

# 2021 AUSN Scholarship Recipients

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## Katherine Dresher



Ms. Katherine Dresher is attending Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida. Her father served in the Navy for six years active duty and twenty years in the reserves and her mother worked for the Department of the Air Force at Wright Patterson Air Force Base—she attributes her love of engineering and aerospace to both her father and mother. Ms. Dresher is an active member of the Society of Women Engineering and wants to pursue a career in aviation. She will continue her studies with a major in aerospace engineering and a minor in flight and mathematics.

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## Christopher Crews



Mr. Christopher Crews is attending Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia. Before attending college, Mr. Crews' sister encouraged him to work at camp with a marine biologist to research sharks using baited remote underwater vehicles (BRUVs), where he discovered his love for engineering and marine biology. His father served in the US Navy and worked as an engineer and his older sister is a current Navy officer. Mr. Crews is thankful for his family's influence in his life, and especially his mother for helping him strive for academic success. Mr. Crews is pursuing a major in ocean engineering and is eager to learn more about marine biology.

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## Sidney Ryan



Mr. Sidney Ryan is attending Purdue University College of Engineering in West Lafayette, Indiana. Mr. Ryan's grandfather, Alan Ryan, served in the Navy for twenty-seven years and encouraged his grandson to study at Purdue's Engineering School of Aeronautics and Astronautics. In high school he was part of the robotics club where he was inspired to pursue a career of building robots for space discoveries. Mr. Ryan continues to work part-time to help support his family and is eager to study at Purdue with a major in engineering and a minor in aeronautics and astronautics.

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## Jeffrey Pizanti



Mr. Jeffrey Pizanti is attending the University of Colorado at Boulder. Mr. Pizanti comes from a military family, and his constant travels inspired a love for flying and flight technology. In high school he was a member of his school's robotic team, as well he participated in the science fair with a project that identified what shapes were most aerodynamic, earning him a trip to NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. As an Eagle Scout, he earned the Digital Technology, Aviation, and Electronics merit badges. Mr. Pizanti is excited to pursue a career in building planes and also flying them, and hopes to graduate with a major in mechanical engineering.

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## Meredith Tuve



Ms. Meredith Tuve is attending Minneapolis College. She is the daughter of a United States Navy Chief, who took care of her four siblings while her father was deployed. In high school Ms. Tuve took part in professional theater, arts, fencing, and competitive swimming. After spending a year traveling and working, she decided to apply for a position as a lifeguard for a local YMCA, where she learned the tools to help in emergency situations. Her experience has led her to pursue a career as a nurse in the Navy, after she graduates.

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## Jamie Gallagher



Ms. Jamie Gallagher is attending Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida. She is the daughter of a Navy serviceman who was stationed on several aircraft carriers before working for American Airlines. During her senior year of high school, Ms. Gallagher earned her private pilot's license and founded an aviation club. She is passionate about her love for aviation and is working to inspire that passion in others by volunteering at airshows and working toward her airline transport pilot's License. She hopes to graduate with a major in aeronautical science and a minor in aviation safety.

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## Maggie Miller



Ms. Maggie Miller is attending Saint Louis University in St. Louis, Missouri. As an athlete growing up, Ms. Miller applied to several physical therapy programs in her senior year of high school and was inspired to pursue a career of caring for people. She was involved with dance marathon and the SLU Pediatric Cancer Association, where she is still working to serve others. She has recently been shadowing a physical therapist at Be Fit Physical Therapy to help train for her future career goal. Ms. Miller hopes to use her degree to become a physical therapist for athletes or the military and will graduate with a major in exercise science and a minor in communication sciences and disorders.

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## Sasha Morgan



Ms. Sasha Morgan is attending Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington. Ms. Morgan grew up in Denmark and the United States and spent her high-school years devoted to activities like math and equestrian sports. Her grandfather inspired her to compete in state fairs and championships for her high-school team, where she also became a member of horse ownership clubs. She won numerous awards for her high-school equestrian team. Now she will be pursuing a career in bioengineering at Whitman College.

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## Carly Vigeant



Ms. Carly Vigeant is attending Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona. Ms. Vigeant is the oldest of seven children in her military family. At Princess Anne High School, she became part of the IB Program and found a passion for representing younger generations in state and local politics. She is now a Chief Intern for Virginia State Senator Jen Kiggans. She has had many leadership positions, including vice president of her high school's National Math Honors Society and her school's Leadership Workshop staff. Ms. Vigeant has always had a deep passion for nursing, after experiencing Navy life on the USS Abraham Lincoln. She hopes to graduate with a major in nursing and a minor in broadcasting and journalism, or chemistry.

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## Owen Berger



Mr. Owen Berger is attending Miami of Ohio in Oxford, Ohio. Mr. Berger worked on student council as student body president for his senior year of high school and was a member of National Honor Society for two years. He was selected to attend the summer seminar at the U.S. Naval Academy, and the Summer Leadership and Character Development Academy in Quantico, VA. Mr. Berger is dedicated to volunteering for his church and working full time at a local farm. Since his parents were successful business owners, Mr. Berger is excited to pursue his own business career and earn a degree in accounting and/or business management, while also looking to join the military.

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## Hansen Huckaby



Mr. Hansen Huckaby is attending Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida. During high school, Mr. Huckaby worked to give back to his community by participating in clubs such as FBLA, student government, and the Cub Scouts of America. He thanks his family for sparking his passion for space and physics. Mr. Huckaby also contributes his love of space exploration and astronomy to his visit at the Kennedy Space Center, as well his astronomy class at Middle Georgia State University. He hopes to graduate with a major in aerospace engineering.

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## Jakai Strickland



Ms. Jakai Strickland attended the University of North Carolina in Greensboro. She recently graduated community college and will soon be taking her nursing exam. Ms. Strickland grew up in a military family, and her father served for twenty-seven years. In high school she became a member of the JROTC, where she participated for four years working as a supply chief officer of a simulated Navy team. Ms. Strickland also was a member of a Model United Nations as a secretary. Her love of traveling the world in the military has sparked her passion to become a traveling nurse.

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## Emily Weaver



Ms. Emily Weaver is attending Syracuse University in Syracuse, New York. Ms. Weaver's father served in the Navy for 34 years. As a military child she was inspired to pursue a career in the Air Force. She is majoring in earth and environmental science, and she is an Air Force ROTC cadet. She has been selected as the Chauncey D. Holmes Award recipient for her excellence in academics of introductory earth science courses, as well the Academic Achievement Award within ROTC. She hopes to graduate with a major in earth/environmental science and forensic science and a minor in anthropology.

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## Caroline Oats



Ms. Caroline Oates is attending Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. As a child, Ms. Oates became a burn survivor after a car accident gave her third degree burns. Ms. Oates became interested in the medical field during her recoveries and has been an active volunteer at Grossman Burn Foundation since 2008, working with other child burn survivors. In high school, she worked with special needs students through a program called Friendship Circle, as both a volunteer and the vice president. During her senior year of school, she was accepted into the advanced anatomy course, one of thirty students chosen out of a class of five hundred. Ms. Oates intends to continue serving other burn survivors through volunteer work, and she also hopes to graduate with a major in biology.

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# 2021 AUSN Delta Dental Scholarship Recipients

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## Natalie Lacroix



Ms. Natalie Lacroix is attending the University of Connecticut in Storrs, Connecticut. She is the child of a dual military family, whose love for digital production and media was encouraged by her late father CDR Mat Lacroix. Ms. Lacroix graduated as the Valedictorian Summa Cum Laude with Academic Honors and Career and Technical (CTE) Honors from Mililani High School. As a senior at University of Connecticut, Ms. Lacroix hopes to graduate with a BA in digital media and design, with a concentration in web and interactive media design.

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## Stacy Gallant



Mrs. Stacy Gallant is attending West Virginia University School of Nursing in Keyser, West Virginia. She is the wife of a Navy Veteran and mother of a seven-year-old son. Mrs. Gallant is excited to return to school to pursue her dreams of becoming a nurse. She finished her first years of schooling with a bachelor's degree in psychology and human services and a master's degree in clinical psychology. Mrs. Gallant is excited to return back to school and wants to graduate with a nursing major.

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