



IDAHO HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

Serving Idaho's Youth Since 1926

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IHSAA selects Six Interscholastic Stars

BOISE, Idaho (May 27 ,2025) — The Idaho High School Activities Association have named six high school juniors as the 2024-2025 recipients of its annual Interscholastic Star Student Recognition Awards.

This scholarship program is sponsored First Federal Bank and the Idaho High School Activities Association. Established in 1992 to recognize and reward outstanding students who participate in high school athletics and activities while contributing within to their school and community.

Gracie Ford (Lake City HS); Erika Whitmore (Columbia HS); Samantha Parsons (Payette HS); Trinity Duncan (Orofino HS); Mattea Thomas (Shoshone HS); Ceder Saxton (Cascade HS) have been selected from a large field of outstanding Idaho students nominated by their schools Principal.

Gracie Ford was also selected as the “Idaho Star” for 2025 and will grace the back covers of the 25-26 state tournament programs.

Nominees for the scholarships are exemplary students who:

- Through their participation, strengthen interscholastic sports and activities programs.
- Are active contributors to school and community organizations and programs.
- Are good citizens and positive role models for their peers.
- Promote the ideals of good sportsmanship and citizenship.

Each application includes an essay, recommendations from school administrators, and descriptions of athletic and activity participation and service to school and community.

Each Interscholastic Star receives a \$1,000 scholarship to the college of their choice. A \$500 check is also given to each Interscholastic Star's school. Runner's up at each level receive a \$500 scholarship. The Idaho Star receives an additional \$1500 scholarship

All six Interscholastic Stars are leaders in their schools and communities:

- **1A Star – Ceder Saxton:** A multiple sport athlete at Cascade High School, Ceder has participated in Volleyball, Basketball and Softball. She is active in Music and Cheer while participating in FFA and Student Government. She has also volunteered for the local food pantry.
- **2A Star – Mattea Thomas:** Mattea has involved in ten sports and eleven sponsored activities through her junior year at Shoshone High School. She has been Student Body Vice-President and Class President while contributing to organized Christmas fundraising, powder puff and prom.
- **3A Star – Trinity Duncan:** Involved, in Student Council, Cheer, Volleyball and Softball, Trinity is a member of the National Honor Society, shares stories with the local elementary school and participates in local church activities.
- **4A Star – Samantha Parsons:** Samantha is an active leader in her school's Volleyball, Basketball and Softball teams while contributing to FFA, DECA and the Payette Student Council while organizing local food and coat drives.
- **5A Star – Erika Whitmore:** Throughout high school, Erika has contributed to her community as Captain of the Golf team, while participating in Track. She participates in Choir, Speech and has volunteered with Special Olympics Golf while supporting middle school athletes.
- **6A Star – Gracie Ford:** As committed participate involved in school and community, Gracie's leadership in Cheer, Speech, Debate, Music, Golf and Student Council are combined with volunteering in Key Club and Special Needs Recreation.

About the IHSAA

Founded in 1926, the Idaho High School Activities Association coordinates, supervises, and directs interscholastic activities that enhance and protect the total educational process of all student participants. Its activities and programs are formulated to promote citizenship and the academic missions of schools. Visit www.idhsaa.org for more information.