

# Runners up from page 9

Pristilla Parish; and school's spring production.

**Influential teacher:** Dawn Roberts, Clarenceville choir director: "She has set an example for her students and is a good musician."

Paschke said "creating and fostering brotherhood across all lines of division" would be among the ways her generation contributes to society.

She is the daughter of Vicky Paschke and sister of Sheryl, 11 and Scott, 7.

**Jessica Diane Prater**  
John Glenn High School  
Westland

**College:** Cornerstone University or Western Michigan University, psychology and French.

**Academic honors:** Honor roll; attendance awards; Academic Letter awards; Renaissance Award; Presidential Scholarship and MEAP scholarship.

**Extracurricular activities:** Church youth group leader and discipleship teacher; French club secretary; National Honor Society treasurer and SADD treasurer.

**Influential teacher:** "Mr. (Richard) Gordon, American history, Mr. (Lynn) LeBlanc, English and Ms. (Sarah) Parmenter, English, were innovative and caring, gave me hope for the future, an open mind, strength in my beliefs (and taught me that) learning was fun."

Prater hopes her generation is a happy medium between her grandparents' and parents' generations. "My grandparents were the 'workaholics,' my parents the 'me' generation, so I hope mine will offer a balance, especially in the wake of all the teenage violence."

She is the daughter of George and Carol Prater and the sister of Bruce, 20 and Danielle, 10.

**Brian J. Reed**  
Garden City High School  
Garden City

**College:** Lawrence Technological University, engineering.

**Academic honors:** Academic letter; Excellence in Drafting; Excellence in Precalculus; department science award.

**Extracurricular activities:** Captain of the wrestling team and varsity club.

**Influential teacher:** "My calculus teacher, Mr. (Keith) Penski, had the greatest influence on me because he inspired me to love my studies."

Reed said "cars, artificial ozone and cures for the diseases of today" were the ways his generation would contribute to

society.

He is the son of Michael and Marcia Reed, and brother of Scott, 16, and Jessica, 14.

**David J. Reeves**  
John Glenn High School  
Westland

**College:** Wayne State University, pharmacy.

**Academic honors:** Academic letter; 4.0 Wall of Fame; National Honor Society; Regents Alumni Scholarship; University of Michigan; and the Presidential Scholarship, Wayne State University.

**Extracurricular activities:** Competitive dance, where he has won several awards.

**Influential teacher:** Marianno Weiss. "She taught me how to fight for what you believe in."

Reeves believes "my generation will contribute a lot to technology and maybe even come up with a miracle cure for cancer."

He is the son of Daniel and Gail Reeves and the brother of Danielle, 13.

**Evelyn Sciberras**  
St. Agatha High School  
Garden City

**College:** Schoolcraft College and Baker College in dual enrollment, teaching.

**Academic honors:** Mathematics, Algebra I and II, foreign language, Spanish I and II, perfect attendance, Wayne County Executive Academic Achievement Award; social studies, American history; and world history.

**Extracurricular activities:** Student council secretary, treasurer and president; Junior National Honor Society president; National Honor Society vice president and president; varsity basketball, volleyball and track.

**Influential teacher:** John Dudley. "Throughout the three years I have known him he has been the student council advisor, a teacher and a friend. He loves his job and is an awesome teacher. Wherever needed he will help."

Sciberras said, "I expect my generation to spread education to everyone (and) bring back the family values that once used to exist. We need more family time to understand each other and help those in need."

She is the daughter of April and Arthur Sciberras and the sister of Maurice, 25; Matthew, 23; and Nicholas, 17.

**Lina Diana Sirgudas**  
Ladywood High School  
Novi  
**College:** University of Michigan.

Michigan State University, University of Notre Dame or Loyola University of Chicago; nursing and pre-med.

**Academic honors:** Member of the 15th Annual Scholastic All-Catholic Team; Regents Merit Scholarship; Western Michigan University Achievement Scholarship; Centralis Scholarship Award and Central Michigan University Achievement Award.

**Extracurricular activities:** Student government senior president; National Honor Society; National Art Honor Society; Students Against Destructive Decisions; Spanish Club; International Club; Society of Mother Angelica Club; Our Lady of Victory Youth Group; leadership council member; and Lithuanian Catholic Youth Group president.

**Influential teacher:** "Besides her ability to create arenas of dynamic and heated debates within the obviously thrilling calculus and physics classes, Sister Dorothy McDaniel taught me to live life with my head held up high, to fight for what is right as if an army is reinforcing my words and to expand my knowledge of the horizon, understanding fully that it is a life-long journey."

Sirgudas believes her generation "will contribute an optimism to pursue any goal, even those which seem beyond one's reach, a genuine desire to help and inspire others to reach their own potentials and the understanding that, even though each person reaches for their own goals, they're all reaching upward."

She is the daughter of Vitas and Donna Sirgudas and the sister of Tomas, 20; Laura, 14 and Julie, 7.

**Christopher M. Thackaberry**  
Garden City High School  
Garden City

**College:** United States Air Force Academy, aerospace engineering.

**Academic honors:** Bausch & Lomb Science Award, two academic letters, Air Force Association Award, John F. Kennedy Service Learning Award; and Billy Mitchell Award.

**Extracurricular activities:** Cadet in Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps; varsity tennis; National Honor Society; student council; England Student Service Exchange; Civil Air Patrol; Michigan Boys' State; Michigan Freedom Academy; St. Mel's Youth Group; in-line hockey with Novi Soccerzone Spartans; and court aide at YMCA.

**Influential teacher:** Keith Penski. "He has outstanding teaching skills and is an excellent motivator. He is always there to help or provide encouragement."



Lina Diana Sirgudas

Thackaberry said, "My generation will hopefully provide many advances in science and health care to greatly benefit our nation and the world."

He is the son of John and Sharon Thackaberry and brother of John, 19, Tim, 14 and Erik, 12.

**Lisa Woodford**  
Lutheran High Westland  
Detroit

**College:** Concordia University in River Forest, Ill.; math education and drama.

**Academic honors:** Daughters of the American Revolution medal in Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps.

**Extracurricular activities:** Drama Club; student director and stage manager for "Trick or Treat"; JROTC Battalion Adjutant; and Unarmed Drill Team Leader.

**Influential teacher:** "Mrs. Renee Brenner, because of her great faith in Jesus." Woodford said, "When I become a teacher I hope to make a difference in my students' lives."

She is the daughter of Robert and Karen Woodford and sister of Candace, 15, Michele, 11, and Kelsey, 7.

**Benjamin York**  
Farmington High School  
Farmington Hills

**College:** University of Michigan, Massachusetts Institute of Technology or Michigan Technological University; computer engineering.

**Academic honors:** Academic letter; Who's Who Among American High School Students; Superintendent's Award of Excellence; Boy's State Government Program delegate; National Young Leaders Conference rep; Presidential Scholar; National Honor Society; National Merit Scholar semifinalist.

**Extracurricular activities:** Marching band section leader; Student Roundtable president; National Honor Society president and past board member; Musical Stage crew member; youth group president; past treasurer and secretary; Debate Club vice president.

**Influential teacher:** Fourth and fifth grade teacher Robin DelBianco (Prina). "Ms. DelBianco provided me with the means and know-how to succeed, and I am forever indebted for her gratitude and compassion."

York said of his generation's contribution to society: "Society is just beginning a second revolution into the world of e-commerce, and my generation is in the 'hot seat.'"

He is the son of David and Judy York and the brother of Rebecca, 15.



Lisa Woodford



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