

St. Paul: Top high school graduates 2013

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TwinCities.com

Avalon

Mckenzie Boyle, Winston Bradford, Jalen Brooks, Ava Campbell, Gabriel Christensen, Kahtjana Frampton, Fellina Fucci, Gareth Daklin-Wren, Genevieve Gleich, Jesse Gyssels, Gabriella Hedberg, Waabanang John Hermes, Cassandra Herther, Nathan Hvidsten, Quintin Jackson, Alex Kaardal, Sarah Klingenberg, Iain Matthiae, Khalid Mohamed, Mahdi Muse, Sage Osterberg, Christopher Parker-Peterson, Cole Peterson, Amalya Rhoades, Gabrielle Ryan, John Schmidt, Hayley Shellum, Sayefu Tilmo, James Vestal, Eli Volk, Anna Vraa, Sophia Wiedmann

Central

Rajendra Beekie

Parents: Brian and Sara Beekie

College, major: University of Minnesota, math and physics

Quote: "Entrepreneurs are simply those who understand that there is little difference between obstacle and opportunity and are able to turn both to their advantage." -- Niccolo Machiavelli

Hannah Brady

Parents: Tim and Susan Brady

College, major: Northwestern University, chemical engineering

Quote: "It's a stupid question: What are you going to do with your life? Nobody ever did anything successful with their life. Instead they did something with their day." -- Douglas Wood

Evan Denis

Parents: Colin Denis and Julie Hart

College, major: Polytechnic Institute of NYU, mechanical engineering

Quote: "There's always a bigger fish to catch." -- Qui-Gon Jinn, "Star Wars Episode 1: The Phantom Menace"

Madeline Driscoll

Parents: Amy Driscoll and E. Joseph Newton

College, major: Davidson College, political science

Quote: "Without courage, compassion falters; and without compassion, courage has no direction. We must be both good and strong, use both the heart and the fist." -- Eric Greitens

Paige Gallo

Parents: Carol Steward and Rick Gallo

College, major: Macalester College, international studies, political science

Quote: "What matters most is how well you walk through the fire." -- Charles Bukowski

Hannah Johnson

Parents: Mary and Dean Johnson

College, major: University of Minnesota, biosystems engineering

Quote: "The most important thing is to enjoy your life -- to be happy. It's all that matters." -- Audrey Hepburn

Samuel Khodursky

Parents: Arkady and Yelena Khadursky

Emma Loude

Parents: Cathi Schmidt and Jim Loude

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, art history

Quote: "If the full moon loves you, why worry about the stars?" -- Tunisian proverb

Aaron Maccabee

Parents: Paul and Paula Maccabee

College, major: Service gap year in Israel, likely engineering major

Quote: "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." -- Mark Twain

Louisa Richardson-Deppe

Parents: Rachel Richardson and Michael Deppe

College, major: University of Chicago, mathematics or Spanish

Quote: "The Scared is scared of all the things you like." -- "The Scared is Scared" video

Community of Peace Academy

Nhoua Moua

Parents: Mai Lor and Bill Moua

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, business

Quote: "Continuous effort -- not strength or intelligence -- is the key to unlocking our potential." -- Winston Churchill

Pa Xiong

Parents: Kou Lee and Cher Pao Xiong

College, major: St. Olaf College, nursing

Quote: "If there is no struggle, there is no progress." -- Frederick Douglass

Yayao Moua

Parents: Chou Her and Pao Moua

College, major: St. Olaf College, computer engineering

Quote: "I don't believe that you have to be better than everybody else. I believe you have to be better than you ever thought you could be." -- Ken Venturi

Mai Kou Xiong

Parent: Zer Yang

College, major: Hamline University, business

Quote: "You must be the change you wish to see in the world." -- Mahatma Gandhi

Blouneu Yang

Parents: Chue Yang and Xoua Yang

College, major: Metropolitan State University, computer science

Quote: "It's not that you can't do it. It's because you think you can't do it." -- H2O Footprints in the Sand

Silvia Landaverde

Parents: Angelica Gonzalez and Ernesto Landaverde

College, major: Augsburg College, biology

Quote: "Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying, 'I will try again tomorrow.'" -- Mary Anne Radmacher

Autumn Erickson

Parent: Kimberly Grabowski

College, major: University of Wisconsin-River Falls, education

Quote: "Before you quit, you have to try" -- Ernest Hemingway

Pa Hli Yang

Parents: Pao Yang and Yia Xiong

College, major: Augsburg College, elementary education and business management

Quote: "It's not what it is, it's about what it can become." -- Dr. Seuss, The Lorax

Blanca Sanchez-Ayala

Parents: Javier Sanchez and Erenaida Ayala

College, major: Fresno City College, business management

Quote: "Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try." -- Gail Devers

Xai Thao

Parents: Yer Yang-Thao and Soua Thao

College, major: St. Olaf College, English

Quote: "I want to live like there's no tomorrow, love like I'm on borrowed time; it's good to be alive." -- Jason Gray

Como Park

Benjamin Swartz Hartmann

Parents: Doug Hartmann and Teresa Swartz

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, history

Quote: "Doubt is not a pleasant condition, but certainty is absurd" -- Voltaire

Joe Krivit

Parents: Dan Krivit, Susan Schmidt

College, major: Lawrence University, government

Quote: "What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Victoria Lee

Parent: Chong Vang

College: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Quote: "The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything, they just make the most of everything that comes along their way." -- Karen S. Magee

Anastasia Macey

Parents: Garrett and Kadee Macey

College, major: St. Olaf College, Japanese and mathematics

Quote: "The trouble with having an open mind, of course, is that people will insist on coming along and trying to put things in it." -- Terry Pratchett, Diggers

Natasha Miller

Parents: Dawn and Conrad Miller

College: University of Minnesota-Morris

Quote: "A witty saying proves nothing." -- Voltaire

Makiki Reuvers

Parents: Bradley and Mayumi Reuvers

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, history, studies in cinema and media culture

Quote: "I never expect a perfect work from an imperfect man." -- Alexander Hamilton

James Sawyer Scanlan

Parents: Jerome Scanlan and Ann Scanlan

College, major: University of Minnesota, engineering and economics

Quote: "Everybody gon' respect the shooter, but the one in front of the gun lives forever." -- Kendrick Lamar

Abigail Smith

Parents: Matthew Smith and Andrea Smith

College, major: St. Olaf College, exercise science

Quote: "Do or do not. There is no try." -- Master Yoda

Hannah Stadler

Parents: Jody Stadler and Eliot Stadler

College: Grinnell College

Quote: "Live in the present. Do the things that need to be done. Do all the good you can each day. The future will unfold." -- Peace Pilgrim

Kaitlin Waldera

Parents: Martin and Theresa Waldera

College, major: University of Minnesota-Morris, biology, chemistry or studio art

Quote: "Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it was stupid." -- Albert Einstein

Creative Arts

Samantha Bernier, Bree Chinander, Charlotte Day, McKenna Elling, Travis Garner, Kevin Gobel Lopez, Malik Green, Haileigh Humphrey, Drew Jonell, SuSu Koe, Brenda Kurth, Miranda Larson, Devron McFall, Madisen Neuman, Autumn Pallas, Carolyn Quinn, Jonathan Rowe, Ryan Shelstad, Devona Thomas, Mikayla Vavreck-Sindt, Leonid Vishnyak, Asher Zulkosky Larson, Maurice Wingo Jr.

Cretin-Derham Hall

Tracy Dinh

Parents: Hung and Van Dinh

College: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Sean Cullen

Parent: Patti Cullen

College: University of Notre Dame

Kathryn Kuenster

Parents: Larry and Tamara Kuenster

College: University of Notre Dame

Robert Mouton

Parents: Kurt and Jolie Mouton

College: Bradley University

Augustine Thuente

Parents: John Thuente and Nora Byrne-Fitzpatrick

College: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Alexander Steiner

Parents: James and Martha Steiner

College: University of Wisconsin-Madison

Luke Hamel

Parents: Nicholas and Mona Hamel

College: University of Notre Dame

Nikolas Toman

Parents: Paul and Marlene Toman

College: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Ian Reynolds

Parent: MaryAnn Reynolds

College: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Mallory Diekmann

Parents: Paul and Becky Diekmann

College: Kansas State University

Great River

Mia Russell

College: Oberlin College

Melanie Donnelly

College, major: Vassar College, linguistics and music

Quote: "Mr. and Mrs. Dursley, of number four, Privet Drive, were proud to say they were perfectly normal, thank you very much" -- Harry Potter

Lucy Beni

College, major: New York University, photography

Quote: "Il n'y a que les imbeciles qui ne changent pas d'avis." -- French Proverb ("Only fools refuse to change their mind.")

Hannah Tuomi

College, major: University of Minnesota-Morris, environmental studies

Quote: "It is important to draw wisdom from many different places. If we take it from only one place, it becomes rigid and stale. Understanding others, the other elements, and the other nations will help you become whole" -- General Iroh

Anna Miller

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, civil engineering

Quote: " If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude." -- Maya Angelou

Laura Mulcahy

College, major: Columbia College, Chicago; cultural studies

Quote: "A lo hecho, pecho" "What's done is done, no regrets" -- Spanish proverb

Ariel Skow

College, major: University of Minnesota-Rochester, pre-medicine

Quote: "Being terrible is the first step at being sorta good at something" -- Adventure Time

Lilli Furr

College, major: University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, pre-medicine

Quote: "Don't be afraid to give up the good and go for the great" -- Steve Prefontaine

Briana Kneisl

College, major: Concordia University-Wisconsin, nursing

Quote: "In order to succeed, your desire for success should be greater than your fear of failure" -- Bill Cosby

Tess Garvey

College, major: Earlham College; human development and social relations

Harding

Arianna Lee

Parents: Denise Louie and James Lee

College, major: Carleton College, Chemistry, pre-med

James Earl

Parents: Douglas E. and Constance W. Earl

College, major: University of Chicago, Science, Technology, engineering or math

Christina Borgstrom

Parents: Dawn and Tom Borgstrom

College: Wesleyan College

Rafael Roman Mendoza

Parents: Samuel Roman and Edesma Mendoza

College, major: Tufts University, engineering

PaNa Vue

Parents: Cha Sher Vue and Vang Xiong

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, business

Drake Osaben

Parents: Patricia and Gregg Osaben

College, major: University of Wisconsin, Madison, nuclear engineering

Wennicha Yang

Parents: June Yang

College, major: University of Wisconsin, Madison, psychology or sociology

Mai See Moua

Parents: Chao and Lia Moua

College, major: University of Minnesota-Rochester, health science

Penny Xiong

Parents: Phoua Xiong

College, major: University of Wisconsin, Madison, biology

Steven N. Yang

Parents: Lou K. Lee and Chue B. Yang

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, biology, biochemistry

Higher Ground Academy

Anis Abdirahman

Parent: Fadumo Gedi

College, major: St. Paul College, business

Ahmed Ahmed

Parent: Muse Khali

College: St. Paul College

Ayan Ali

Parent: Safia Aden

College, major: St. Paul College, education

Said Ali

Parent: Sado Isse

College, major: University of North Dakota, business, law

Najib Aweis

Parent: Fadumo Salad

College, major: Inver Hills Community College, police officer

Ramla Barre

Parent: Abdirashid Muse

College, major: St. Paul College, accounting

Abdulhakim Dahir

Parent: Mohamed Kasim

College, major: Minneapolis Community and Technical College, accounting

Zainab Farah

Parent: Bilad Jama

College, major: University of Minnesota, biology

Abdirahman Hassan

Parent: Fatuma Ali

College, major: Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey, medicine

Farha Ibrahim

Parent: Zulfa Abdalla

College, major: Concordia University, St. Paul, nursing

Jamila Mame

Parent: Bashir Mame

College, major: Taiwan National University, Taipei, Taiwan

Abdirahman Mohamed

Parent: Farhiya Ahmed

College, major: Minneapolis Community and Technical College, medical technology

Kafia Mohamed

Parent: Abdirashid Yusuf

College, major: St. Paul College, nursing

Salmo Mohamed

Parent: Daud Sugule

College, major: St. Paul College, medicine

Sidney Otieno

Parent: Kenneth Hope

College, major: Anoka-Ramsey Community College, business

Hamdi Sheikhsaid

Parent: Fowsia Musse

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, biochemistry

Cade Yassin

Parent: Halima Abdi

College, major: St. Paul College, business, law

Omar Usuf

Parent: SamSam Ali

College, major: St. Paul College, business

Highland Park

Claire Cech

Parents: James and Kathleen Cech

College, major: University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Quote: "I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination."

-- Jimmy Dean

Martin Kapsch

Parents: Robert and Rosemary Kapsch

College, major: Rice University

Quote: "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." -- Mark Twain

Maalik Konop DeFreitas

Parents: Roberto DeFreitas and Julia Konop

College: Northwestern University

Quote: "Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today." -- Malcolm X

Anna Krieger

Parents: David and Lori Krieger

College: Gustavus Adolphus College

Quote: "In the darkest times, hope is something you give yourself. That is the meaning of inner strength." -- Uncle Iron, Avatar: The Last Airbender

Suzanne Olive

Parents: James and Martha Olive

College: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Quote: "Even in literature and art, no man who bothers about originality will ever be original: whereas if you simply try to tell the truth (without caring twopence how often it has been told before) you will, nine times out of ten, become original without ever having noticed it." -- C.S. Lewis

Tim Reger

Parents: Glenn and Pamela Reger

College: Hamline University

Quote: "I find that the harder I work, the more luck I seem to have." -- Thomas Jefferson

Madeline Rutherford

Parent: James Rutherford

College, major: University of Wisconsin-Madison

Quote: "In order to succeed, your desire for success should be greater than your fear of failure." -- Bill

Cosby

Gilad Segal

Parents: Yoav and Rosalyn Segal

College: University of Wisconsin-Madison

Quote: "If you give a man a fish he eats for a day. If you teach a man to fish he eats for a lifetime." -- Unknown

Ian Stone

Parents: Alex Stone and Amy Showers-Stone

College: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Quote: "The difference between stupidity and genius is that genius has its limits." -- Albert Einstein

Benjamin White

Parents: Jeremy White and Randi Madisen

College: Carleton College

Quote: "Everyone is a genius. But if you judge a fish on its ability to climb a tree it will live its life thinking it is stupid." -- Often misattributed to Einstein

Hmong College Prep Academy

PaHoua Lor

Parents: Mai Moua and Xai Cha Lor

College, major: Minnesota State University-Mankato, pre-med, biology

Quote: "It takes one second to be bad but a lifetime to be good." -- Dad

Michelle Moua

Parents: Chia Vang and Ker Moua

College, major: University of California-Davis, neurobiology, physiology, and behavior

Quote: Kindness is a language that the deaf can hear and the blind can see." -- Mark Twain

Jonang Kyle Thao

Parent: Jachao Thao

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, medicine

Quote: "One is what one envisions."

Tong Paul Vue

Parent: Angelena Yang

Quote: "The circumstances of one's birth are irrelevant. It is what you do with the gift of life that determines who you are." -- Mewtwo

Jamey Xiong

Parent: Thao Xiong (Guardian)

College: Gustavus Adolphus College

Jasmine Xiong

Parent: Mee Vang

College, major: Concordia University, St. Paul, biology

Quote: "Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself." -- Unknown

Pamela Pacha Xiong

Parent: Yang Pao Xiong

College: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Quote: "Try to be like the turtle- at ease in your own shell." -- Bill Copeland

Asaline Yang

Parent: Mai Sunny Vang

College, major: Anoka Ramsey, pre-pharmacy

Quote: "Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself." -- George Bernard Shaw

Gogee Yang

Parent: Mai Shoua Vue and Yer Yang

College, major: North Hennepin Community College, business

Quote: "The purpose of life is a life of purpose." -- Unknown

Shua Emily Yang

Parent: La Vang

College, major: Gustavus Adolphus College, biology, nursing

Quote: "A dream you dream alone is only a dream. A dream you dream together is reality." -- John Lennon

Humboldt

Cindy Firman

Parents: Lilybeth Ravelo and Reynaldo Ravelo

College: College of St. Benedict

Quote: "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened" -- Dr. Seuss

Fatima Garcia

Parents: Sonia Cortez

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, psychology

Quote: "Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving." -- Albert Einstein

Ngoc Thoa Nguyen

Parents: Luat and Kim Anh Nguyen

College, major: University of St. Thomas, physics

Quote: "The true sign of intelligence is not knowledge but imagination." -- Albert Einstein

John Carlo Franco

Parents: Christine and Santino Franco

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, Sociology, urban studies

Quote: Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind." -- Dr. Seuss

Lawanza Montgomery

Parents: Connie Montgomery and Anthony Brown

College, major: St. John's University, sociology

Quote: "Formal education will make you a living; self-education will make you a fortune." -- Jim Rohn

Pao Choua Vang

Parents: Ma Xiong and Khoua Vang

College, major: St. Cloud State University, pre-med

Quote: "You can't live a positive life with a negative mind." -- Nicholas Sparks

Mai Chia Lee

Parents: Toua Ther Lee

College: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Quote: "If you can't fly, then run, if you can't run, then walk, if you can't walk, then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward." -- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Mia Cullington

Parents: James Cullington and Peggy Raschick

College, major: St. Catherine University, nursing

Quote: "Failing to prepare is preparing to fail."

Kyaw Kyaw Lwin

Parents: Than Lwin and Tin Aung

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, actuarial science

Quote: "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever." -- Mahatma Gandhi

Johnson

Justin Thao

Parents: Zaaj Thao and Kou Moua

College, major: Carleton College, biochemistry

Audrey Awich

Parent: Lynette Awich

College, major: Rochester Institute of Technology, New York, biomedical sciences

Panhia Yang

Parent: Dong Yang

College: Carleton College

Gao Ee Yang

Parents: Mai Vang and Jerry Yang

College, major: St. Catherine University, nursing

Nancy Thao

Parents: Mike and Mai Lee Thao

College, major: College of St. Scholastica, psychology

Arun Wollenberg

Parents: John Wollenberg and Elizabeth Miner

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, biomedical engineering

Soua Thao

Parents: Sue Thao and Kang Moua

College: University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Charles Arrigoni

Parents: Vince and Mary Arrigoni

College, major: North Dakota State University, mechanical engineering

Natasha Moore

Parent: Valerie Moore

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, anthropology

Houa Yang

Parent: Soua Yang

College, major: College of St. Benedict, engineering

Open World Learning Community

Christopher Franquiz, Eve Harper Godderz, Chue Khang, Jennifer Lor, Christopher Moua, Mellissa Nash, Zachary Nusman, Ramon Orellana Gonzalez, Angil Prather, Meriah Salinas, Meredith Shimek, Sarah Spafford, Hannah Stevenson, Kong Vang, Emanuel Vega, Breanna Wilson, Devlin Wirkkala

River's Edge Academy

Chia Vang

Parents: Mee Lee

College, major: University of Wisconsin-River Falls, criminal justice

Quote: "Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in getting up every time we do." -- Confucius

Enoch Wilson

Parents: Tina Armstrong and Christopher Todd Wilson

College, major: Evergreen State College, fine arts

Quote: "It's only after we've list everything that we're free to do anything." -- Tyler Durden

Rowan McGee Murphy

Parents: Mary McGee and Patrick Murphy

College, major: St. Paul College

Quote: "Vanitas vanitatum omnia vanitas"

Liam Carr

Parents: Sara Carr and Tom Carr

College, major: Inver Hills Community College, EMS paramedic

Quote: By three methods we will learn wisdom: first by reflection which is most noble, second by imitation which is easiest, and third by experience which is most bitter." -- Confucius

Emily Esser

Parents: Celeste Esser and Paul Esser

College: Century College

Quote: "Live for work, don't work for a living."

Elizabeth Sarles

Parents: John Sarles and Nita Bengtson

College: St. Paul College

Quote: "Here today, gone tomorrow, so don't get too attached to things." -- Herold and Maude

Bailey Hurlbut

Parents: Becky Sturm and Jody Hurlbut

College, major: Bemidji State University, aquatic biology

Quote: "I imagine a greater place for the future generations of being." -- Aegaeon

Anthony Valeri

Parents: Stephanie and Scott Valeri

College: St. Paul College

Quote: "We all have different desires and needs, but if we don't discover what we want from ourselves, and what we stand for, we will live passively and unfulfilled." -- Bill Watterson

Mac Fjetland

Parents: Dana Fjetland

College: St. Paul College

Quote: "Live simply so that others may simply live." -- Mahatma Gandhi

Madeleine Langevin

Parents: Leah Morgan and Steven Langevin

College: Century College

Quote: "Ticking away the moments that make up a dull day." -- Pink Floyd

St. Agnes

Peter James Foley

Parents: Patrick and Sandra Foley

College, major: University of Mary, math education

Quote: "Patience is the companion of wisdom." -- St. Augustine

Zachary James Macdonald

Parents: James and Lori Macdonald

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, aerospace engineering

Quote: "The present is theirs; the future, for which I really worked, is mine." -- Nikola Tesla

Mary Jacinta Kimlinger

Parents: Mark and Denise Kimlinger

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, biology

Quote: "Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life." -- Confucius

Julia Rose Knapp

Parents: Chuck and Julie Knapp

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, aerospace engineering

Quote: "Better to fight for something than live for nothing." -- Gen. George S. Patton

Kevin Joseph Miller

Parents: Dean and Colleen Miller

College, major: University of Wisconsin-Stout, game design and development

Quote: "May you have the hindsight to know where you've been, the foresight to know where you're going, and the insight to know when you're going too far!" -- Traditional Irish blessing

Charles Allen Welter

Parents: Ted and Sarah Welter

College, major: Concordia College, Moorhead, pre-engineering

Quote: "We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give." -- Sir Winston Churchill

Erika Jean Morehead

Parents: Jim and Jean Morehead

College, major: Briar Cliff University, biology

Quote: "Tell a man there are three-hundred billion stars in the sky and he'll believe you. Tell him a bench has wet paint on it and he'll have to touch it to be sure." -- Murphy's Law

William Joseph Jensen

Parents: Stephen and Katherine Jensen

College, major: University of St. Thomas, electrical engineering

Quote: "The world is indeed full of peril and in it there are many dark places. But still there is much that is fair. And though in all lands, love is now mingled with grief, it still grows, perhaps, the greater." -- J.R.R. Tolkien

Daija Laniece Dietz

Parents: Rebecca Dietz and Mario Hunter

College, major: Iowa State University, chemistry

Quote: "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever." -- Mahatma Gandhi

Kayla Ann Cylkowski

Parents: Daniel and Melody Cylkowski

College, major: University of Mary, Bismarck, N.D., radiologic technology and Catholic studies

Quote: "I am a little pencil in the hand of a writing God, who is sending a love letter to the world." -- Mother Teresa

St. Paul Academy and Summit School

William Brower

Parents: Cynthia Jara and Thomas Brower

College: New York University

Laura Dahl

Parents: Livia and Rolf Dahl

College: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Francesco Di Caprio

Parents: Julia Joseph-Di Caprio and Fernando Di Caprio

College: Princeton University

Madeline Graham

Parents: Anne and David Graham

College: Wellesley College

Sarah Hays

Parents: Mary Porter and Thomas Hays

College: Brown University

Amanda Hotvedt

Parents: Ellen Shammash and Douglas Hotvedt

College: Middlebury College

Samantha Karon

Parents: Sarah and Paul Karon

College: Emory University

Aditi Kulkarni

Parents: Aparna Bhave and Subodh Kulkarni

College: Swarthmore College

Melanie Luikart

Parents: Sharon and Francis Luikart

College: Johns Hopkins University

Gina Nguyen

Parents: Kathyryne and Francois Nguyen

College: Boston University

Emily Nordquist

Parent: Randy Nordquist

College: Loyola University Chicago

Marie Siliciano

Parents: Deanna and Paul Siliciano

College: Princeton University

Clara Stahlmann Roeder

Parents: Marcia Roeder and Carl Stahlmann

College: University of Chicago

Henry Swanson

Parents: Annette and David Swanson

College: California Institute of Technology

Hagop Toghramadjian

Parents: Katherine and Avo Toghramadjian

College: Boston College

Jeremy Tong

Parents: Lai-Wa Tam and Sai-Kit Tong

College: Brown University

Mara Walli

Parents: Tani Maruyama and Kevin Walli

College: Claremont McKenna College

Samuel Wood

Parents: Raleigh Levine and Chris Wood

College: Stanford University

Nicholas Zelle

Parents: Julie and Charlie Zelle

College: Ecole de Cirque de Quebec; 2015 enrollment at Middlebury College

St. Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists

Juliana Johnson

Parents: Mark and Maryann Johnson

College, major: Fordham University Lincoln Center, dance

Quote: "The two most important days in your life are the day you were born and the day you find out why." -- Mark Twain

Hannah Wagner

Parents: Polly Krause and Jeff Wagner

College, major: University of Missouri-Kansas City, dance and business

Quote: "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." -- Eleanor Roosevelt

Jazzy DiMeglio

Parents: Joseph and Kathy DiMeglio

College, major: Northland College, environmental studies

Quote: "Lie down and listen to the crabgrass grow." -- Marya Mannes

Emma Sax

Parents: Beth Heming and Joel Sax

College: University of Minnesota-Morris

Quote: "Shoot for the moon; even if you miss, you'll land among the stars." -- Les Brown

Katherine Cheng

Parents: Dennis and Thidara Cheng

College, major: University of Arizona, dance

Quote: "Go and make interesting mistakes, make amazing mistakes, make glorious and fantastic mistakes. Break rules. Leave the world more interesting for your being here. Make. Good. Art." -- Neil Gaiman

Alyssa Ness

Parents: Al and Heather Ness

College, major: University of the Arts, dance

Quote: "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened." -- Dr. Seuss

Victoria Benson

Parents: Eric and Laura Benson

College, major: Pacific Lutheran University, environmental studies

Quote: "Truth resists simplicity." -- John Green

Lanais Gadban

Parent: Claire Gadban

College, major: University of Georgia, communications

Quote: "You have to be willing to get happy about nothing." -- Andy Warhol

Miranda Curro

Parents: Jeri and MaryAnn Curro

College, major: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, dance

Quote: "Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts." -- Winston Churchill

Emily Johnson

Parents: Philip and Lisa Johnson

College, major: University of Wisconsin-River Falls, psychology

Quote: "Love is hard to believe, ask any lover. Life is hard to believe, ask any scientist. God is hard to believe, ask any believer. What is your problem with hard to believe?" -- Yann Martel, Life of Pi

Twin Cities Academy

Jonathon Aguilar, Ishmael Al-Ghalith, Tabitha Anderson, Fabian Arreola, Timothy Bitney, Jawon Bryant, Robert Doyle, Katie Fischer, Kevin Gibbons, Jessica Hirte, Arni Kleitman, Rebecca Leahy, JoAnn Markley, Emma Marshall, Selah McClain, Alexandra Michael, Jacob Oberman, Vermul Pewee, Nicolas Reiland, Zakari Rupert, David Siglin, Miguel Soto, Kelsi Ternes, Bliia Vang, Daniel Weber, Rhiana Williams

Washington Technology Magnet

Kashawn Lungelow

Parents: Michael and Ann Lungelow

College, major: United States Naval Academy Preparatory School, physics

Quote: The future that year by year recedes before us. It eludes us then, but that's no matter-tomorrow we will run faster, stretch out our arms farther ... And one fine morning-so we beat on, boats against the

current." -- The Great Gatsby movie, 2013

Nou Chee Yang

Parents: Mai Her Vang

College: College of St. Benedict

Quote: "The biggest failure you can have in life is making the mistake of never trying at all."

Eh Shu

Parents: Kyo Pyo and Paw Yee

College, major: Century College, engineering

Quote: "Determination."

Thang Johnny Yang

Parents: Tou and True Yang

Plans: Military

Quote: "If you have time to complain, then you have time to do work."

Stasi Ly

Parents: Patrick and Michelle Ly

College, major: Century College, education

Quote: "People come and go, but those who leave footprints in your heart are your real friends."

Jennie Xiong

Parents: Vang Xiong and Mai C. Moua

College, major: College of St. Benedict, psychology

Quote: "When you can't change the direction of the wind--adjust your sails." -- H. Jackson Brown Jr.

Yee Leng Yang

Parent: Jackie Yang

College, major: St. Olaf College, biomedical

Quote: "Don't dream a dream, make a dream."

Pa Chia Lee

Parents: Yee Lee and Nhia Yang

College: St. Cloud State University

Quote: "What doesn't kill you only makes you stronger."

A Lee

Parent: Kayia Thao

College: St. Cloud State University

Quote: "There are two secrets to success: 1. Never tell everything you know. 2. _____."

Semere Mengistu

Parents: Gebrehiwot Berhane and Freweynie Kifle

College, major: St. John's University, pre-pharmacy