



# National Catholic Committee on Scouting®

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P.O. Box 949  
Rociada, NM 87742

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**Media Contact  
Elizabeth Olivas  
214-714-6950  
[nccs@scouting.org](mailto:nccs@scouting.org)**

## **National Catholic Committee on Scouting Announces Scholarships**

### ***Daniel Collins Awarded \$4,000 College Scholarship***

**Rociada, NM** – The National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) has awarded Daniel Collins from Sturgis, Michigan the \$4,000 Emmett J. Doerr Memorial Scout Scholarship. He belongs to St. Clare Catholic Church in the Diocese of Kalamazoo and is a member of Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Troop 407 in the Michigan Crossroads Council. This year, NCCS awarded ten service scholarships totaling \$27,000 to recognize Scouts nationwide for outstanding service and leadership in four areas: the Catholic Church, their community, school and Scouting.

Collins truly embodies the idea of servant leadership. When asked why volunteering is important to him, he responded: “Volunteering is important to me because it is a way to live out my Catholic faith and the Scout Oath. As a confirmed Catholic, I have committed myself to loving others, caring for the poor, and sharing the Gospel message. As a Scout, I wholeheartedly believe in, and follow, the oath to do my duty to God and to help other people at all times. Volunteering helps strengthen my community. When we bring people together to help support the most vulnerable, we not only improve their lives, we improve our community. Volunteering also helps me to look beyond myself and build bonds with my neighbors as we work to make a difference in one another's lives.”

In service to his parish, Collins is an altar server, religious education assistant and Vacation Bible School aide. He also participates in youth and music ministries. As a Catholic Scout in a non-Catholic unit, he took a leadership role in ensuring his fellow Catholic Scouts attended Mass while camping. Collins has earned three of the Religious Emblems offered through the NCCS. He participates weekly in his church's men's prayer group and is a member of the Knights of Columbus. He was selected by the Knights of Columbus to participate in a 17-day formation retreat and pilgrimage to Rome.

Collins' local community benefited from his efforts at the Holy Angels Helping Hands Food Pantry, a local food kitchen and a United Way fundraising event. He helped with environmental cleanup projects for the St. Joseph County Conservation Club, as well as projects at the county

fairgrounds, a few local campgrounds and the Centreville cemetery. Collins was a member of St. Joseph Citizens for Life, participating in door-to-door outreach and he volunteered to staff his local Right to Life affiliate's booth at the county fair as well as serve at their annual fundraising dinner. Collins has also volunteered for a number of veteran-related events and programs.

While homeschooled, Collins served as founder and officer in the 4-H Robotics Club and was an officer in the FIRST Robotics Club. He made it to the FIRST Robotics World Championship playoffs three times and earned Best in Show twice at the St. Joseph County Fair for his robotics exhibits. Collins earned Best in Show five times and Best in Class once for his photography exhibits at the county fair. He founded a media club, participated in dogsledding and was involved for four years in varsity fencing, including as captain of the team. Collins was an exchange student in Japan. While in high school, Collins earned an Associate Degree of Science in Aviation Technology and Engineering from a local college.

In Scouting, Collins served his troop as both Senior Patrol Leader and Assistant Senior Patrol leader, webmaster and in other leadership positions. He was a crew leader at BSA's Summit Bechtel Reserve High Adventure Base. He earned the Messengers of Peace Ambassador Award, the highest level attainable in the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) Messengers of Peace program. For his Eagle project, Collins extensively researched a historic dam and mill that once stood at a riverside park in the township of Parkville, Michigan. Using this information, he designed and installed an informational display about the historic dam and mill that once stood at the location, including a brief history of Parkville Township.

Collins plans to attend the University of Utah and earn a Bachelor of Engineering and a commercial pilot license.

Since 2005, NCCS has awarded a total of \$272,000 in scholarships to 118 Scouts nationwide. More details about scholarship eligibility requirements and a listing of this year's and past award recipients can be found at <https://nccs-bsa.org/college-scholarships/>.

*NCCS is a Church committee of concerned Catholic laity and clergy, which is advisory to the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) and relates to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) through its Episcopal Liaison. NCCS-sponsored Catholic Scouting is the only Scouting program sanctioned by both the USCCB and BSA. There are nearly 100,000 Catholic Scouts in more than 5,000 units led by nearly 40,000 Catholic Scouting leaders across the U.S. For more information about NCCS, visit <https://nccs-bsa.org/> and for more information about Catholic Scouting visit <https://catholicscouting.com/>.*