

YOUNG HEROES

PAST PARTICIPANTS UPDATE 2019



Robert B. Vincent 1996

Robert is an attorney and is serving his 3rd term on the city council for the Town of Erath. He is a volunteer and board member of many organizations, and is in his 16th year as President of the Erath 4th of July Association. "Young Heroes continues to be one of the greatest honors that I have received in my life. It is a wonderful feeling to be recognized as a leader amongst your peers and to accomplish great things despite facing daily trials. There is no end to the amount of good you can do, if you don't care who gets the credit."

Albert Stanley Hazelton 1999

Albert is currently a staff pharmacist at Beauregard Health Systems in DeRidder. Albert says that being chosen as a Young Hero was an amazing moment in his life. "I'm always so proud to tell people about the award and explain the program to them." His advice to this year's Young Heroes: "Stay positive and keep working hard. You never know who is watching you, or what God has planned for you. You are great role models to everyone around you. The world needs more positivity!"



Tara Hinds 2000

Tara is a therapist (LCPC) in private practice in the Chicago area catering to the needs of first responders. "All these years later, it is still very humbling. During the years I was a teacher, my experience with the Young Heroes program encouraged me to nominate students for those kinds of things." Tara's advice to this year's Young Heroes: "Don't ever, ever, ever limit yourself or listen to the limits anyone else tries to impose upon you. You can't do everything at once, but you can do almost everything if you just keep tackling one thing at a time.And laugh often. Nothing is that serious. :)"

Emily Schmidt Liuzza 2000

Emily is a Sr. Account Manager in the Brand, Marketing and Digital department for Marriott International. She is a member of the Junior League of New Orleans, a French Quarter Business Association Board Member, Board Member of the Public Relations Association of LA - New Orleans Chapter and State Chapter, and Board Member of the Southern Public Relations Federation. To this year's Young Heroes: "When you're faced with adversity in your life, you have to take life day by day - sometimes minute by minute and lean on the people around you. God will always provide you with the resources and support that you need to get through difficult situations."



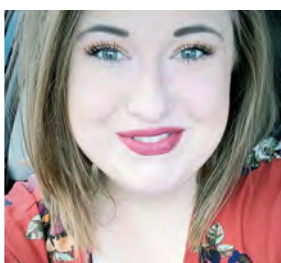


Charlton Boyd 2011

Charlton graduated Summa Cum Laude from Wagner College in May 2018, and currently serves at the U.S. Dept. of the Treasury as the Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff. "I will continue to be a public servant, serving the American people. Still eight years later, I do not consider myself a hero - especially standing amidst all of the incredible people I was honored with. My advice to this year's Young Heroes is that if you work hard, you can achieve anything you set your mind to and opportunities you never expected to have will open up for you."

Gabe Hilliard 2012

Gabe is a freelance graphic designer and works part-time at his church as the Communications Coordinator and Missions Director. "I love spending time with my wife and enjoying time with family and friends. My greatest challenge since becoming a Young Hero has been facing some of the pain of my past as I grow as a person and grow with God. Being a Young Hero has been important to me because of the ability it gives to encourage younger people to fulfill their potential."



Karissa Robertson 2012

Karissa is a Credit Manager at Doug Ashy Building Material in Lafayette and is an active member of her church. "Being a Young Hero has given me the confidence to pursue life with a tenacity that few know. I have been inspired by the Young Heroes to live life to the fullest. I couldn't be more grateful for the life-long friends I have made and opportunities that continue to present themselves because of Young Heroes."

Henry Futch 2013

Henry is a sophomore at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD studying Mechanical Engineering. He volunteers with the Midshipmen Action Group which serves the community in numerous ways. "Being recognized for the years of service was very humbling, but it dawned on me that it should not stop just because I had received that recognition." Henry's advice to the 2019 Heroes: "The most important aspect of life outside of faith is your relationship with the community. Give often, generously, and whole-heartedly and your relationships will grow. Do not let your involvement stop after this achievement."



Morgan Gautreau 2014

Morgan is a freshmen at Southeastern Louisiana University. She is in the Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority and plans to graduate with a degree in Biology and continue on to med school. "I had my 10th spinal cord surgery entering my freshmen year of college. My greatest challenge is the unknown of what tomorrow may bring and the fear that my health could interfere with my journey to being a doctor. Being a Young Hero has placed me in a family of such amazing positive young people. It's a family that I am honored to be a part of." To the 2019 Young Heroes: "No matter what anyone tells you, always follow your dreams."

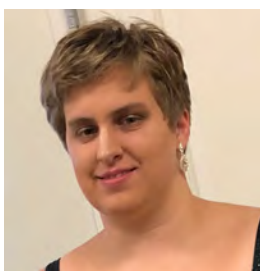
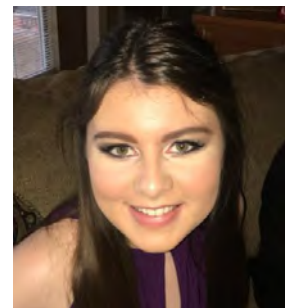


Lucia Boyd 2015

Lucia is a sophomore at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. She is President of Supplies for Dreams, a 501c3 non-profit that works with Chicago Public Schools, and part of Lipstick Theatre and the Northwestern University Alliance of Women Filmmakers. This summer, she is going to Guatemala for an internship with the Social Entrepreneurship Corps. "Being a Young Hero helped me realize that I can make change in the world and that my actions have an impact." To this year's Young Heroes: "Use this as an opportunity to reflect on what you have achieved and to look forward to your many possibilities for the future!"

Olivia Castelluccio 2015

Olivia is currently a junior at St. Joseph's Academy with a 3.5 GPA, and is Beta Club Secretary, softball team manager, in the Mu Alpha Theta Club and on the Liturgy Committee. She would like to go to medical school and become a doctor or pharmacist at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. "It has been such a great honor to have been a Young Hero. I enjoy returning to the awards banquet to recognize and honor the new Young Heroes. It is such a wonderful and inspiring evening."

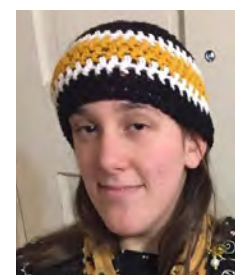


Alexis Bauer 2016

Alexis is a student in the McNeese Honors College and wants to become a high school math teacher. "My seizures have come back and I have been struggling to adapt to college life with seizures. Young Heroes made me feel valued and allowed me to see that the good I try to do is recognized. It also helped to boost my self-esteem." To this year's Young Heroes: "Always be yourself and do whatever you think is right."

Madison Fruge 2016

Madison is a junior, criminal justice major at LSUA, received her paralegal certification in 2018, and works at the Avoyelles Parish District Attorney's Office and Salario Law Firm. She is founder of Maddie's Gifts of Hope (non-profit), a student ambassador, a Senator for LSUA Student Government, and 2018 Miss LSUA. "This award has taught me how to see life in a new perspective and how to always seek the good, so that I can overcome any "speed-bump" life gives me. Becoming a Young Hero not only gave me the opportunity to believe in myself but gave me the motivation to help others to have the courage to tell their own story."

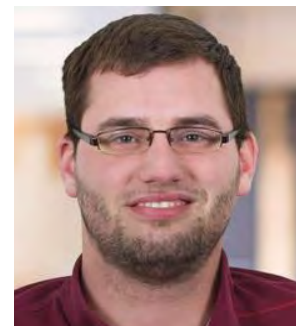


Katie LeBlanc 2016

Katie is a junior at Southeastern Louisiana University and volunteers at Our Lady of the Lake. She helps with the Geaux Strong swim program and the St. Patrick's Catholic Church's youth group, as well as the Tri-Parish Ballet's Nutcracker. "I want to become a child-life specialist and work for the new OLOL Children's Hospital. Being a Young Hero has meant that I can achieve anything no matter my differences, I just have to work harder sometimes."

Joshua Droy 2007

Joshua is currently working for the videogame company Ubisoft as a customer service representative, and I active in his Church. Joshua says, "As long as I can help bring encouragement and hope to people then I think that is what being a Young Hero is all about. Keep on moving and stay positive in all areas of life!"



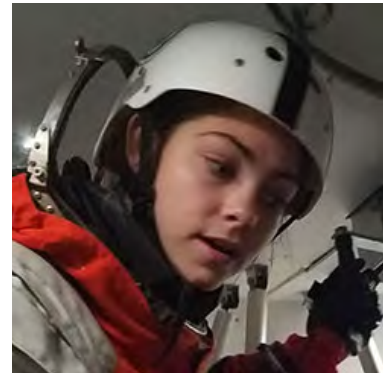


Marisa Mercer 2016

Marisa is a sophomore at Louisiana College, majoring in Social Work. She is a member of the Students for Life Club and Social Work Club. She hopes to advocate and work within the mental health and disability communities, the faith-based community, and continue to help with the pro-life movement. "Being a Young Hero has been one of the best experiences of my life, and has given me a platform to raise awareness for the causes that I believe in." To this year's Young Heroes: "Enjoy your time as a Young Hero and keep inspiring and motivating others to do good. Congratulations and God bless you!"

Alyssa Carson 2017

Alyssa has completed her Applied Astronautics Professional Certification from Embry-Riddle University, certifying her to do research missions in Suborbital Space, is completing her Pilot's license, and starting her skydiving certification. She looks forward to graduating Baton Rouge International School and attending Florida Institute of Technology. "Young Heroes has given me an honor to represent my state, showing that young people can accomplish great things and represent my generation to change the world." Her advice to this year's Young Heroes is to "enjoy your honor, find your dream, never give it up and never let anyone take it away from you."



Megan Gremillion 2018

Megan is a student at Louisiana Tech University studying biology. She is a member of Kappa Delta Sorority, the Union Board, Love Your Melon Campus Crew, and a mentor with the Big Brothers Big Sisters program of North Louisiana. She is continuing her service with the Ghana Educational Collaborative and was recently selected as President of the Youth Board for 2019. "Being a Young Hero was the most empowering experience and greatest honor of my life! 2019 Young Heroes, get ready for an incredible adventure! Take in every moment and appreciate your fellow heroes. They are the most compassionate and resilient people you will ever meet!"

Garrinecia Singleton 2018

Garrinecia is a Rhodes College Freshman majoring in Psychology. She is a member of the Black Student Association, Rhodes Women's Chorus, African Student Association, and Board member of the United Nations Association. "My Career plans are to become a mental health counselor and eventually found my own non-profit organization with a focus on training Elementary and Middle teachers and staff on the specific signs that the victim and perpetrator of sexual abuse show. Becoming a Young Hero has brought me more confidence." To the 2019 Young Heroes: "Stay FOCUSED! And never give up on yourself!"



To find out more about the Louisiana Young Heroes awards and the recipients, go to **lpb.org/heroes**.

We hope you will also join us on the Louisiana Young Heroes Facebook page: **[facebook.com/layoungheroes](https://www.facebook.com/layoungheroes)**.