



A1-24A  
BLACK



A1-24A  
CYAN



A1-24A  
MAGENTA



A1-24A  
YELLOW

## BROWARD SILVER KNIGHTS

### ART

#### KELSEY FALTER ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

When Kelsey met Nobel Laureate and Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel after being named one of 50 finalists in Oprah Winfrey's National High School Essay contest, she vowed to never forget the human rights violations being committed worldwide.

Starting with a box of Krispy Kremes, she set about raising money and awareness. Eventually, she created five DVDs and collected \$4,000, largely in loose change from other students.

She also led a clothing drive for teens in foster care, collecting — and ironing — 60 bags of clothes.

She is an award-winning artist who also was her student council president, a National Merit semi-finalist and an AP Scholar with honors.

**Honorable Mentions:** Sheyla Richards, Deerfield Beach; Lauren Shooster, Taravella; Jennifer Senn, Douglas.



### ATHLETICS

#### LIANNE EPSTEIN PINE CREST

Her love of tennis does not stop on the court for Lianne. After traveling with her father, a pediatric neurologist, to a camp for children with chronic or terminal diseases in Eustis, Fla., she decided to create a tennis tournament to raise money for camp scholarships.

Eventually, she raised more than \$13,000. She has served as president of her school's community foundation, took first place in the Class 2A singles and doubles tennis finals for the last two years and captained her school's tennis team.

She was selected by the American Legion to attend Girls State and received the University of Rochester's Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award in humanities and social sciences.

**Honorable Mentions:** Kelsey Elise Abel, Pompano Beach; Brandon Karsch, North Broward Prep; Lauren Heil, Flanagan.



### BUSINESS

#### EMILY FLEISHER CYPRESS BAY

After her mother suffered a health scare, Emily started a support group in her own school and turned it into a thriving organization to help families suffering from cancer.

The group now counts more than 100 members and has staged cooking classes for kids, hosted a Halloween party and collected more than 8,000 Band-Aids for pediatric cancer patients at Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital.

When Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans, she traveled to the Ninth Ward to help rebuild houses. She's published seven articles as part of The Miami Herald's Teen Speaks and was a finalist in its Journalist of the Year contest.

When selected to participate in Broward's Teen Court, she became the jury foreman.

**Honorable Mentions:** Andrew Custage, North Broward Prep; Kristin Gibson, Fort Lauderdale; Jared Brussels, David Posnack.



### DRAMA

#### DANIELA ROEDER SOUTH BROWARD

Inspired by her brother, who has Down syndrome, Daniela persuaded her drama club and teachers to let her create and direct a version of *The Wizard of Oz* acted almost entirely by students with special needs.

The fact that almost none of the lead characters could read was just one of the obstacles she faced.

Besides persuading teachers to let her use valuable class time to rehearse, she raised money and found sponsors to pay for sets and costumes.

"Just because they are mentally or physically handicapped doesn't mean that they can't be like you and [me]," she wrote.

Over the years, she has spent countless hours volunteering for the Broward Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization and at nursing homes. She is also an award-winning director.

**Honorable Mentions:** Kelly Riley, Cooper City; Jillian Goltzman, Flanagan; Christian Castro, Coral Springs Charter.



### ENGLISH

#### ERICA BLONDE CYPRESS BAY

After visiting a local food bank in middle school and learning that supplies typically run out when holiday donations dry up, Erica launched her own food drive.

Today, it is the largest single-day food drive in Broward County and has supplied more than 75,000 pounds of food.

Last year she created an organization to raise awareness about AIDS in Haiti and collected more than 200 boxes of supplies to ship to one of the country's many orphanages. For her hard work, the Girl Scouts of America awarded her its highest honor and has asked her to be a keynote speaker at fundraising events.

She was also named an AP Scholar with Honor and was president of the National Honor Society.

**Honorable Mentions:** Alison Rogers, Taravella; Amanda Bennis, North Broward Prep; Jared Frieder, Cooper City.



### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

#### ROB LEVY DEERFIELD BEACH

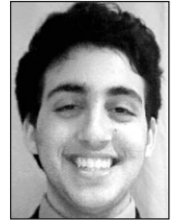
Since he started competing in the county's foreign language competition in middle school, Rob has set a school record for the most consecutive wins, collecting seven.

He is also the only nonnative speaker in his advanced Spanish class.

Two years ago Rob traveled to Iceland to plant trees. He also volunteers in the playroom at Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital and has written a bilingual children's cookbook. At his school, he is developing a tutoring program to bring together non-English speaking students with tutors who speak their native language.

He has had two pieces selected for the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards and won a scholarship from the University of Rochester.

**Honorable Mentions:** Rebecca Drucker, Western; Griffin Frost, North Broward Prep; Kathryn Budd, Cardinal Gibbons.



### GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP

#### MATTHEW CAPELETTI MCFATTER TECHNICAL

Not only is he an outstanding scholar, Matthew has devoted countless hours to helping others with their schoolwork.

Last year, he started an online site providing free live tutoring to students — a role he maintains in the classroom.

"Every time I look around the classroom," one teacher wrote, "I have seen [him] providing assistance to other classmates, . . . encouraging them to perform at their greatest ability."

He was ranked first in his class of 124, has been a member of his student government since his freshman year and took part in his school's speech and debate team.

He has also worked as an airport ambassador and a pharmacist's assistant at Memorial Regional Hospital.

**Honorable Mentions:** Alison Kearns, Flanagan; Patrick Staropoli, Plantation; Katherine Kendrick, St. Thomas Aquinas.



### JOURNALISM

#### SHARON PORTER COCONUT CREEK

Frustrated and increasingly angered by her school's repeated labeling as a D school, Sharon dug a bit deeper.

After researching FCAT testing methodology, she argued in her school paper against the classification, which helped secure her a place as a finalist in a countywide bill-writing competition.

Sharon, news editor of her school paper, was no less passionate about the war in northern Uganda. She was compelled to research the country's problems and eventually helped her newspaper staff publish a 20-page issue dedicated to human rights in Africa.

Sharon also founded Project Broken to raise money for a Ugandan secondary school. She lettered in both varsity tennis and cheerleading.

**Honorable Mentions:** Isaac Schamis, Douglas; Chelsea Quinn, Flanagan; Yveka Pierre, Stranahan.



### MATHEMATICS

#### MELAINE MALCOLM COOPER CITY

Moved by the horrific shootings at Virginia Tech, Melaine moved quickly.

In less than two weeks, she and a friend helped coordinate a peace rally that drew between 1,500 and 2,000 people and built support for local legislation against bullying.

Over the years, she has become the "go-to" girl at her school, her service club advisor wrote, able to rally support.

When the school wanted to host a career day, Melaine turned it into a trade show for students. She helped organize a record-setting blood drive, a dance marathon that collected more than \$2,000, and helped build a winning homecoming float.

She was president of Key Club and was named a National Venture Scholar.

**Honorable Mentions:** Nicholas Wengrenovich, St. Thomas Aquinas; Anda Lupse, Plantation; Brandon Breslow, Pembroke Pines Charter High.



### MUSIC

#### DIANNA SMITH BLANCHE ELY

When her band teacher challenged Dianna to become the leader of her flute section

four years ago, she knew the task would be daunting.

The band had dwindled to 17 members, but a recent surge in membership meant there weren't enough instruments.

Furthermore, when she took over the flute section, Dianna discovered she was the only member who actually knew how to play the flute.

For three to four hours a day, five days a week, she struggled to build up the section.

Eventually the band numbered 200 and was invited to New Orleans to play in the city's Mardi Gras.

Dianna kept an A average and volunteered at her local Boys and Girls Club and in her grandfather's church day care.

**Honorable Mentions:** Gabriela Wagner, Pine Crest; Alexandra Jerez-Fernandez, Cypress Bay; Charles South, American Heritage.



### NEW MEDIA

#### MELISSA OPPENHEIM PINE CREST

Although familiar with volunteer work by the time she entered high school, Melissa

was surprised by how little her classmates knew and how burdened they felt by community service requirements.

Hoping to make life easier for everyone, she came up with a guide that allows students to rate and share their experiences at different agencies.

*The Opp-Guide*, now available online, went on to raise \$5,000 for victims of Hurricane Katrina and be awarded \$8,000 in grants. Her work earned her recognition from Time magazine as one of America's 25 future leaders.

Melissa also is a talented cartoonist with a sharp eye for politics, and she was named a semifinalist in the Siemens Westinghouse science contest.

**Honorable Mentions:** Catheline Andre, Western; Jonathan Ossip, North Broward Prep; Heather Cabrera, Flanagan.



### SCIENCE

#### HILLARY BARR NORTH BROWARD PREP

While science is perhaps her first love — for her birthday she asked her parents for a sheep

brain to dissect — Hillary is a tireless volunteer.

She collected thousands of books for a school library

destroyed by Hurricane Katrina; rounded up more than 2,000 cans of food for sick kids; and raised more than \$10,000 for leukemia as president of a school service club.

When her chemistry teacher told her class about the loss of a beloved cat, Hillary took it as an opportunity to write an inspiring song for her teacher, which she recorded and played the following day.

The National Merit Commended Scholar completed a summer internship in neurosurgery and will attend Yale in the fall.

**Honorable Mentions:** Kimberly Sparling, Fort Lauderdale; Kelly Chacon, American Heritage; Paul Jasinto, Miramar.



### SOCIAL SCIENCE

#### ERIC HANSON NORTH BROWARD PREP

When Hurricane Katrina slammed the New Orleans headquarters of his father's

employer, Eric got busy.

Within two days, he created a rudimentary website where workers — many missing and homeless — could post memos and leave messages.

As the city tried to recover, Eric worked to restore a mock trial program for home-schooled kids he'd begun before Katrina. Eventually, he was able to field two full teams.

Eric also is a top scholar: He passed the AP world history exam his freshman year and European history test his sophomore year. He was accepted into Loyola University's early scholars program, is an Eagle Scout, was a National Merit commended student and an AP Scholar.

**Honorable Mentions:** Georgino Hyppolite, Chaminade Madonna; Daniel Metter, Fort Lauderdale; Gloria Docilait, Blanche Ely.



### SPEECH

#### SHAYNA GERSHMAN CORAL SPRINGS

Three years ago, after hearing a local mother talk about losing her son in the 9/11

terror attacks, Shayna created a traveling memorial.

She collected essays, poems and artwork from students

around Broward to create an installment that the county library continues to use in its annual program.

Shayna also created a library at her synagogue to honor another victim of the 9/11 terror attacks.

She has received numerous awards in debate, including a life membership in the National Forensic League and the Javier Chipi Award for best novice debater at Coral Springs High.

She was a semifinalist in the Coca-Cola Scholars Program and won the National Foundation for Women Legislators 2007 essay contest.

**Honorable Mentions:** Jonathan Fistel, Douglas; Nicole Biller, Cooper City; Danielle Kerem, Hollywood Hills.



### VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL

#### TRISTIN ANDERSON BLANCHE ELY

Not only can he build robots and converse in Japanese, Tristin has also mastered Latin

derivatives. He is an AP Scholar who has been awarded for his Latin studies, including a first in last

year's regional contest. He also volunteers in Broward General Medical Center's emergency unit.

He has worked with the director of emergency medicine at the North Broward Hospital District on research to control pain with infrasonic frequencies.

Before moving to Florida, he volunteered for an ambulance service in a poor New York neighborhood and, although only 11, assisted dispatchers on Sept. 11, 2001.

"His passion for exactitude and bottomless curiosity is welcoming in this day and age," his chemistry teacher wrote.

**Honorable Mentions:** Anthony Cruz, Taravella; Julie Riezenman, Piper; Alycia Oppenheim, Hollywood Hills.

