

2023 Profile in Courage Essay Contest

Winners, Finalists, Semifinalists, and Honorable Mentions

First Place Winner:

Jeremy Haynes, a senior at Mobile Christian School in Mobile, Alabama, profiled Joseph Langan, former State Senator of Alabama.

Second Place Winner:

Baileigh Borna, a junior at River Ridge High School in Woodstock, Georgia, profiled Penny Blue, a former School Board Member of Franklin County, Virginia.

Finalists:

Robert Hlatki, a senior at Pine Crest School in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, profiled Jack Mashburn, former State Representative of Florida.

Cathy Li, a junior at Walnut High School in Walnut, California, profiled Jonathan Nez, former President of Navajo Nation.

Finn Mallard, a junior at Tamalpais High School in Mill Valley, California, profiled Marjorie Margolies, former US Representative of Pennsylvania.

Elise Spenner, a junior at Burlingame High School in Burlingame, California, profiled Vincent Yano, former State Senator of Hawaii.

Jesse Van Doren, a junior at Towson High School in Towson, Maryland, profiled Kurt Schmoke, former Mayor of Baltimore, Maryland.

Semifinalists:

Isabella Bian, a first-year student at Palo Alto Senior High School in Palo Alto, California, profiled John Katko, former US House Representative of New York.

Jacob Bruns, a junior at John F. Kennedy Senior High School in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, profiled Dustin Hite, former State Representative of Iowa.

Siddharth D'costa, a sophomore at Jesuit High School in Portland, Oregon, profiled Benjamin W. Olcott, former Governor of Oregon.

Haaniyah Faisal, a sophomore at West Windsor-Plainsboro High School North, in Plainsboro, New Jersey, profiled Christopher Jacobs, former US Representative of New York.

Angel Hu, a junior at Central Magnet School in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, profiled Elaine Noble, former State Representative of Massachusetts.

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Semifinalists (continued):

Eric Lu, a junior at Rowland Hall-St Mark's School in Salt Lake City, Utah, profiled Mike Moore, former Attorney General of Mississippi.

Arianna Mannino, a junior at Florida Virtual School in Orlando, Florida profiled Christopher Jacobs, former US Representative of New York.

Luke Pavelchik, a junior at Francis Parker School in San Diego, California, profiled Mike Bonin, former City Councilmember of Los Angeles, California.

Gabriel Uceda-Sosa, a junior at Ridgefield High School in Ridgefield, Connecticut, profiled Julian Bond, former State Representative of Georgia.

Brian Wang, a junior at Ridley College in St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada, profiled Vel Phillips, former Alderwoman of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Honorable Mentions:

Charles Freel, a junior at Mizzou Academy in Columbia, Missouri, profiled Adam Kinzinger, former US Representative of Illinois.

Taisei Ishikawa, a sophomore at Greencastle High School in Greencastle Indiana, profiled Millard Tydings, former US Senator of Maryland.

Matthew Jeong, a sophomore at Kinder High School in Houston, Texas, profiled Joyce Elliot, former State Senator of Arkansas.

Evan Li, a junior at Charlotte Latin School in Charlotte, North Carolina, profiled Henry Waxman, former US Representative of California.

Nainika Sompallie, a junior at John Randolph Tucker High School in Richmond, Virginia, profiled John Duncan, former US Representative of Tennessee.

Kyle Song, a junior at Ridgefield High School in Ridgefield, Connecticut, profiled Raúl Grijalva, US Representative of Arizona.

Braedon Troy, a senior at Saint Joseph High School in South Bend, Indiana, profiled Eric Holcomb, Governor of Indiana.

Alexander Vidra, a junior at Collegiate School in New York, New York, profiled Edmund "Pat" Brown, former Governor of California.