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Press Release

Foundation Announces Scholarship Class of 2026

The Mary John Goree Las Animas County Scholarship Foundation is pleased to announce our 2026 recipients and their college destinations:

Cadence Doering	Hoehne High School	Dartmouth College
Eva Sage McGill	Hawaii Preparatory Academy	Colgate University
(resident of Aguilar, CO)		
Brice Phelps	Hoehne High School	Iowa State University
Mason Riddle	Branson High School	Kansas State University
Serenity Samora	Trinidad High School	Colorado State University Pueblo
Holly Ward	Des Moines (N.M.) High School	West Texas A&M University
(resident of Branson, CO)		

According to Foundation president, David J. Vandermeulen, “The Foundation is extremely proud to have six such distinguished students in our 2026 class of Mary John Goree Las Animas County Scholars.” The Foundation congratulates Cadence, Sage, Brice, Mason, Serenity, and Holly upon their graduation from high school and wishes them the best in their continued pursuit of academic excellence.

The Foundation will conduct our thirteenth scholarship selection process this fall. The Mary John Goree Las Animas County Scholarship is a four-year scholarship that can be used by residents of Las Animas County at any four-year college or university in the United States (other than Princeton University). Learn more about the Scholarship and our sister scholarship, the Mary John Goree Scholarship for Las Animas County residents at Princeton University, at the Foundation’s website, www.goreescholarship.org.