

## Local Schools



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# Wyman Named as Walter Williams Scholar

JUNE 03RD 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Wyman Named as Walter Williams Scholar

Esses, Missouri - Richland Class of 2019 graduate and valedictorian Kate Wyman was recently designated as a Walter Williams Scholar, a by-invitation-only distinction reserved for the top tier of high-ability freshman who plan to study journalism at the University of Missouri.

Wyman is one of the 89 students throughout the nation to receive the honor which includes: direct admission to Mizzou, a faculty mentor, a study abroad scholarship and automatic admission into the Mizzou's one-year master's degree program.

These are in addition to any other scholarships and special program acceptances at the University.

Wyman will attend the Missouri School of Journalism this fall in Columbia.

Photo submitted.

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## Richland Students Take Home National Photography Awards

NOVEMBER 07TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Richland Students Take Home National Photography Awards

Essex, Missouri - Richland R-1 School recently had four students take home national photography awards from the JEA/NSPA National Convention in Chicago, Illinois.

Senior Liza King, second to left, was awarded Superior in the Photography Portfolio category, designating her one of the best high school photographers in the nation. King also taught a journalism class while at the convention.

Junior Jason Pinkley, left, took Excellent in Themed Photography, junior Allison Jones received Excellent in Sports Action Photography, and senior Kate Wyman was awarded Excellent in General Spot News Photography.

Of the 384 overall national competitors in the photography write-off competition, less than 15% received either a rating of either Superior or Excellent.

Photo by Kyle Carter / Richland Schools

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# Richland Elementary Named Blue Ribbon School

OCTOBER 15TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Richland Elementary Named Blue Ribbon School

Essex, Missouri - Richland R-1 School District's Elementary School has been named a National Blue Ribbon School for 2018 by U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos.

She recognized 349 schools as National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2018.

“I’m pleased to celebrate with you as your school is named a National Blue Ribbon School,” said DeVos in a video message to the honorees. “We recognize and honor your important work in preparing students for successful careers and meaningful lives. Congratulations on your students’ accomplishments and for your extraordinary commitment to meeting their unique needs.”

The recognition is based on a school’s overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups.

The coveted National Blue Ribbon Schools award affirms the hard work of educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content.

Now in its 36th year, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has bestowed recognition on more than 8,800 schools. On November 7-8, the Secretary and the Department of Education will celebrate with 300 public and 49 private school honorees at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

All schools are honored in one of two performance categories, based on all student scores, subgroup student scores and graduation rates:

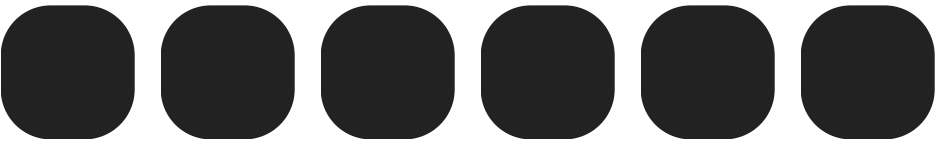
- Exemplary High Performing Schools are among their state’s highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests.
- Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing Schools are among their state’s highest performing schools in closing achievement gaps between a school’s student groups and all students over the past five years.

Up to 420 schools may be nominated each year. The Department invites National Blue Ribbon School nominations from the top education official in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Department of Defense Education Activity and the Bureau of Indian Education. Private schools are nominated by The Council for American Private Education (CAPE).

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# Richland District Honors Veterans By Nancy Vines

NOVEMBER 10TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Richland District Honors Veterans By Nancy Vines

## Richland District Honors Veterans By Nancy Vines

Nationally known US Army veteran Christy Gardner was the keynote speaker at the Veterans' Day Honor Assembly hosted by the Richland School District. Gardner, accompanied by her service dog Moxie, spoke candidly of the life-changing injuries sustained during her tour of duty in Korea.

An All-American Athlete who excelled in field hockey, lacrosse, and track and field, Gardner enlisted in the US Army shortly after graduation from college. She chose to serve in the Military Police because she wanted to "be in the action." While on patrol, she was attacked by a group of Korean civilians who resented the American presence in their country. The brutal assault left her with severe head injuries, seizures, and damage to both legs. Most of her memory and speech were gone, leaving her with about a third-grade knowledge of math, spelling, and grammar. She was told she would never walk again, never live alone again—essentially that life as she had known it was over.

After several years of rehabilitation, Gardner began to build her life again and today is co-captain of the US Women's Para-Ice Hockey Team and assistant captain of the US Army Swimming, Track, and Sitting Volleyball Teams. She has been featured on ESPN's Sports Center and travels the country, along with Moxie, to share her story of courage and inspiration.

Several local veterans attended the Veterans' Day Honor Assembly, which began with the Poplar Bluff High School ROTC presentation of the Colors. Richland student Kate Wyman sang the National Anthem, followed by the fifth and sixth grade singing "God Bless America." Each branch of the military was recognized as the veterans received a standing ovation from the crowd. Following the assembly veterans had the opportunity to be photographed with family members who are Richland students, as well as have those students join them for a complimentary breakfast in the cafeteria.

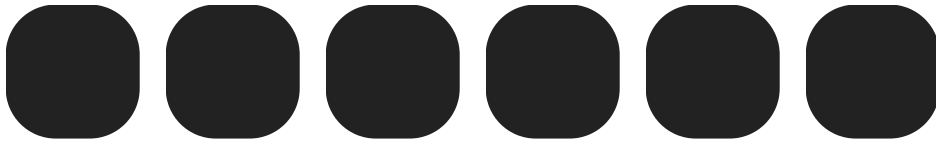
Photo credit Emily Blunt, Richland High School

Richland Photo 2

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## Richland Back to School Bash and Open House

AUGUST 02ND 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Richland Back to School Bash and Open House

Essex, Missouri - The Richland 2017 Back to School Bash and Open House will be held on Tuesday, August 8th from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at the Elementary School playground pavilion.

The school will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, and a soda FREE of charge.

The Kona Ice Truck will also be on site from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. to sell snow-cones. A portion of those proceeds will benefit The Class of 2018.

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