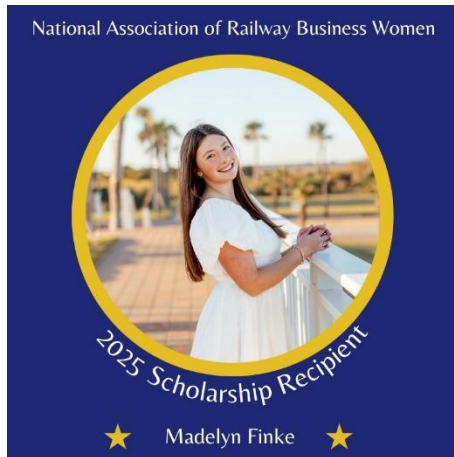


PRESENTING NARBW 2025-2026 NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

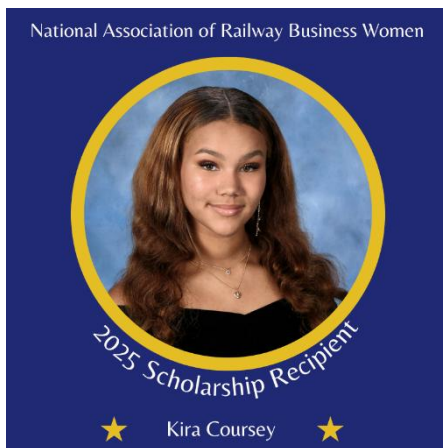


☀️ **Madelyn's Bright Future in Biomedicine** 🦷

Madelyn Finke is attending Texas A&M University in College Station, where she is majoring in Biomedical Sciences with a minor in Spanish. Her goal is to become an orthodontist—a dream inspired by her own journey to confidence through orthodontic care. She hopes to give others the same life-changing smile she once received.

Her academic record was nothing short of outstanding in high school. She maintained a high GPA while taking advanced, AP, and IB courses, earning the AP Scholar Award and membership in the National Honor Society, Science NHS, National English Honor Society, and Mu Alpha Theta.

Outside the classroom, Madelyn stood out as a dedicated cheerleader, earning titles such as TGCA All-State, UCA All-American, and Most Dedicated Cheerleader. She was also a Nfinity All-American, recognized nationally for her academic excellence, community service, and cheerleading talent. Madelyn completed over 250 hours of community service during high school, including coaching youth cheer, volunteering in elections, and serving with the National Charity League, where she received the Modelette and Spectrum Awards. This scholarship helps ease the financial burden and supports her journey toward becoming a compassionate and skilled orthodontist. We're so proud of you, Madelyn!



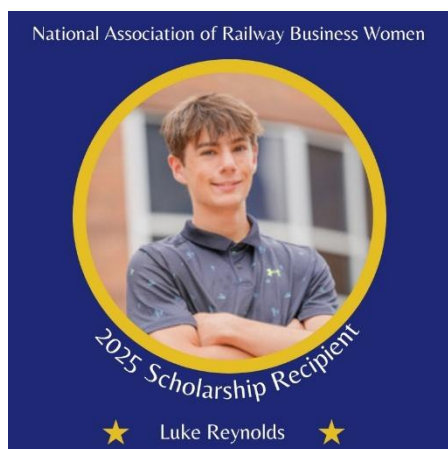
☀️ **Hardworking, Creative, Committed: Meet Kira** ☀️

Kira Lynn Coursey is an outstanding student who has maintained a 4.0+ GPA and earned Distinguished Honor Roll status throughout her senior year. She takes great pride in her academic work and is excited to pursue a degree in Mass Communication and Media Studies with a focus on Public Relations. Her passion for media creation and organizational leadership fuels her dream of working with athletes and major companies in the future.

Kira was also a dedicated community member—actively involved in football management, cheerleading, and both the National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society, where she contributes through meaningful community service. She balances her academic excellence with two part-time jobs and saving for college while applying for scholarships and loans to fund her education.

Her grandmother, a proud NARBW member shared, *"She is a talented baker/chef with her own side catering business serving family, friends, and faculty. Her dedication to baking earned her an ACF Certification through the American Culinary Federation Program at the Cecil County School of Technology."*

Kira's work ethic, creativity, and heart for service make her a truly deserving recipient of this scholarship.



🌟 A Scholar with Purpose: Luke Reynolds 🌟

Luke Reynolds, now entering his sophomore year at Western Carolina University and majoring in Computer Information Systems, was honored to receive the NARBW scholarship. This opportunity holds deep meaning—his grandmother was a proud NARBW member for 70 years, and his mother continues that legacy today.

Luke is passionate about using technology to make a positive impact. His studies focus on the intersection of computer science and business leadership, with a strong interest in cybersecurity. He's committed to integrity, service, and leadership, and recently earned a spot on the Dean's List.

After Hurricane Helene impacted the region near his university, Luke volunteered at a local soup kitchen. He's also joining a fraternity that values service, leadership, and scholarship. He's financing college through savings and summer jobs. This summer, he's working in marketing for a national company that builds character and professional skills in students, while continuing to apply for scholarships to avoid debt. Luke's Residential Case Manager at the University shared, *"Luke is selfless, compassionate, and remarkably loyal. You'd have to search a long time to find a guy better than Luke Reynolds!"*

The NARBW scholarship is helping ease the financial burden and honor his grandmother's legacy—motivating Luke to keep striving for excellence.

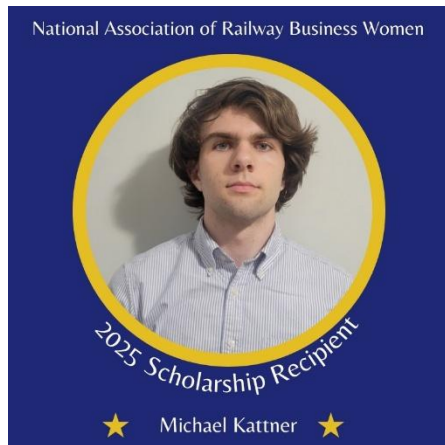


🎉 Congratulations to Grace Kildea! 🎉

We are thrilled to recognize Grace Kildea, as a recipient of the NARBW scholarship! A dedicated leader and scholar, she has excelled in academics, achieving a 3.7 GPA and being a proud member of the National Honor Society, while making an incredible impact on her community. Set to attend High Point University to pursue a Nursing degree, Grace is driven by her commitment to improving lives, inspired by her family and firsthand experiences with healthcare.

During her senior at Lawrence High School, Grace has been a mentor, advocate, and changemaker, serving as president and founder of Bring Change to Mind (BG2M) and a member of the Teen Prevention Education Program, Red and White Club, and the Cardinal Crazies pep club. Her school social worker and BG2M club advisor Hillary Bilek, shared "Grace is a compassionate, hardworking leader who balances academics and extracurriculars. She inspires others through her kindness, dedication, and intellectual curiosity, ensuring she will make a meaningful impact in healthcare. Her ability to lead, support her peers and engage in service demonstrates her passion for making a difference in her studies and her community."

Her aunt, NARBW member Maryann Santitoro, stated, "Grace is a young woman of remarkable character. She is compassionate, hardworking, and determined to achieve her goals. This scholarship will help Grace achieve her dreams and make a lasting impact. We are proud to celebrate her achievements!"



🧑🏫 Michael's Mathematical Path of Purpose ➕

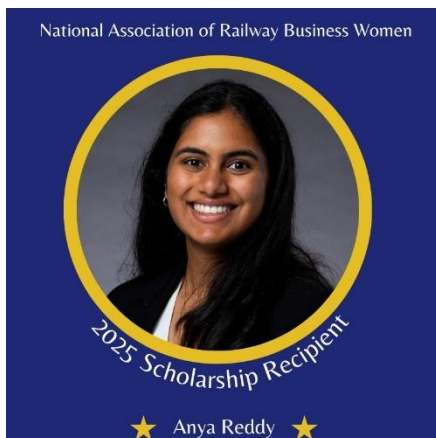
Michael Kattner chose to major in pure math to give back to the community that helped him grow.

Inspired by the mentorship of his professor, Dr. Helen Colman—an expert in algebraic topology—Michael participated in Math 299, a course supported by a grant from the Illinois State Library. Through this statewide initiative, he helped produce free, open-source textbooks using the programming language SageMath to teach advanced math topics. The experience sharpened his skills and deepened his passion for mathematics, while reinforcing his commitment to combining technology with education.

Michael took a gap year after high school to work as a pharmacy tech at Walgreens, where he saved for college and explored his future with intention. That experience taught him responsibility, professionalism, and the value of thoughtful planning.

His English professor, Micael Peterson, shared, “Mr. Kattner was a pleasure to teach. He is hard-working and very conscientious about his work.” Now, Michael is pursuing his academic goals with clarity and purpose. Winning this scholarship is helping cover essential research tools and costs not included in traditional aid.

Michael’s goal is to make math more accessible and impactful for future students—just as it was for him.



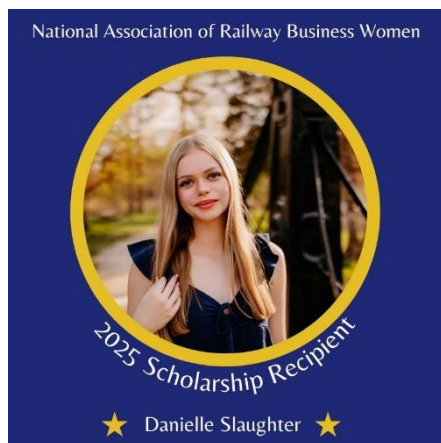
🌞 Anya's Path to Medicine 🌞

Anya Reddy graduated from the University of Florida (UF), where she majored in Nutritional Sciences and minored in Family, Youth, and Community Sciences. Her goal is to become a physician—possibly a pediatric surgeon—and use nutrition education to empower patients and families to make healthier choices.

She volunteers as a nutrition counselor for patients with obesity and Type 2 Diabetes at Fun & Fit Wellness Center and was awarded the Bright Futures and National Merit scholarships that supported her undergrad journey.

As an educational outreach ambassador for the UF Center for Undergraduate Research, she served as a resource to support other undergraduate researchers throughout UF. When she became the Director for Educational Outreach, she planned and led weekly after school science clubs for elementary school students while also recruiting new ambassadors and coordinating with school staff to create new science club curricula. She has provided such crucial assistance to her community all while maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

Now starting medical school, she will continue working part-time at a local clinic in Alachua County and offering MCAT prep classes to undergrads. Her mother and NARBW member Srilakshmi Garikipati said, “We couldn't be prouder of Anya for what she has accomplished so far, for becoming the best human being she can be.”



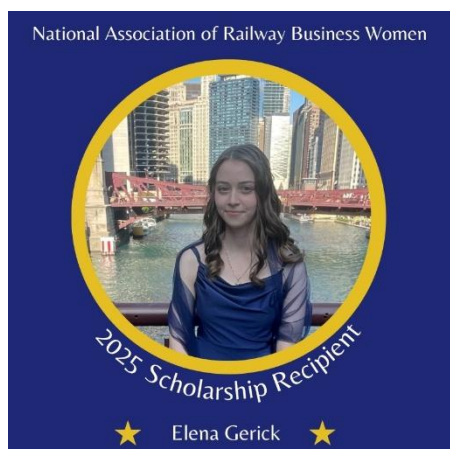
☀️ **A Future in Medicine: Meet Danielle** ☀️

We are elated to recognize Danielle Slaughter as a recipient of the NARBW scholarship! She will be attending the University of Missouri this fall, pursuing a biochemistry major as a foundation for her dream of becoming an oncologist.

Driven by a personal connection to cancer patients, she is committed to finding better treatments and making a lasting impact in medicine. Her hard work in academics, sports, and leadership—including Varsity cheerleading, lacrosse, Student Council, National Honors Society, Rho Kappa, and Mu Alpha Theta—show her dedication to success.

Her teacher, Tracy Benish, shared "Danielle is a dedicated, hardworking, leader with a 3.7 GPA, she has excelled in biomedical studies while earning college credits in rigorous courses and completing all requirements for the A+ Program in Missouri. Her dedication to community service is evident through her numerous volunteering efforts, including food drives, tutoring students in math, and mentoring for Special Olympics. As she heads to the University of Missouri to pursue biochemistry, she is poised to make a meaningful impact in healthcare."

Member-At-Large and proud grandmother, Diane Huntington, beamed with pride while sharing, "Danielle is a beautiful young woman both inside and out; she is a compassionate, hardworking young woman whose dedication to her dreams shines through in everything she does. " With the support of this scholarship, Danielle is one step closer to achieving her goal of transforming lives.



🏥 **Shaping a Future in Medicine: Elena's Story** 🏥

Elena Gerick is a determined, compassionate scholar pursuing a degree in Neuroscience with a minor in Forensic Science. Motivated by a deep curiosity about the human brain and inspired by the possibility of improving others' lives through medicine, Elena is charting a path shaped by empathy, intellectual rigor, and a strong sense of purpose.

Her academic achievements include graduating from Von Steuben High School with a 3.96 GPA in the Scholars Program and maintaining strong performance as a first-year college student, all while balancing demanding coursework, work responsibilities, and campus leadership.

Elena's an engaged member of the university's chess, run, and kayaking clubs, and served as a Residence Hall Association liaison to support fellow students. She brings this same dedication and enthusiasm to her community, logging over 120 volunteer hours, organizing service projects through the National Honor Society, and remains active in her church when home. She's participated in mini medical school programs and shadowed hospital residents—experiences that sharpened her understanding of the field and fueled her commitment to helping others.

Elena continues to grow through every opportunity, including her longtime job at a local fish market where she learned responsibility and leadership—saving diligently to finance her education. With support from federal aid, grants, and a Vice President's scholarship awarded by her university, Elena covered the majority of her first-year tuition through hard work and savings.