National MPS Society

CONGRATULATIONS

2021 NATIONAL MPS SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

National MPS Society

JOSIAH BAKER

TENNESSEE | MPS II

National MPS Society

My name is Josiah Baker and I am going into my senior year of college at Austin Peay State University studying nursing. I was diagnosed with Hunter Syndrome (MPS II) when I was 8 years old and have been taking ERT ever since. When I am not studying or working, I love to spend time with my family, serve on mission trips, and hike. I look forward to a future of serving in the hospital and on medical missions.

JOSIAH BAKER

TENNESSEE | MPS II

National MPS Society

MOLLY BIRMINGHAM

ILLINOIS | MPS I

National MPS Society

Hi, my name is Molly Birmingham. I am 20 years old. I live in Chicago, IL. I got diagnosed with MPS I at 7 months old and had a bone marrow transplant when I was 11 months old at Duke University. I love to watch Duke basketball because Duke helped me live a longer and better life. I have one older brother named TJ. Shout out to my parents because they help me with school, medical appointments, and bills while always being encouraging.

MOLLY BIRMINGHAM

ILLINOIS | MPS I

National MPS Society

CARSON COOK

CALIFORNIA | MPS I

National MPS Society

Hi my name is Carson Cook. I am a student at San Diego StateUniversity, and I am majoring in Journalism with an emphasis on Media Studies, with the goal to becoming a Sports Analyst. I was diagnosed with MPS I in the fourth grade. My sister and I both were diagnosed with MPS I, and we have both been receiving treatment for about 10 years now. I am a huge sports fan. I started a sports podcast called "Stuck in A Dream," I write sports articles for a media site called "Simply Basketball," and I createsports content on Youtube and Tiktok. My goal is to become a Sports Analyst on TV like Stephen A. Smith and others.

CARSON COOK

CALIFORNIA | MPS I

National MPS Society

ERIN FITZGERALD

KANSAS | MPS VI

National MPS Society

My name is Erin Fitzgerald. I am 18 years old, and I have MPS VI. I plan to attend Truman State University in the Fall to major in Nursing. My goal as a future nurse is to provide patients with the same, kind, empathetic, and compassionate care I have received. Throughout college and a future career I hope to spread awareness of MPS, and be a positive light in the community.

ERIN FITZGERALD

KANSAS | MPS VI

National MPS Society

COURTNEY GROSS

WASHINGTON | MPS IVA

National MPS Society

I am a freshman at the University of Oregon and am also an active member of the Delta Gamma Sorority here on campus. I am studying Biology, with plans to become a genetic counselor, so I can one day help others understand their genetic makeup and conditions.

COURTNEY GROSS

WASHINGTON | MPS IVA

National MPS Society

CHRISTOPHER HENDRICKSON

NORTH DAKOTA | MPS IVA

National MPS Society

Chris Hendrickson will be a junior at the University of North Dakota studying Business Administration with a focus in Marketing.

CHRISTOPHER HENDRICKSON

NORTH DAKOTA | MPS IVA

National MPS Society

LIBERTY HENS

NEW YORK | MPS I

National MPS Society

I love my family they are my best friends! We have a great time together. I LOVE to read, and will be attempting to write a book in the future. I have a great love for old movies and the arts. I love iced coffee and all types of music. I consider myself to have a good sense of humor especially about myself.

LIBERTY HENS

NEW YORK | MPS I

National MPS Society

CARLTON HUTCHESON

VIRGINIA | MPS I

National MPS Society

I was born in Charlottesville, Virginia, but I have always been an avid Virginia Tech Hokies fan. I have lived in Ruckersville, and Richmond, Virginia. Now I live near Harrisonburg, VA, which has been my home for 14 years. In 2010, at the age of 10, I was diagnosed with MPS I, and I have weekly treatments for it. In 2018, I graduated from Broadway High School, in Broadway, Virginia. I was the Presidentof my graduating class at BHS.Currently, I am in my third year at my local community college, and plan on graduating this spring. This fall, I aspire to transfer to Liberty University, in Lynchburg, Virginia. I have a younger brother, who is in 11th grade. My favorite activities that I enjoy doing in my free time include reading, playing golf, during the summer, and watching Virginia Tech football games

CARLTON HUTCHESON

VIRGINIA | MPS I

National MPS Society

NATHAN ROMA

VIRGINIA | MPS VI

National MPS Society

My name is Nathan Roma, and I am 24 years old. I was diagnosed with MPS VI when I was five. Through most of my life I have not let MPS dictate how I live. As a child I played a few different sports, my favorite being baseball. During all four years of high school, I was on my school's varsity swim team. I got my undergraduate degree at George Mason University in Applied Information Technology. After a few years of software development work I realized that was not the field for me. I really enjoy travel and history, and after some research decided to apply for a master's program abroad. I am now going to pursue a MSc in World Heritage Management & Conservation in Ireland at the University College Dublin.

NATHAN ROMA

VIRGINIA | MPS VI

National MPS Society

CODY UNDERWOOD

CALIFORNIA | MPS II

National MPS Society

Studying Business Administration and Applied Analytics at USC, currently lined up to work at PwC as a consultant for Cybersecurity, Privacy, and Forensics issues. As a San Diego native, I love the sun and outdoors, and I feel most content when I am surrounded by friends and family. I believe in the principle of struggle as a guiding force for growth and strength, and that the struggle that MPS has provided me has been a catalyst for my success in life.

CODY UNDERWOOD

CALIFORNIA | MPS II

National MPS Society

ANNA BELLASSAI

FLORIDA | MPS IVA

National MPS Society

My name is Anna (Annie) Grace Bellassai. I am studying biology at the University of Massachusetts. I have Morquio A Syndrome (MPS IVA). My goal is to one day help treat, prevent and possibly cure genetic disorders such as MPS and ML. My favorite thing to do is writing. I have just recently finished writing a novel that is currently in the process of being published. My book is called "Taylor's Bond" and I hope that it will inspire and motivate other people who have rare disorders. I live with my mom, dad, two younger sisters, and our dog, Molly.

ANNA BELLASSAI

FLORIDA | MPS IVA

National MPS Society

SCOTT CAVANAGH

WASHINGTON | MPS IVA

National MPS Society

I am a rising senior at the University of Washington, studying Mechanical Engineering.Throughout my time at college, I have stayed busy with many extracurriculars such as being the Head of Mechanical Design at the startup SENSOL Systems, a Student Ambassador for the club HuskyAdapt, and a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. This Summer, I look forward to my internship at Thermo Fisher where I will be applying my skills to real world products such as medical devices and laboratory equipment. I would like to thank the Bardsley Family for helping make all of these experiences possible. The continued support from the Bardsley Family and the MPS Society drives me to do my best, and try to one day change the world!

SCOTT CAVANAGH

WASHINGTON | MPS IVA

National MPS Society

PATRICIA ESPINAL

CALIFORNIA | MPS VI

National MPS Society

My name is Patricia. I am 29 years and I was born with MPS VI in my native country of the Dominican Republic. Currently, I am a senior honors student at Dominican University of California, where I am pursuing a BA in Communication and Media Studies. For the past year and a half, I've been heavily involved with my school's service-learning program by being part of Digital Literacy, a program designed to support low-income Latinx immigrant parents in underserved neighborhoods by providing them with technological and digital skills to support their children during distance learning. I am also an active member of the MPS community. Whenever I can, I participate in advocacy efforts with the National MPS Society, and I am a member of the Society's Adult Resources Committee (ARC) and Napa's MPS Race for a Cure 5K Committee. What makes my life worth living is to give back, as so many have given to me. And while I know that I will be sitting in a hospital every week for the rest of my life, I also know that my life will be full of new experiences, adventures and new challenges that I will continue to face with faith, determination and the love and support of my family.

PATRICIA ESPINAL

CALIFORNIA | MPS VI

National MPS Society

MARCUS GARVIN

VIRGINIA | MPS II

National MPS Society

My name is Marcus E. Garvin. I am a freshman at The Ohio State University, in which I am pursuing a degree in Sports Industry. I am from Alexandria, Virginia. I attended T.C.Williams High School, graduated in the quarantine year of 2020. My dream profession is to work in the front office of an NFL team. One of my biggest accomplishments was to complete my first semester during a COVID-environment independently away from home. I am driven to achieve my goals and continue to beat the odds in many aspects of my life. Some of my hobbies are traveling, gaming, attending sports events, and hanging out with family and friends

MARCUS GARVIN

VIRGINIA | MPS II

National MPS Society

BRADLEY ANDERSON

MINNESOTA | MPS I PARENT

National MPS Society

I grew up in a military home in Omaha, Nebraska. It was pretty cool being able to travel around some when we were younger. I spent four years in Japan on the military base with my mom and brother, while my dad served. In high school I thought I wanted to go into the military as well, and eventually become a medic.However, upon finishing High School I decided to go to Indiana to attend a Bible college. It was there that I met my wonderful wife, Taralyn, and married her a year after graduation. Together, we decided to move to Minnesota to be close to her family. This first decision as a couple set us up to receive early intervention treatment for our lovely daughter, Isabel. She was diagnosed three weeks after birth, due to the infant screening that was just put into action in Minnesota. Right away we were able to receive ET, and she underwent a BMT in Minneapolis at Children's Masonic Hospital. The staff was and has continued to be absolutely amazing. This experience led me to pursue my career in the medical field. This scholarship will help me continue onward to achieving my RN, and better serve my community and my family.

BRADLEY ANDERSON

MINNESOTA | MPS I PARENT

National MPS Society

BAILEY PEVLER

TEXAS | MPS I SIBLING

National MPS Society

I am a senior at Rockwall High in Rockwall, TX, Class of 2021. I will be attending University of Arkansas to major in Nursing. I was a varsity volleyball player and enjoy spending time with friends and family. I have an older brother, Riley and younger sister, Teagan who has MPS I, Hurler Syndrome. Both my parents are US Air Force veterans, my father retired after 24 years of service.

BAILEY PEVLER

TEXAS | MPS I SIBLING

National MPS Society

URSULA CAMPBELL

MICHIGAN | MPS VII PARENT

National MPS Society

My name is Ursula Campbell and I'm a mother of an awesome 8-year-old boy name Sean Campbell! Being a mother to him happens to be my greatest achievement! While challenging at times, it is my greatest joy helping him defeat a lot of odds! I am currently a stay home mom with a goal to become a respiratory therapist.

URSULA CAMPBELL

MICHIGAN | MPS VII PARENT

National MPS Society

CHLOE CLARK

SOUTH CAROLINA | MPS II PARENT AND SIBLING

National MPS Society

My name is Chloe Clark and I am 18 years old. I live in South Carolina. I was an active Girl Scout for 13 years, participated in Robotics through my school district for seven years and was a member of Interact Club for four years. I am the older sister of Jaxon, who is 10 and has Hunter Syndrome. I had my beautiful son, Anthony, in April 2018, who also has Hunter Syndrome. I will be attending Lander University in Greenwood, SC this fall to pursue my bachelors degree in Special Education.

CHLOE CLARK

SOUTH CAROLINA | MPS II PARENT AND SIBLING

National MPS Society

HANNAH EFIRD

NORTH CAROLINA | MPS IIIA SIBLING

National MPS Society

My name is Hannah Efird, my sister was Lindsey Efird. She had MPS IIIA, and passed away June 2019. She has given me hope and faith still to this day in everything that I do. She is my reason to better myself and be the person I am today.

HANNAH EFIRD

NORTH CAROLINA | MPS IIIA SIBLING

National MPS Society

LOGAN MARINE

NORTH CAROLINA | ML II/III SIBLING

National MPS Society

My name is Logan Marine, and I am a freshman at Appalachian State University. My brother, Austin Marine, lived with ML II/III for 21 years. I like to think I am going to college for the both of us, because it is something he always wanted to do. His sweet soul shaped me into the individual I am today, and I owe many of my accomplishments to him. I love and miss you, Austin (Buddy, Big-man, Austina, A-money).

LOGAN MARINE

NORTH CAROLINA | ML II/III SIBLING

National MPS Society

SAVANNAH MCINTOSH

MONTANA | MPS IIIA SIBLING

National MPS Society

I'm Savannah McIntosh. I was born and raised in Great Falls, MT. I am the fourth oldest sibling in my blended family of 12. I have had 30 foster siblings, and have worked with many special needs children and adults. My hopes and dreams for my near future are to become a nurse to be able to help people in need.

SAVANNAH MCINTOSH

MONTANA | MPS IIIA SIBLING

National MPS Society

EMMA RODRIGUES

FLORIDA | MPS IIIA SIBLING

National MPS Society

I was born and raised in Connecticut with my older brother and eldest sister, who had MPS IIIA before passing in 2009, and our family now lives in Florida.

EMMA RODRIGUES

FLORIDA | MPS IIIA SIBLING

National MPS Society

COLLIN SEELEY

NEW YORK | MPS I SIBLING

National MPS Society

Collin Seeley is a freshman at SUNY Binghamton, majoring in Psychology. From Oswego County, he is planning to pursue a master's degree in order to do psychological research.

COLLIN SEELEY

NEW YORK | MPS I SIBLING

National MPS Society

SHELBY WEEDON

VIRGINIA | MPS IVA SIBLING

National MPS Society

Hi! My name is Shelby Weedon. I am an Aerospace Engineering student at Virginia Tech. My favorite color is sky blue, and I love to read. Thank you for helping me work towards my goal of becoming an engineer at NASA and for spreading awareness of MPS.

SHELBY WEEDON

VIRGINIA | MPS IVA SIBLING

National MPS Society

MADISON SPAETH

OHIO | MPS II SIBLING

National MPS Society

My name is Madison Spaeth. I am the big sister of Aiden Spaeth who has MPS II. I am a carrier myself as well. I am a senior at Bethel High School. Over the last four years, I have been a member of my school's varsity track team, varsity cross country team, Spanish Club, prom committee, student council, Relay for Life, and the National Honor Society. My dream is to become a Registered Nurse.

MADISON SPAETH

OHIO | MPS II SIBLING

National MPS Society

MATTHEW SPAETH

OHIO | MPS II SIBLING

National MPS Society

I'm Matthew Spaeth. I am a graduating senior at Bethel High School in Tipp City, Ohio. I have four siblings, two brothers and two sisters. My youngest brother, Aiden, has MPS II. I plan on going to college and earning a Bachelor's degree in Exercise and Movement Science. Eventually I would like to earn a degree in Physical Therapy and become a Physical Therapist.

MATTHEW SPAETH

OHIO | MPS II SIBLING

National MPS Society

ELLA YARD

PENNSYLVANIA | MPS II SIBLING

National MPS Society

My name is Ella Yard and I am currently a freshman attending American University in Washington, DC. I am a member of College Republicans as well as the AU Best Buddies chapter on campus and I am loving my involvement in both organizations. I apply for this scholarship every year in honor of my brother Christian Yard who continues his battle with MPS II every day. This is for him and for every child with special needs: you are loved and you are needed.

ELLA YARD

PENNSYLVANIA | MPS II SIBLING