

# LEE COUNTY/FLORIDA chapter spotlight 2020



**2020 CSF Virtual Banquet**  
May 9, 2020



**2020 New Scholars: 38**

**2020 Recognized Scholars: 144**

**Cumulative Florida Scholars: 630**

## **Highlights:**

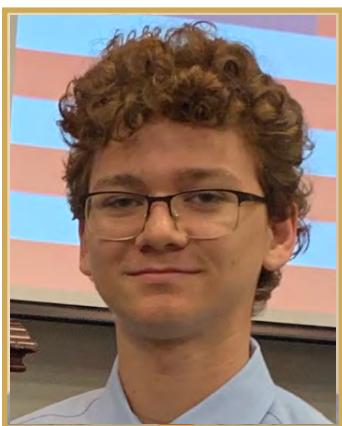
On May 9, 2020, we celebrated our Carson Scholars with a Virtual Banquet. This year's superhero theme, which had been planned for the banquets, took on new meaning in light of the pandemic as we celebrated the intellectual skills and caring nature of our scholars. The banquet started with a beautiful welcome from Dr. and Mrs. Carson, congratulating the scholars on their resiliency, strong work ethic, and dedication to their communities. Kevin Olusola, Grammy award winning cellist, singer/songwriter and beatboxer of the vocal band, Pentatonix, received the Power of Excellence award. Dr. William Bennett, former Secretary of Education and national director of drug control policy, and Mrs. Elayne Bennett, founder and president of the Best Friends Foundation, were honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award. To conclude, all scholars' names and photos were displayed. Since we couldn't celebrate in person, scholars were encouraged to send in photos with their medals and certificates. Many families also posted photos on social media of how they turned the virtual banquet into a special celebration at home.

**\$236,729.52** \* has been paid out to colleges on behalf of the scholars who won their awards in Lee County.

*\*As of fiscal year 2020*



**Commitment in Florida**



**Kyle Daniels**

2020 Carson Scholar  
Fort Myers High School  
Fort Myers, FL

Kyle was a finalist for the Harvard Economics Review Essay Competition. He is a member of the Health Occupations Students of America, National Honor Society, Math Team, Science National Honor Society and participates in varsity wrestling. Kyle has dedicated over 100 hours to community service, whether planting trees with OneTree.org, tutoring children at the elementary school, serving the community with YoungLife, or volunteering at wrestling competitions when he is not competing. In his spare time, Kyle enjoys creating art such as paintings, drawings and works made of wood.

Isabel is a soulful musician who enjoys practicing the violin for the Southwest Florida Youth Symphony Orchestra. She also delights in playing the piano. Isabel earned second place and multiple honorable mention awards for playing the piano at the Steinway Competition and an honorable mention award for the Bach Ensemble. Isabel's hobbies include swimming, participating in math competitions, cooking and babysitting. She is a member of the swim team, Crotchet Club, Chess Club and Kumon.



**Isabel Liu**

3-time Carson Scholar  
Cypress Lake Middle School  
Fort Myers, FL



**Alexandra Polk**

7-time Carson Scholar  
Fort Myers High School  
Fort Myers, FL

Alexandra is an avid ice skater and a member of the U.S. National Figure Skating Association. When she isn't at the ice rink, she is working on saving the planet as she pursues her love of marine biology. As a counselor at Sanibel Sea School, she teaches campers about topics surrounding ocean life and participates in beach clean-ups and wildlife labeling. One day, Alexandra hopes to become a marine biologist specializing in penguins and conservation efforts. In her spare time, Alexandra volunteers with the National Honor Society, Save What's Left Club, Salvation Army and is a member of her school's student government.

**“The Carson Scholars Fund has helped my child to understand that service to others matters.”**

Parent of Carson Scholar

**Impact of the Carson Scholars Fund, Inc.**