award as a private-public partnership, which receives all funding from the private sector. The Bill was originally signed into law by President Jimmy Carter. Presidents Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama have all signed continuing legislation.

Each June, youth from across the nation are honored in the US Capitol for earning Congress' highest award for youth – the Congressional Award Gold Medal. Dozens of members of Congress join the celebration to present Medals to their constituents and to meet with the families and advisors who have supported them in their journey. In addition to this special ceremony, a luncheon is hosted by the Senate spouses in the Russell Senate Caucus Room.

Throughout the year, additional events are held in Washington, DC where members of Congress participate to raise awareness and funding from the private sector. These sponsored events are held on an annual basis and support the efforts of the foundation to recognize youth in all 50 states. The four signature fundraising events are the Youth Wellness Dinner, Youth & Technology Dinner, Golf Classic and Charity Poker Tournament. In addition to these events, state dinners occur on a rotating basis to help raise support for outreach efforts within those states. The schedule of events for the year is available from the National Office, which is located on Capitol Hill in the Ford House Office Building.

In addition, members of Congress hold Congressional Award events for their constituents in their home states or districts. The purpose of these events is to present youth with their Bronze and Silver Medals for achieving their goals and providing service to their communities. Ceremonies take place at various venues and functions, such as high school assemblies, town hall meetings and state fairs. The method of delivery of each Congressional Award is at the discretion of the member of Congress.

The Congressional Award relies on support from members of Congress, adult volunteers, partnering youth organizations and corporate sponsors in order to deliver this unique and worthwhile congressional program to youth across the country. I encourage you to assist us in recognizing young Americans who are making a positive difference in our world. If you should need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the National Office at (888) 80-AWARD or (202) 226-0130.



PAXTON K. BAKER,
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
& GENERAL MANAGER,
CENTRIC NETWORK
PRESIDENT, BET EVENT
PRODUCTIONS, INC.

Mission

The primary goal of the Congressional Award Foundation is to promote and recognize service, initiative and achievement, in America's youth. We strive to help young people realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens.

Young people register for the Congressional Award program and set personally challenging goals in four program areas – Voluntary Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness and Expedition/Exploration. These diverse areas encourage young people to discover new talents, learn about the world around them and to take positive action in their communities.

The beauty of the Congressional Award program is that all young people, regardless of their situation, can qualify for an award. The program has no minimum grade point average requirements. It accommodates youth with special needs or disabilities, and is completely non-competitive.

The Congressional Award program requires that youth work with an adult mentor or advisor, providing an opportunity for young people to learn from adults who will encourage and support them in their endeavors. The program also encourages the establishment of community networks and links, which can enable disadvantaged youth to become a part of the community.

THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD *At a Glance*

The Congressional Award program is designed for youth, ages 14 – 23, inclusive of any gender, ethnic group, academic or athletic ability and socioeconomic background.

Approximately **32,000 young people** from all 50 states, US territories and overseas military bases are currently enrolled in the Congressional Award program.

Over **10,000 adult mentors** advise young people locally in the Congressional Award program. These mentors include teachers, guidance counselors, scoutmasters, club leaders, neighbors, friends and coaches.

Thousands of volunteers promote the Congressional Award program throughout the country.

Local communities benefit from individual or group Congressional Award projects. Over **3 million hours of volunteer public service** are rendered through the Congressional Award program.

Partnering Organizations deliver the Congressional Award program as a value-added component to their participants. These partners include the United States Air Force, Boy Scouts of America, Presidential Classroom, 4-H, Girl Scouts of the USA, AmeriCorps NCCC, the Department of Education Office of Migrant Education and many others.

The **members of Congress**, who serve as patrons of the Congressional Award, promote, recognize and deliver the program in all 435 congressional districts.

While the Congressional Award Foundation is a national organization, the program is delivered locally where the needs of each community are served. *We strongly believe that the future of America's youth is reached **one individual at a time.***



The Honorable Steny Hoyer (D-5th-MD) thanks AEGON for supporting the Congressional Award program in Maryland.



Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY) meets with Congressional Awardees at a leadership event.

THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD *Gold Medal Award Ceremony*

Youth are recognized at this annual event in Washington, DC as the culmination of two years dedicated to meeting their goals in Voluntary Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness and Expedition/Exploration. Held on Capitol Hill, the national event brings together youth, advisors and families from across the country to recognize the dedication to service and goals that these youth have exhibited. Members of Congress from both sides of the aisle and hill present the Gold Medals to their constituents in a ceremony attended by other civic and community leaders as well as partnering organizations and friends of the foundation.

The ceremony is the highlight of a week-long program hosted by the foundation, which is filled with a touring program for medalists to connect and explore Washington, DC and a larger celebratory event for families and supporters to recognize these deserving youth. Since its inception, the Congressional Award has recognized approximately 3,000 Gold Medalists.



Gold Medalists celebrate their accomplishments after the Gold Medal Ceremony.

“THE GOLD NATION PROGRAM WAS AN AWESOME EXPERIENCE. THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD IS SUCH AN INCREDIBLE PROGRAM. I WISH EVERY TEEN OUT THERE WAS TAKING PART IN IT. I WILL CONTINUE TO SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT IT!”

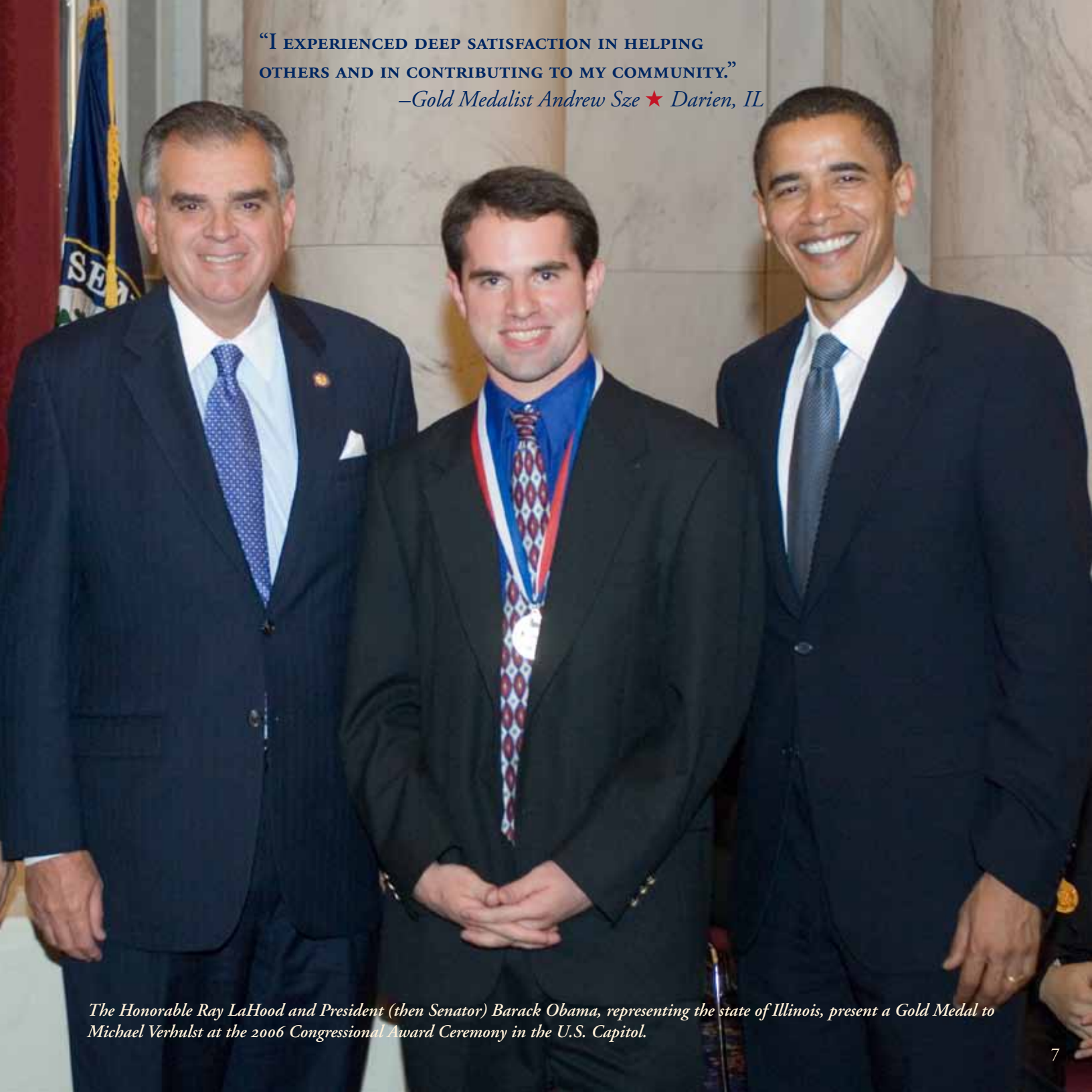
*—Gold Medalist
Jonathan Webster ★
Langhorne, PA*



Senator and Mrs. John Boozman spend time with Arkansas Gold Medalist, Jacob Costello.

“I EXPERIENCED DEEP SATISFACTION IN HELPING
OTHERS AND IN CONTRIBUTING TO MY COMMUNITY.”

—Gold Medalist Andrew Sze ★ Darien, IL



The Honorable Ray LaHood and President (then Senator) Barack Obama, representing the state of Illinois, present a Gold Medal to Michael Verhulst at the 2006 Congressional Award Ceremony in the U.S. Capitol.

ALABAMA**Senator Shelby**
Senator Sessions**Representative Mo Brooks**
(AL05)
Lisa Henderson**Representative Bachus** (AL06)
Catherine Briscoe**ARKANSAS****Senator Pryor**
Senator Boozman**Representative Womack**
(AR03)
Jacob Costello**CALIFORNIA****Senator Feinstein**
Senator Boxer**Representative Lugren**
(CA03)
Elliot Bartlett
Blake Delaplaine
Emily McNamara**Representative Matsui** (CA05)
Adam Greenberg**Representative Garamendi**
(CA10)
Daniel Friesen
Sarah Friesen**Representative McNerney**
(CA11)
Christine Langford
Mark Talley
Claire Williams**Representative Speier** (CA12)
Peter Hurtubise
Haley Kong
Amrit Saxena**Representative Eshoo** (CA14)
Lillian Chen**Representative Honda** (CA15)
Anusha Koganti**Representative McCarthy**
(CA22)
Katie Bogash
Lewis Elizabeth**Representative Gallegly**
(CA24)
Bryson Edgar
Barbara Horne-Petersdorf
Alexander Mastrodonardo**Representative Dreier** (CA26)
Yan Mei Guo
Jesse Li
Steven Martin**Representative Schiff** (CA29)
Chloe Hsia**Representative Waxman**
(CA30)
Yael Freiberg**Representative Bass** (CA33)
Corine Taylor**Representative Royce** (CA40)
Talia Bastien
Daniel Lane
Diane Oh**Representative Rohrabacher**
(CA46)
Michelle Lang
Patrick Murphy
Victor Woo
Walter Woo**Representative Campbell**
(CA48)
Adrienne Liu
Christina Penticuff**Representative Issa** (CA49)
Zachary Chione
Holly Rogers**Representative Billbray**
(CA50)
Aaron Epstein**COLORADO****Senator Udall**
Senator Bennet**Representative DeGette**
(CO01)
Nicholas Carney
Riley Carney**Representative Tipton**
(CO03)
Tyler Moore**Representative Lamborn**
(CO05)
Levanna Davis
Carolina Patton**Representative Coffman**
(CO06)
Katrina Atkinson
Austin Reed**CONNECTICUT****Senator Lieberman**
Senator Blumenthal**Representative Courtney**
(CT02)
Kousanee Chheda
Sumaali Chheda**FLORIDA****Senator Nelson**
Senator Rubio**Representative Miller** (FL01)
Johnna Bowles
Tyler Bryant
Brian Toups**Representative Mica** (FL07)
Kaitlyn Chana**Representative Webster**
(FL08)
Tabitha Boeringer**Representative Posey** (FL15)
Christopher Lee**Representative Rooney**
(FL16)
Lindsey Bordner
Amanda Brown
Sarah Dennison
Danielle DiTerlizzi
Rachel Fenton
Ian Gasiorek
Bailey Gleason
Adam Glener
Julie Glener
Michael Healy
David Hill Jr.
Victoria Holden
Caroline Horrow
Stephanie Hoskins
Raymond La
William LiDillon Pettyjohn
Caitlin Stevenson
Martha Strum
Jennifer Tuck
Grace Willert**Representative Ros-Lehtinen**
(FL18)
Joseph Lindsay
Michael Murray**Representative Deutch** (FL19)
Flannery Winchester**Representative West** (FL22)Raquel Bicknell
Kedric Bostic III
Jamie Corey
Carleton Coulter
Robert Dattolo
Hamilton Doane
Kiva Ebert
Cody Ellsworth
Lindsay French
John Hardin
Alexandra Ladd
Samantha Marion
Dustin Provenzano
Dylan Provenzano
Joshua Schattie
Eric Shearouse
Anjali Shetty
Victoria Vartan**Representative Hastings**
(FL23)
Chelsey Hofer
Angel Millender**GEORGIA****Senator Chambliss**
Senator Isakson**Representative Kingston**
(GA01)
Dennis Harris**Representative Westmoreland**
(GA03)
Robert Feters**Representative Price** (GA06)
Christiana Brock
J. Alexander Levine**Representative Gingrey**
(GA11)
Jonathan Lynch**IDAHO****Senator Crapo**
Senator Risch**Representative Labrador**
(ID01)
Kristen Boyd
Danielle Hooper
Breanna Lee
Isaac Levi
Stacie Monaghan
Rachel Spencer**Representative Simpson**
(ID02)Jon Atkinson
Cory Berry
Steven Boomhower
Samantha Breeding
Abigail Burk
Hanna Fischer
Jene Johnson
Julianna Lamb
John Langfield
Britton Stevenson
Ashley Stucki
Lara Tuthill**ILLINOIS****Senator Durbin**
Senator Kirk**Representative Schakowsky**
(IL09)
Joanne Dynak**Representative Dold** (IL10)
Bryan Sable**Representative Kinzinger**
(IL11)
Timothy McNally**Representative Manzullo**
(IL16)
Zachary Isrow**INDIANA****Senator Lugar**
Senator Coats**Representative Rokita** (IN04)
Carah Austin**Representative Burton** (IN05)
Monica Cheng
Robert Rowlett

“WITH EVERYTHING FROM VISITING HOMELESS SHELTERS TO LEARNING TIME MANAGEMENT, THE CONGRESSIOANL AWARD HAS MADE ME A MORE ORGANIZED AND SELF-AWARE PERSON.”

—Bronze Medalist Gina Benedetto ★ Marshfield, MA



Senator Scott Brown meets with Congressional Award Gold Medalists at the 2010 Gold Medal Award Open House in the U.S. Capitol.

“I HAVE LEARNED THE VALUES OF WORKING DILIGENTLY TO MEET MY GOALS,
AND THROUGH THEM I HAVE GIVEN MORE OF MYSELF, BECOME PHYSICALLY
FIT AND I HAVE LEARNED THE INCENTIVE TO TRAVEL TO NEW PLACES.”

—Bronze Medalist Thane Seward ★ Boise, ID



Senators Mike Crapo (R-ID) and Jim Risch (R-ID) pose with awardees
at the Idaho State Congressional Award Ceremony in Boise.

Representative Pence (IN06)
Miriam Crane
Abraham Gerber
James Luehrmann

KANSAS

Senator Roberts

Senator Moran

Representative Yoder (KS03)

Alexander Abramovitz

Ben Denzer

Victoria Gaughan

Kaya LeGrand

Anne Sgroi

KENTUCKY

Senator McConnell

Senator Paul

Representative Yarmuth

(KY03)

Jessica Cambren

Representative Chandler

(KY06)

Jacob Rennick

LOUISIANA

Senator Landrieu

Senator Vitter

Representative Cassidy

(LA06)

Kelly Ann McCarthy

Joshua Nzewi

MAINE

Senator Snow

Senator Collins

Representative Pingree

(ME01)

Benjamin Grotton

Mary McCormick

MARYLAND

Senator Mikulski

Senator Cardin

Representative Harris

(MD01)

Ross Libby

Jeremy Robilotta

Carson Wigley

Representative Sarbanes

(MD03)

Kimberly Soffen

Representative Cummings

(MD07)

Harish Chatrathi

Representative Van Hollen

(MD08)

Zohair Asmail

MASSACHUSETTS

Senator Kerry

Senator Brown

Representative Neal (MA02)

Rebecca Constantine

Representative Markey

(MA06)

Alexandra Serrano

Ashleigh Serrano

Representative Lynch (MA09)

Catherine Aker

MICHIGAN

Senator Levin

Senator Stabenow

Representative Huizenga

(MI02)

Shannon McAvinchey

Representative Amash (MI03)

David Hoogmoed

Ryan Ritzema

Heather Ritzema

Representative Walberg

(MI07)

Gabriel Lee

Representative Miller (MI10)

Zechariah Vinson

MINNESOTA

Senator Klobuchar

Senator Franken

Representative Paulsen

(MN03)

Anna Hegland

Catrina Lane

Representative McCollum

(MN04)

Hannah Nemer

Amy Walton

MISSISSIPPI

Senator Cochran

Senator Wicker

Representative Nunnelee

(MS01)

Lindsey Bouchillon

Amy Brown

Representative Palazzo

(MS04)

Jason Jones

MISSOURI

Senator McCaskill

Senator Blunt

Representative Clay (MO01)

Jennifer Kelly

Madeline Klaesner

Representative Akin (MO02)

Matthew Gerling

Alexander Kehm

Shannon Kelly

Mariah Mullins

Representative Carnahan

(MO03)

Colleen Flecke

Abigail Fronick

Louise Love

Natasha Sanford

Representative Long (MO07)

Austin Coon

Representative Luetkemeyer

(MO09)

Julia Seliga

Tessa Vellek

NEBRASKA

Senator Nelson

Senator Johanns

Representative Terry (NE02)

Tonni Blount

Ashley Eisert

NEW JERSEY

Senator Lautenberg

Senator Menendez

Representative LoBiondo

(NJ02)

Erik Burgin

Courtney Cain

Arionna Charlesworth

Megan Hardy

Lauren Holding

Jeremy Wilson

Representative Runyan

(NJ03)

John Laberee

Representative Smith (NJ04)

Diane Scavelli

Manu Sharma

Representative Garrett (NJ05)

Ara Lim

Han-Wei Wu

Representative Pallone (NJ06)

Jordan Ardakanian

Katherine Bazley

Alex Jones

Esha Parikh

Representative Lance (NJ07)

Emily Bailey

Shreshth Bajaj

Amery Chang

Allison Dadouris

Jamie Dadouris

Makenzie Holmsborg

Representative Pascrell

(NJ08)

Deborah Rose

Representative Rothman

(NJ09)

Chantal Lopez

Representative Frelinghuysen

(NJ11)

Paul Bender

James F. Hogan

Marcus

Lauren Shook

Joseph Shook IV

Representative Holt (NJ12)

Farrah Alkhaleel

Thomas Alne

Jaclyn Campis

Arnab Chatterjee

Dylan Furlong

Brittney Gordon

Stephanie Guang

Alyssa Hollander

Sasank Isola

Erica Lai

Sarah Mattina

Yuvraj Mohan

Stephanie Mui

Alomi Parikh

Nikhil Patel

Jessica Sher

Rajat Verma

Jessica Wu

NEW YORK

Senator Schumer

Senator Gillibrand

Representative Israel (NY02)

John Farese

Megan Toth

Representative Grimm

(NY13)

Kathleen Brim

Joseph Plescia

Representative Rangel

(NY15)

Alexander Sharpe

Representative Lowey (NY18)

Emma Todorovich

Representative Hayworth

(NY19)

Cody Nager

Jesse Schmid

Representative Slaughter

(NY28)

Jannah Folkerts

Jeffery Kemp

Representative Reed (NY29)

Katie Demme

Ethan Johnson

Zach Roberts

Alexander Spillane

NEVADA

Senator Reid

Senator Heller

Representative Berkley

(NV01)

Heather Wilder

NEW MEXICO

Senator Bingaman

Senator Udall

Representative Heinrich

(NM01)

John Korbin

NORTH CAROLINA

Senator Burr

Senator Hagan

Representative Butterfield

(NC01)

Lindsay Stutts

Representative Jones (NC03)

Marisa Linton

Elizabeth West

Hanna West

Representative Price (NC04)

Michael Bojanski

William Lindsey

Neel Mandavilli

Marion Sweeney

Representative Foxx (NC05)

Katherine Cavanaugh

Catherine Douglas

Representative McIntyre

(NC07)

Erin Mullen

Representative Miller (NC13)

Nicola Eick

OHIO

Senator Brown

Senator Portman

Representative Chabot
(OH01)
Randal Scott Dudis

Representative Boehner
(OH08)
Rajan Gupta
Robert Patton

Representative Kaptur
(OH09)
Caitlin Morris

Representative Tiberi (OH12)
John Hager
Gabrielle Tan

Representative LaTourette
(OH14)
Benjamin McMullen

PENNSYLVANIA

Senator Casey

Senator Toomey

Representative Brady (PA01)
Somalea In
Van Buu Luong
Chan Mao
Nimol Mao
Socheata Mao
Sotheyary mao
Sothea Pang
Sooudam Pen
Poi Theng Suon
Poi Veng Suon

Representative Fattah (PA02)
Bao Ho
Xinxi Jiang
Hayley Leather
Cuong Luu
Tram Nguyen
Tuan Nguyen
Sokhengly Non

Representative Altmire
(PA04)
Jonathan Lin
Michelle Sunjoo Lee
Praveen Tummalapalli

Representative Gerlach
(PA06)
Ernesto Perez

Representative Fitzpatrick
(PA08)
Taylor Caligaris
Thomas Caputi
Dena Greenstreet
Priyanka Trivedi
Kathryn Webster

Representative Marino
(PA10)
Jack Morton

Representative Schwartz
(PA13)
Lydia Appianing
Lydia Baxter
Emily Crossette
Jason Fouch
Devin Gannon
Monica Hobgood
Alix Joy
Annie Kim
David Lakata
Jane Lee
Malorie Letcavage
Matthew Wilfred
Yifan Yang

Representative Pitts (PA16)
Miguel Franco Duran
Jonathan Ho
Roberto Ortiz
Alejandro Ruiz Hernandez
Holly Sirotta
Howard Sirotta, Jr.
Rosa Zavala

Representative Holden
(PA17)
Johanna Kester

Representative Murphy
(PA18)
Kristen Collins
Mary Collins
Stephanie Kuo
Brendan Yeh

RHODE ISLAND

Senator Reed

Senator Whitehouse

Representative Langevin
(RI02)
Ruth Clarkin

TENNESSEE

Senator Alexander

Senator Corker

Representative Duncan
(TN02)
Matthew Waldrep

Representative Fleischmann
(TN03)
Sarah Zeglen

Representative Black (TN06)
Ethan Green

Representative Fincher
(TN08)
Chirag Odhav

TEXAS

Senator Hutchinson

Senator Cornyn

Representative Hensarling
(TX05)
Matthew Evans

Representative Culberson
(TX07)
Shelby Sutton

Representative McCaul
(TX10)
Collin Carstens
Meredith Kolda
Seung Yeon Lee

Representative Granger
(TX12)
Levi Walker
Ryan Welborn

Representative Jackson Lee
(TX18)
Nicholas Cruz

Representative Doggett
(TX25)
Noah Lambert
Andrew Marshall

Representative Burgess
(TX26)
Emily Cassidy

Representative Cuellar
(TX28)
Paul Braden

UTAH

Senator Hatch

Senator Lee

Representative Bishop
(UT01)
Kathryn Florance

VIRGINIA

Senator Webb

Senator Warner

Representative Whittman
(VA01)
Bianca Craft
John Engiles
James Spencer

Representative Cantor (VA07)
Baily Bierhuizen
Amanda Jenkins

Representative Morgan
(VA08)
Kevin Chen
Simrun Soni

Representative Griffith
(VA09)
Jason Dreyzehner
John Dreyzehner
Grace Grunstra
Rachel Grunstra
Timothy Grunstra
Kathleen Rogers

Representative Wolf (VA10)
Marissa Gaven
Priya Krishnan
Kelsie Miedla

Representative Connolly
(VA11)
Matthew Bess
Julia Green
Alexandra Studd-Sojka

WASHINGTON

Senator Murray

Senator Cantwell

Representative Larsen
(WA02)
Alexander Gaston

Representative Herrera
Beuler (WA03)
David Craft

Representative Reichert
(WA08)
Ivan Leniski

WEST VIRGINIA

Senator Rockefeller

Senator Manchin

Representative McKinley
(WV01)
Cody Gallagher

WISCONSIN

Senator Kohl

Senator Johnson

Representative
Sensenbrenner (WI05)
Aaron Below

WYOMING

Senator Enzi

Senator Barrasso

Representative Lummis
(WYAL)
Amanda Anderson
Alissa Aylward
Kelly Barrett
Jessica Bomberger
Caleb Brackett
Joshua Brackett
Rebecca Burton
Moseh Cho
Kolby Drake
Dayna hazlewood
Carissa Lane
Monica Mencer
Christine Mock
Kaiser Mock
Sarah Mock
Ellen Nye
Will Rich
Chelsea Rodekuhr
Erin Sims
Samuel Streeter
Ciara Thompson
Chelsie Trowbridge
Lawrence Uhling
Michaela Uhling
Makenzie White
Caleb Wilkins
Jacob Zumo

“I HAVE BEEN TAKEN OUT OF MY COMFORT ZONE AND BEEN FORCED TO DO THINGS THAT I WOULD NOT OTHERWISE DO. IN DOING SO, I LEARNED THAT I AM CAPABLE OF MANY THINGS THAT I DID NOT REALIZE AND CAN DO ALMOST ANYTHING I PUT MY MIND TO.”

—Gold Medalist Joseph Lindsay ★ Miami, FL



Horizon Award Recipient Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson meets with Gold Medalist Allante Nelson of Virginia at a Congressional Award dinner in Washington, DC.

“PARTICIPATING IN THE
CONGRESSIONAL AWARD
PROGRAM HAS MADE ME
REALIZE THAT THERE ARE
THINGS THAT WE ALL DO IN
OUR EVERYDAY LIVES THAT
CAN BE SHARED WITHIN OUR
COMMUNITY.”

—Silver Medalist John Bauman
★ Cheyenne, WY



Senator Mike Enzi (R-WY) sinks a putt at the Annual Congressional Award Golf Tournament fundraiser in Arlington, VA.

THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD *Charity Golf Tournament*

The first of our signature fundraising events is the Annual Congressional Award Golf Classic. Held each spring in Arlington, VA, dozens of members of Congress, Chiefs of Staff and spouses come out for a day on the links. In addition, former members of Congress return for the event and join friends, colleagues and celebrity guests to lend their support. Congressional Award medalists are on hand to speak about the impact the program has had on their lives. Golf pros provide a few tips for the beginners, and non-golfers enjoy the luncheon and awards ceremony.

The Congressional Award has recognized so many young Army and Navy soldiers for their achievements in the past, as well as the dependants of military personnel who live on bases throughout the world. In light of this partnership, and its proximity to the US Capitol Building, the Army Navy Country Club is a fitting venue for this tournament. Members of the Army Navy Country Club have included Presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard M. Nixon, and William J. Clinton.



Current and former Members of Congress join forces in support of Congress' charity for youth.

Back row left to right: The Honorable Jack Buechner, Phil Crane, Charles Stenholm, Ed Pastor, Matt Salmon, Bart Stupak, Mike Simpson, Herb Bateman, Conrad Burns and Malcolm Wallop. Front row left to right: The Honorable Dave McCurdy, Rick Hill, Ron Packard, Mike Doyle and Ernie Fletcher

“ALPHA NATURAL RESOURCES IS PROUD TO BE A LONG-TIME SUPPORTER OF THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD FOUNDATION. WE BELIEVE INSTILLING THE VALUES OF VOLUNTEERISM, COMMUNITY SERVICE AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT IN AMERICA’S YOUTH IS VERY IMPORTANT IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH OF OUR FUTURE LEADERS.”

*—Alpha Natural Resources ★
2011 Tournament Title Sponsor*



Congressman Joe Baca (D-43rd-CA) and his teammate lead their foursome to another first place victory on the golf course.

THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD *Charity Poker Tournament*

The second of our signature events is the Annual Congressional Award Poker Tournament. Held each year in Washington, D.C., over 60 members of Congress and Chiefs of Staff join poker industry leaders and corporate sponsors, for one of the hottest events in town – all in the name of charity. Texas Hold ‘Em players, professionals, spectators, friends and fans come together in supporting the Congressional Award program.

“SINCE 1997 WHEN I BECAME CLOSELY INVOLVED WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD, MORE THAN 100 KANSAS YOUTH HAVE BEEN AWARDED AND RECOGNIZED FOR CONTRIBUTING OVER 43,000 HOURS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE THROUGHOUT THEIR KANSAS COMMUNITIES.”

–Senator Pat Roberts (R-KS)



Congressman Jim McDermott (D-7th-WA) joins other members of Congress and congressional staff to support the Congressional Award at the Charity Poker Event.



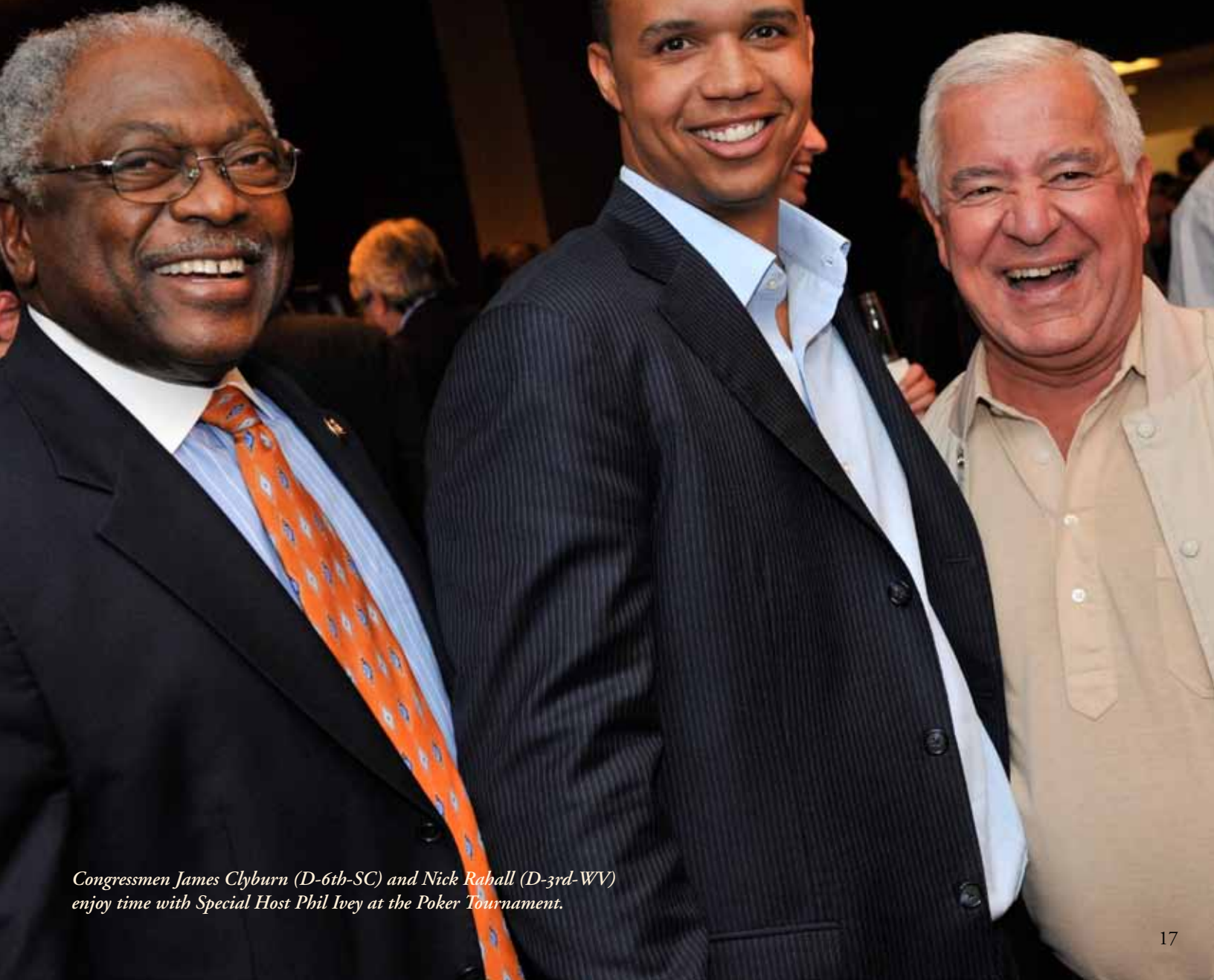
Senator John Ensign (R-NV) meets Phil Ivey before the start of the game.



A packed house at the Annual Poker Tournament.

“TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE PROCESS ENHANCED MY LIFE EXPERIENCES, KNOWLEDGE AND PERSONAL GROWTH. NEVER JUST SETTLE FOR WHAT IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU, BUT GO LOOKING FOR WHAT IS HARDER TO SEE.”

—Gold Medalist Cody Gallagher ★ Fairmont, WV



Congressmen James Clyburn (D-6th-SC) and Nick Rahall (D-3rd-WV) enjoy time with Special Host Phil Ivey at the Poker Tournament.

THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD *Youth and Technology Dinner*

The Congressional Award Foundation hosts an annual dinner with members of the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, and House Energy and Commerce Committee to advocate the importance of civic engagement among young people and the critical role technology plays to bring youth of all backgrounds together to serve a common purpose. The digital world has served to strengthen various forms of youth engagement. Technology has increased youth awareness of issues, problems and crises in their own communities as well as other parts of the world. It has become a powerful tool for communication and coordination of youth movements and creating a sense of solidarity among youth of all backgrounds.



Congressman Henry Waxman (D-30th-CA) speaks to Congressman Gene Green (D-29th-TX) at the Congressional Award event on Capitol Hill.

“THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS ALIKE TO SUPPORT AND RECOGNIZE THE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE NEXT GENERATION OF AMERICAN LEADERS.”

*—Congressman Eric Cantor
(R-7th-VA)*



Congressman Edward Markey (D-7th-MA) thanks Gold Medalist Keome Rowe of Texas for his remarks at the event.

“BECAUSE OF THIS AWARD I HAVE BECOME MORE
DETERMINED TO FINISH WHAT I HAVE STARTED AND NOT
TO GIVE UP NO MATTER HOW DIFFICULT IT CAN BE.”

—Gold Certificate Recipient Marisa De Marco ★ Waianae, HI



Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI) speaks with DeDe Lea of Viacom, Inc. at a Congressional Award event with the Senate Commerce Committee.

“I REALIZED THAT I AM A VITAL PART OF SOCIETY AND I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE ONE DAY AND ONE PERSON AT A TIME BY SIMPLY GIVING OF MYSELF, SETTING GOALS AND COMPLETING THEM.”

—Silver Certificate Recipient Christian Duruji

★ Owotonna, MN



Senator Al Franken (D-MN) and Congressional Award Medalists Amy Walton and Catrina Lane of Minnesota participate in the Annual Youth Wellness Dinner.

“I BELIEVE THAT BECAUSE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD FITNESS COMPONENT, OUR DAUGHTER WILL BE ABLE TO AVOID THE EATING DISORDERS AND FOOD RELATED/BODY IMAGE STRUGGLES THAT SO MANY YOUNG ADULTS GO THROUGH. IN MY ESTIMATION, THE PHYSICAL FITNESS PORTION IS A SIMPLE, POSITIVE AND VERY IMPORTANT COMPONENT TO THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD PROGRAM.”

–Congressional Award
Gold Medal Parent ★
Jupiter, FL



Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) and former Iowa Senator John Culver enjoy the dinner before giving their remarks.

THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD *Youth Wellness Dinner*

The Congressional Award Foundation hosts an annual dinner with members of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, and the House Energy and Commerce Committee to raise awareness of this congressional program for youth. Formerly chaired by the late Senator Ted Kennedy, this annual dinner advocates the importance of civic engagement and physical health and fitness for youth – two of the main components of the Congressional Award program. As child obesity is an issue that continues to be an ongoing focus in the Senate HELP and House Energy & Commerce Committees, the Congressional Award program encourages the types of activities that promote fitness and can prevent this epidemic from spreading to future generations of young people.



Senator Johnny Isakson (R-GA), a Congressional Award Board Member, welcomes medalists as one of the Co-Chairs of the Annual Youth Wellness Dinner.

THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD *State and Committee Events*

Each year, the Congressional Award Foundation hosts state events in Washington, D.C. to raise awareness of program activities in that particular state. Members of Congress join us as our special guests to help thank the contributors from these states and to forge new state partnerships that will enhance the program. Special awards are often presented to the individuals from these states who have displayed outstanding commitment to improving the lives of our nation's young people. Recognition is also given to partnering organizations for providing critical support in the Congressional Award Foundation's efforts to make the Congressional Award a national opportunity. Recent honorees include former Senator John Culver, Governor Dirk Kempthorne, Senator David Pryor, Mississippi State University President Dr. Mark Keenum, and NFL quarterback Drew Brees.

Additional Committee events are held on a rotating basis and have recently included receptions with the Senate Leadership chaired by Senator Harry Reid and with the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee with Congressman James Oberstar.



Governor Haley Barbour (R-MS), Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn (R-7th-TN), Mississippi State University President Dr. Mark Keenum, and Chairman of the Board Paxton Baker participate in the Mississippi Congressional Award dinner in Washington, DC.

“THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD IS SUCH A VALUABLE PROGRAM BECAUSE IT IS A STEPPING STONE FOR YOUTH TO GET INVOLVED IN NEW ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.”

*–Congressional Award
Advisor ★*

Offutt Air Force Base, NE



FedEx Chairman and Founder, Fred Smith, speaks as the title sponsor of the Arkansas Congressional Award Dinner honoring Senator David Pryor.

“EACH OF MY HISTORIC EXPLORATIONS WAS LIKE OPENING A DOOR TO THE PAST AND STEPPING INSIDE. THANKS TO THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD, I REALIZED EXPERIENCING THE PAST GIVES YOU CLUES TO MAKING THE FUTURE A BETTER PLACE.”

—Silver Medalist Amanda Kruse ★ Metairie, LA



Senator David Vitter (R-LA) and Chairman of the Board Paxton Baker present a special award to NFL Quarterback Drew Brees and his wife, Brittany, at a Congressional Award event.

“EARNING THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL AWARD HAS BEEN ONE OF THE MOST PERSONALLY REWARDING EXPERIENCES OF MY LIFE. I LEARNED THAT THROUGH SETTING GOALS IN MY LIFE, I AM ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING. MOST IMPORTANTLY, I NOW RECOGNIZE THAT WE ALL HAVE THE ABILITY AND A DUTY TO GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH WE LIVE IN ORDER TO EFFECT POSITIVE CHANGE.”

—Gold Medalist Anthony Georgiades ★ San Diego, CA



Over 3,000 young Americans have been recognized with the Congressional Award Gold Medal for their voluntary public service and commitment to their goals.

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