



National Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Denise Doring VanBuren, President General

DAR GOOD CITIZENS COMMITTEE — Kathy McClelland, National Chair
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STUDENT COVER SHEET

**This cover sheet must be forwarded to the local sponsoring DAR chapter
for your school's DAR Good Citizen winner.**

Please TYPE or PRINT all information and be sure to complete all blanks.

RETURN FORM AND COMPLETED MATERIALS TO:

Sponsoring DAR chapter/chapter code Anthony Wayne Deadline Dec 10, 2021
Contact person Mary Kluge Phone 507-354-2443
Address 1833 Crestview Drive, New Ulm, MN 56073
E-mail ssmmk@yahoo.com

STUDENT INFORMATION:

Full name Olivia Grace Christensen
Address 1134 8th St N St. James MN 56081
E-mail ochristensen2022@mulhs.org Phone 507.276.8656
Parents or guardians Jared & Katie Christensen
Signature of student Olivia Christensen

SCHOOL INFORMATION:

School Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School E-mail tj.smith@mulhs.org
Address 45638 561st Ave New Ulm MN 56073
School or faculty contact TJ Smith Phone 507.233.8685

If student is participating in scholarship contest:

Scholarship essay administered by TJ Smith Title Professional School Counselor

THE FOLLOWING IS TO BE COMPLETED BY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

I, Timothy John Smith, have known Olivia Christensen for
(Print your name) (Print student's name)
3 + years in my capacity as her school counselor
(Length of time) (Relationship to student)

and that to my personal knowledge he/she has demonstrated the qualities of a Good Citizen as set forth in your criteria and, in my opinion, is most deserving of recognition by your organization. If our DAR Good Citizen competed in the scholarship portion of the contest, I have reviewed the information the student is submitting to you and have found it to be accurate and entirely consistent with our records.

Signature [Signature]
Title Professional School Counselor
Address 45638 561st Ave New Ulm MN 56073
Phone 507.233.8685

1. High School Activities

- a. Basketball- freshman through senior year
 - i. Spotlight on Scholarship- freshman through senior year
 - ii. Lettering- junior and senior year
 - iii. Most Improved Player- freshman year
 - iv. "Charger" (Team Spirit) Award- sophomore year
- b. Optimist Club of New Ulm Honors- freshman through senior year
- c. Jazz Band- freshman through senior year
 - i. Lettering- freshman through senior year
- d. Knowledge Bowl- junior and senior year
 - i. Lettering- junior and senior year
- e. Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) Regional Band Festival- sophomore and senior year
- f. Spring Musical- freshman year
- g. Golf- freshman year
 - i. Spotlight on Scholarship
- h. Willems Scholarship for Science and Math- senior year
- i. National Honor Society- junior and senior year
 - i. Currently holding the position of secretary

2. Service to My Community

- a. As the secretary of National Honor Society, I have cleaned ditches, served at fundraisers such as the Tea for Cancer Foundation and the Spirit of MVL Gala, supplied food, created birthday cards, and cleaned lockers. These activities positively affected the environment of my school by making it a cleaner place and supporting the faculty, staff, and students. The Tea for Cancer Foundation I helped to raise around \$25,000 to support local cancer patients.
- b. As the treasurer of my church's youth group, I have balanced the checkbook. I have positively affected my church by participating in events such as raking leaves for church members and decorating the church for Christmas.
- c. In Lutheran Girl Pioneers, I participated in the Sharing Tree by purchasing and wrapping gifts for families in need.
- d. I organized a classroom library, allowing for more efficient and effective progression in reading for the students.

3. My Future Aspirations

- a. Furthered education in the sciences and Spanish
- b. Fluency in Spanish
- c. Participation and leadership in church and church worship music
- d. Continue to assist in Lutheran Girl Pioneers
- e. Interest in medical careers and research

4. Extracurricular Activities

- a. Junior leader in Lutheran Girl Pioneers
- b. Treasurer of church's Youth in Action
- c. Piano- Minnesota Music Teachers' Association
 - i. Perfect score on level 4 theory exam

- d. Crocheting
 - e. Board games
 - f. Reading
 - g. Summer job- cleaning dorms at Martin Luther College
 - h. Waiting tables at Sleepy Eye Event Center
5. Four Qualities of a DAR good citizen
- a. Dependability is necessary when working as a team because each member must be considered trustworthy by the other team members in order to work well together. I have displayed dependability through my timeliness, ability to complete a job I have said I would do, and consistency in participating in activities such as National Honor Society, Jazz Band, and basketball.
 - b. Serving others is a way to demonstrate that you care by making them a priority. I have shown my care for other people through participation in National Honor Society, Lutheran Girl Pioneers, and helping peers understand schoolwork.
 - c. Leadership is an important way to motivate others to act and serve. I have shown leadership through Lutheran Girl Pioneers, playing piano and clarinet for worship, teaching children in Vacation Bible School arts and crafts, and being an example in National Honor Society.
 - d. Patriotism shows support and pride in one's own country. My patriotism can be seen through my participation in my school's annual Veterans Day Concert. I visited Washington D.C. during the 4th of July in 2019. I heard the President's speech and watched the planes of each military branch fly overhead.

Our American Heritage and Our Responsibility for Preserving It

How do the qualities of a good citizen (dependability, service, leadership and patriotism) help support our nation?

Every piece of equipment helps a machine to function smoothly; without even the smallest piece, the entire machine would be unable to function. In society, each person has their own duties as a citizen. Whether it be taking a role of leadership or leading by example, everyone has a position in keeping their society working. In order to best uphold our nation's ideals and goals, one must display dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism.

Proving one's trustworthiness to complete their job both promptly and well allows for efficiency in teamwork. If one person were to lose their dependability through a lack of responsibility, not only would the one person lose respect and trust, but the operation would struggle. A fewer number of those working on a project permits possible mistakes as well as an increased stress on the individuals working on the project; each person ought to be able to participate in their own part to allow the group to thrive.

A willingness to serve allows for our communities to run smoothly. The United States takes pride in their freedom, yet this would not be possible without those who have served to protect our country from instability. Each individual may serve their own community to bring peace and security into others' lives. Although small acts may appear insignificant, they may have a greater impact than one may realize. Repairing broken playground equipment makes the world a more enjoyable place; providing meals for others gives them comfort and hope. It is impossible to know the issues an individual may be facing; expressing kindness through service to them shows your support.

Demonstrating leadership helps to support communities as well as show others how they can be a good citizen. While some lead publicly, others lead by example. Although both are important, leadership through example shows people how they too can help others. A readiness to volunteer and fulfill their actions thoughtfully helps demonstrate to others love and care they possess for their community.

It can be difficult to show love and patriotism to one's community and country, yet one still ought to demonstrate faith, trust, and love in order to achieve vital ideals such as freedom. While it is important for the leaders to show their devotion, dependability, and service to their community or country, each individual ought to respect and do what they are able in order to serve their country. Especially in today's conflicting ideas of justice through cases such as George Floyd's and handling crises such as the coronavirus, it is vital to the retention of peace that one still ought to respect and honor the position the leaders have been placed in.

In each community, every citizen has an individual purpose, with each person requiring similar virtues in order to execute their role well. A lack of dependability, service, leadership, or patriotism would cause the community to fall apart as people are unable to fulfill their part in society. As America is comprised of many communities working together to establish "liberty and justice for all", it is important that each community and each person partakes in their responsibility to their country. Through good citizenship, each individual may express love and kindness to one another and to their country.