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Area students selected for Gatton Academy

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The Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science in Kentucky has selected 101 Kentucky sophomores for the Class of 2023.

Applicants were evaluated based on ACT/SAT scores, high school grades, awards, extracurricular activities, responses to essay and short answer questions and letters of recommendation. In addition to these criteria, candidates were invited to interview with Western Kentucky University faculty members, community leaders from across the commonwealth and Gatton Academy alumni.

The goal of The Gatton Academy is to enable Kentucky's exceptional young scientists and mathematicians to learn in an environment that offers advanced educational opportunities, preparing them for leadership roles in Kentucky. Moreover, The Gatton Academy assists in preparing Kentucky to compete in a knowledge-based economy by increasing the number of scientists and engineers who live and work in the state.

Students will complete their junior and senior years of high school living in Florence Schneider Hall. At the end of their two-year course of study, students will graduate from high school with a minimum of 60 college credit hours.

The Gatton Academy provides a rich living and learning environment designed specifically for academically talented adolescent students that features clubs, organizations and community service. Additionally, students are able to participate in advanced research with WKU faculty members. Research conducted during students' time at The Gatton Academy has been honored in the nationally competitive Regeneration Science Talent Search, Regeneration International Science and Engineering Fair, and Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program. The majority of Gatton Academy students also participate in a study abroad or global learning experiences in locations such as Costa Rica and England.

The Gatton Academy is Kentucky's first state-supported, two-year residential program for high school students with interests in advanced science and math careers and is one of only 15 such programs in the nation. The Gatton Academy has been named to Jay Mathews of The Washington Post's list of top-performing schools with elite students for 11 consecutive appearances and received the National Consortium for Secondary STEM School's Innovation Partnership Award.

Students selected for The Gatton Academy's Class of 2023:

GRAYSON. Katie Dudgeon, Grayson County High School, Christopher and Jennifer Dudgeon of Falls of Rough.

HARDIN. Hadley Jones, Central Hardin High School, Heather and Ted Jones of Upton; Diego Moreno, Elizabethtown High School, Laurel Tabaka and Ricardo Moreno of Elizabethtown; Gabriel Nowaskie, Bardstown High School, Tim and Lisa Nowaskie of Elizabethtown; Jonathon Reilly, Central Hardin High School, Kevin and Ann Marie Reilly of Elizabethtown; and Ellen Segó, Central Hardin High School, Ben and Patricia Segó of Elizabethtown.

LaRUE. Gabriel Fortier, LaRue County High School, Matthew and Robina Fortier of Hodgenville; and Neel Patel, LaRue County High School, Artiben Patel of Hodgenville.

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