



**For Immediate Release**

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## **The Lincoln Academy Scholars Recognized as Scholars of the Week**

BELOIT, Wis - Two TLA scholars have been recognized as Rotary Club of Beloit Scholars of the Week! Saraphine S. and Theresa N. received their awards this week. Scholars are selected for excelling in our three pillars: Academic Rigor, Character Development, and Career Exploration.

Here are the profiles of each Scholar of the Week:



Laura Benisch, TLA Director of Career Planning and Development introduced Theresa N. "Theresa has maintained a 4.0 GPA while taking rigorous coursework, participating in different extracurricular activities, volunteering throughout the community, and working at Riverside Terrace. She earned her Nursing Assistant Certificate and is currently working towards earning her EMT certificate too. She is a member of the Scholar Council and National Honor Society and has participated athletically in Cross Country, Basketball, and Track & Field. Theresa plans to attend a four year university to study nursing and looks forward to giving back to her community as a nurse."

TLA staff also celebrate Theresa and her award. TLA high school science teacher Mrs. Rufer says, "Theresa is a very motivated, conscientious scholar. She has taken many science classes and is always one of the highest achievers. What I like most about Theresa is that she is willing to try anything and gives it her all. She participates in a lot of outside school activities including 4-H where I have watched her show animals and create projects. She is a hard worker!"

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TLA high school English teacher, Mrs Wellnitz, says, “Theresa brings joyous energy to every class she has. She's always got a smile on her face, and she loves to learn. Theresa asks questions and wants to know the ‘why’ behind her learning.”

TLA high school English teacher Mrs. Schwark says, “Theresa is eager to learn and demonstrates excellent balance in managing all her pursuits. She is thoughtful, clever, and always eager to share her thoughts and ideas.”

In Theresa's own words, “I am honored to be chosen as Rotary Scholar of the week. I want to start off by thanking my parents. Thank you for always supporting me and believing in me during hard times. I truly wouldn't be where I am today without them. I also want to thank all of my teachers that helped guide me through my academic journey. Without them, I would not be the scholar I am today. I cannot thank them enough. Finally, Thank you to the Rotary club for recognizing my achievements and supporting our community.”

She continues, “During my junior year, I had the opportunity to receive my nursing assistant certification. I now work at an assisted living facility. Working as a CNA has strengthened my passion for helping others. I've found that little things can make huge differences in the lives of others. After I graduate, I hope to attend a four year university and receive a bachelor's degree in nursing. In the future, I hope to become a nurse that my community can rely on. I want to be able to help those in need in any way that I can.”



Laura Benisch, TLA Director of Career Planning and Development introduced Sarah S. “Sarah has maintained a 4.0 GPA while taking rigorous coursework, participating in different extracurricular activities, volunteering throughout the community, and completing an internship with the Beloit International Film Festival. Sarah earned Algebra I credit as an 8th grader, preparing her to take higher level math in high school. She is honored to serve as the secretary of our National Honor Society chapter and has participated in Volleyball, Basketball, Drama Club, and Art Club. Sarah plans to attend UW-Oshkosh or St. Norbert College.”

Sarah S. reflects, “My time at The Lincoln Academy has prepared me in ways that I didn't expect. I learned how to animate both online and with physical cells, dissected a frog and saw what its brain looks like, got certified to referee volleyball and basketball games, and even completed a work-study with the Beloit International Film

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Festival. I have participated in many clubs and activities, including art club, volleyball, and basketball. I even get to hold the position of secretary in our school's chapter of the National Honor Society. Additionally, this past Wednesday, I passed my Acer certification to take apart and repair a Chromebook. All things I never expected to be able nor excited to do."

She continues, "I would also like to thank my parents and family for all their support. They have put in so much effort to ensure I not only grew in the classroom, but also in character. They showed me that if you want to make a difference, it starts with one person. I truly wouldn't be where I am, nor who I am today without their endless patience and love."

TLA staff also celebrate Sarah's recognition. Mrs. Rufer says, "Sarah has been a scholar in my science classes as well as my acting and drama club. She is a very intelligent and creative scholar. Sarah is very considerate and is always helping other scholars in class. I really appreciate her willingness to volunteer and demonstrate her skills as an actor."

Mrs Wellnitz states, "Sarah is a kind and caring scholar who is a friend to everyone. Her hard work in the classroom carries over onto the athletic courts. Sarah pushes herself to be the best she can be in all areas of her life."

Mrs. Schwark adds, "Sarah's wit and determination make her an excellent scholar and friend to all around her. She can always be counted on for a smile and her hard work does not go unnoticed!"

The Lincoln Academy is a K4-12 free public charter school focused on rigorous academics, character development and career exploration. More information about The Lincoln Academy can be found at [www.thelincolnacademybeloit.com](http://www.thelincolnacademybeloit.com), by contacting the school directly at 608-690-5100, or [info@tlabeloit.com](mailto:info@tlabeloit.com).

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