

# Making a **Difference**

**“E** DUCATION IS FOR improving the lives of others and for leaving your community better than you found it.”

This quote by Marian Wright Edelman is at the heart of National Mutual Benefit’s National Scholarship program.

In its third year, the NMB program recognizes young adults who are dedicated to learning as well as to community involvement. Applicants include graduating high school seniors and students enrolled full-time in an undergraduate

or technical degree program. An outside scholarship committee chooses the winners based on volunteer service and extracurricular activities.

Of the 29 individuals who received a 2004 scholarship, one young woman, Lisa Christianson, was awarded the \$2,000 President’s Volunteer Service Scholarship for her extra efforts and achievements. Tuition scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 went to the other 28 outstanding students. All award recipients are pictured on the following pages, along with

the name of their hometown, the college they are attending, their major, and the age they began volunteering.

At a time of escalating college tuition costs, National Mutual Benefit is proud to have once again awarded \$30,000 in scholarship grants to insured members of the organization. Congratulations to this year’s winners. May your educational experiences, and the knowledge you acquire, give you even more opportunities to make a difference in your community, the nation, and the world. ♦

## Meet NMB’s 2004 National Scholarship Winners



**Jandie Albrecht**  
Philip, S. Dak.  
Augustana College  
Sioux Falls, S. Dak.  
Major: Nursing  
Age began volunteering: 12



**Kelly Beck**  
Oshkosh, Wis.  
University of Wisconsin-  
Fox Valley  
Menasha, Wis.  
Major: Education  
Age began volunteering: 15



**Lindsay Becker**  
Juda, Wis.  
Highland Community College  
Freeport, Ill.  
Major: Physical Education  
Age began volunteering: 8



**Caitlin Digney**  
Madison, Wis.  
St. Cloud State University  
St. Cloud, Minn.  
Major: Elementary Education  
Age began volunteering: 12



**Karene Donnay**  
Glencoe, Minn.  
Crown College  
St. Bonifacius, Minn.  
Major: Undecided  
Age began volunteering: 12



**Ashley Eckhardt**  
Kiel, Wis.  
St. Norbert College  
De Pere, Wis.  
Major: History and English  
Age began volunteering: 10



**Sarah Fobes**  
Madison, Wis.  
University of Texas-El Paso  
El Paso, Tex.  
Major: Music Education  
Age began volunteering: 13



**Megan Geissler**  
Monroe, Wis.  
University of Wisconsin-  
Madison  
Madison, Wis.  
Major: Nursing and Pre-Med  
Age began volunteering: 12

## President's Volunteer Service Scholarship Winner

Lisa Christianson has been a volunteer in her community of Galesville, Wisconsin, since she was 13 years old. In high school, Lisa was involved in many activities. She was a blood drive volunteer, played in the school band, and went out for track. She was also a member of the National Honor Society and on the Academic Honor Roll. Lisa now attends the University of Wisconsin-Madison and is pursuing a degree in biochemistry. After receiving her degree, she hopes to become a pharmacist or nutritionist.

In her application essay, Lisa shared a special volunteer experience that she has been involved in for the past two years—Odyssey of the Mind—a program designed to help children with problem-solving, teamwork, and creative thinking. Reflecting on her involvement in the program, Lisa states:

*I love Odyssey of the Mind because there is something about how kids think and work together. We all need to look through a child's perspective once in awhile to remember days when everything was black and white, a tear was fixed with a hug, and happiness could be expressed in a mere finger painting. I'm able to work with kids and help them to use the imaginations that they were blessed with.*



**Lisa Christianson**  
Galesville, Wis.



**Tina Bischof**  
Eden Valley, Minn.  
College of St. Benedicts  
St. Joseph, Minn.  
Major: Nursing  
Age began volunteering: 12



**Anna Block**  
Lemmon, S. Dak.  
Jamestown College  
Jamestown, N. Dak.  
Major: Chemistry and  
Secondary Education  
Age began volunteering: 12



**Amber Bradford**  
Fond du Lac, Wis.  
University of Wisconsin-  
Green Bay  
Green Bay, Wis.  
Major: Studio Art  
Age began volunteering: 15



**Samantha Bruski**  
St. Francis, Wis.  
University of Wisconsin-  
Oshkosh  
Oshkosh, Wis.  
Major: Nursing  
Age began volunteering: 14



**Melissa Collins**  
Galesville, Wis.  
University of Wisconsin-  
River Falls  
River Falls, Wis.  
Major: Elementary Education  
Age began volunteering: 11



**Kristin Grossman**  
New London, Wis.  
University of Wisconsin-  
Green Bay  
Green Bay, Wis.  
Major: Secondary Earth and  
Environmental Science Education  
Age began volunteering: 17



**Mark Haley**  
Rochester, Minn.  
University of Wisconsin-  
River Falls  
River Falls, Wis.  
Major: Broadcast Journalism  
Age began volunteering: 15



**Christina Hansen**  
Wichita, Kans.  
Kansas State University  
Manhattan, Kans.  
Major: Journalism  
Age began volunteering: 15



**Halli Hansen**  
Philip, S. Dak.  
Black Hills State University  
Spearfish, S. Dak.  
Major: Elementary Education  
Age began volunteering: 18



**Deidre Jacobs**  
Regent, N. Dak.  
Black Hills State University  
Spearfish, S. Dak.  
Major: Nursing  
Age began volunteering: 16



**Alexis Koester**  
Glencoe, Minn.  
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities  
Minneapolis, Minn.  
Major: Environmental Horticulture  
Age began volunteering: 12



**Mindy Meagher**  
Paynesville, Minn.  
South Dakota State University  
Brookings, S. Dak.  
Major: Nursing  
Age began volunteering: 8



**Allison Page**  
Eagan, Minn.  
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities  
Minneapolis, Minn.  
Major: History and Studies in Cinema and Media Culture  
Age began volunteering: 16



**Morgan Rands**  
Menomonee Falls, Wis.  
Columbia College-Chicago  
Chicago, Ill.  
Major: Interactive Multimedia in Graphic Design  
Age began volunteering: 10



**Samantha Schibline**  
Oshkosh, Wis.  
Ripon College  
Ripon, Wis.  
Major: Music Education  
Age began volunteering: 8



**Stephanie Schrage**  
Quincy, Ill.  
Western Illinois University  
Macomb, Ill.  
Major: Bilingual/Biculture Education  
Age began volunteering: 14



**Stephanie Smoley**  
St. Joseph, Minn.  
Bemidji State University  
Bemidji, Minn.  
Major: Mass Communication  
Age began volunteering: 12



**Megan Urban**  
Oakfield, Wis.  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Milwaukee, Wis.  
Major: Nursing  
Age began volunteering: 13



**Emily Vandenberg**  
Palm Harbor, Fla.  
St. Petersburg College  
St. Petersburg, Fla.  
Major: Business  
Age began volunteering: 10



**Amy Werlein**  
Mondovi, Wis.  
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse  
La Crosse, Wis.  
Major: Occupational Therapy  
Age began volunteering: 12

## *Especially for College-Bound Students*

# Win a \$1,000 Scholarship!

If you like to help others and volunteer in your local community, at church, or on your college campus, you may be eligible to receive educational funds through National Mutual Benefit's National Scholarship Program. If you are a high school senior, or are already in college pursuing your undergraduate degree, you may enter to win a \$1,000 scholarship toward your tuition.

The 2005 program will award up to \$30,000 for the 2005-06 academic year. To be eligible to apply, you must be:

1. A member of National Mutual Benefit through your own life insurance policy or annuity contract;
2. Planning to enroll full-time in an accredited college, university, or technical school;
3. A graduating high school senior in the class of 2004, or a student already pursuing an undergraduate or associate degree; and
4. Age 25 or younger.

Completed application materials must be postmarked on or before **February 28, 2005**. Scholarships are not renewable, but you may apply each year. An individual member may receive up to two national scholarships.

To obtain an application, go to our Web site at [www.nmlife.com](http://www.nmlife.com), contact your local NMB representative, or call the Home Office in Madison at 1-800-779-1936 (ext. 6056). You can also e-mail your request to [bennyb@nmbfrat.org](mailto:bennyb@nmbfrat.org).

**What are you waiting for? Apply for a 2005 NMB scholarship today. You could win \$1,000 toward your college education!**

