





Here are ten reasons to be excited about the future—ten recent Bloomington-area high school graduates who represent our next generation of leaders. Without exception, this diverse assembly of accomplished, college-bound young adults has focus, ambition, and passion for what they want to achieve. Whether their ultimate career goal is to be inventive, to express themselves artistically, to achieve entrepreneurial success, or to help others, all want to influence the world in a positive way.

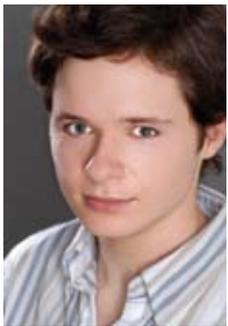
Great Expectations

10 High School Grads to Watch

by **Ron Eid** photography by **Tom Stio**

To a great extent they already have, through their accomplishments in high school: volunteering for the Habitat for Humanity chapter at Bloomington High School North, or South's Students Against Destructive Decisions (which offers fun and safe alternatives to "destructive" social activities), or the Helping Hands Foundation, or cultural awareness programs, or Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.

After college, many of these young people will work in Indiana. Others plan to pursue careers in Chicago, New York City, or Los Angeles. Still others see themselves making a difference in far corners of the globe. Wherever they ultimately land, it's nice to know that their journeys began here.



Matthew Basore

High School: Harmony High School
College: Ball

State University or Savannah College of Art and Design
Major: Art or Architectural Design
Ambition: Architect

“As a child, I was always aware of place and how surroundings and atmosphere were a big part of my experience,” says Matthew. It has been only in the past few years, however, that he began considering himself an artist. Instead of creating works of art, such as paintings or sculpture, that others view passively, he would rather “design something people can experience.”

He considers aspects of architectural design that most of us wouldn’t notice: “The sound of a closing door; the rattle of glass in a window being closed; how light falls in a room. How all of the senses are influenced. I’m interested in ways to reach people without words.”

Matthew will spend this school year in Taipei on an academic scholarship from the Rotary Club. Then he plans to study art or architecture at either the Savannah College of Art and Design or Ball State University.

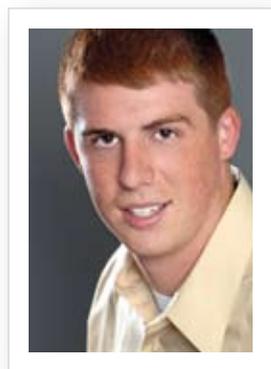
Matthew sees architecture as “a career I can be passionate about and can contribute something.” **Ideally, Matthew says, his work will involve “helping children find the passion for who they want to be.”**

High School: Bloomington High School South
College: Indiana University
Major: Accounting
Ambition: Professional football quarterback

Ben’s favorite high school classes were geometry and ceramics. He will study accounting at IU because “you can’t get much better than the Kelley School of Business.” A 4.0 student, he says he is grateful to his parents for stressing that academics come first. If you are a sports fan, you probably know Ben as the starting quarterback of his conference champion BHS South Panthers.

Ben is attending IU this fall on a football scholarship. He has known the IU quarterback coach for years and says the quality of the entire coaching staff was a factor in his choosing IU. That, and the school’s academic standing.

Ben’s aptitude in math and accounting



Ben Chappell

will serve him well, regardless of where he is ten years from now. **Where Ben intends to be is Lambeau Field, as starting quarterback of the Green Bay Packers,** where he will try to equal his accomplishments on the field at South: tying the single game school record by throwing six touchdown passes and breaking the record for passing yards with 399. It doesn’t take an accountant to tell you those numbers add up.



High School: Edgewood High School
College: Duke University
Major: Biology (primate studies)
Ambition: To be the next Jane Goodall

Elizabeth Hall

Perhaps no other student has a clearer goal than Elizabeth. **“I want to go to Africa and work at the Tayna Gorilla Reserve in the Congo,”** she says. “My calling is in the Congo, and I feel a strong inclination to go.”

Elizabeth is determined to follow in the footsteps of conservationist Jane Goodall, who believes that conserving primate habitat requires helping the surrounding communities where they live. “I first heard about Goodall when I was five or six years old,” Elizabeth says. “And the idea of studying primates just stuck.” She plans to study biology and get her certification in primatology, then head to the Congo, a war-torn country she says is “raw with opportunity to help people. There are a lot of orphanages because of the civil war. There’s a lot of work I could do there.”

Elizabeth is also interested in her own diverse cultures. After working in the Congo, she hopes to travel to Japan, Puerto Rico, Ireland, and England. “I want to look up family members and find some connection with my ethnic heritage. Maybe I’ll make a documentary and sell it to PBS.” In the meantime, Elizabeth says, “Watch for me on The Discovery Channel!”

High School:

Bloomington High School North

College: University of Wisconsin
—Madison

Major: Writing, Psychology, or Dance

Ambition: Still figuring it out

Holly may be undecided about her exact career path, but she is sure of one thing: she will connect with people through art. “The arts can contribute to society by making people think in a different way, and feel different things, and see different sides of things.” Holly started taking ballet lessons at age eight. She loves to perform and to write stories and poems. She became interested in psychology on a trip to New York City last summer. “I was riding on the subway, wondering, ‘what are these people thinking?’”

She has learned that expressing oneself is an effective way of dealing with, or preventing, mental problems, which are, she says, a more common source of physical ailments than generally accepted. Quoting Disney producer Don Hahn, she has a simple formula to explain what happens when people do not express how they feel: “Impression without expression equals depression.”

“If you’re in your mind all the time,” Holly says, “it’s hard to get away from the problem.” She sees her

career—whether it be in dance, travel writing, or psychology—as leading by example, helping people to see different ways of expressing themselves.

Holly Heidt



David Kim

High School:

Bloomington High School North

College: Notre Dame

Major: Economics and Finance

Ambition: Financial consultant

David was born in Bloomington but spent ages 5 to 14 in Korea. Growing up, he loved hearing his father, a finance professor, talk about financial management. David says that over time he came to understand the principles of finance and economics. But unlike a stereotypical numbers guy, David’s focus is more people-oriented.

He chose Notre Dame’s Mendoza College of Business because of its focus on “group work.” He talks about becoming a consultant because he likes the idea of working with others and says one of his greatest strengths is his “people skills.” David names international investor John Templeton as the person he wants to emulate, not just because of Templeton’s business accomplishments but also his philanthropic work. **“I want to inspire other people, too,” David says.**

What motivates him, he says, is “making my parents proud. I want to give something back to them for all their support. They gave me the opportunity to learn a different language and interact with many different people.”

High School: Harmony High School

College: Indiana University

Major: Psychology

Ambition: To help people with eating disorders

Charlotte, better known as “Charley,” says the really hard part about having an eating disorder is when you start to get better. “Your behavior is expected to reflect your recovery,” she says.

“You can’t use the disorder, or the bad behavior, as a security blanket.” She should know—she wrote a book, *Empty, about anorexia and bulimia.*

And she created a website, www.toothin.net, that helps enlighten and support people with eating disorders.

Charley developed anorexia four years ago and just began dealing with it in her senior year. Now in recovery, she has a clear focus on what she wants to do in her career: help others who have eating disorders. “I’ve always been interested in psychology, even when I was in my wanting to be a fireman-one-

week-ballerina-the-next-week stage. I want to work with emotions...to help people deal with what’s troubling them, to get to the root of the problem.”

For her book, Charley conducted extensive research,

receiving support from the National Association for Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders. Her website lists many other sources and contacts that can help. Charley says she wants “to encourage anyone suffering from anorexia or bulimia to get help,” whether it be through a support group, a treatment center, or one of the many associations dedicated to eating disorders.

Charlotte Murphey





Roxanne Rajai

High School: Bloomington High School South
College: University of California, Berkeley

Major: Biology/Science
Ambition: Physician

Roxanne has wanted to be a doctor since she was seven years old, when a counselor told her stories about medical school. But the path to a career in medicine hasn't been easy for her. Roxanne returned to Iran with her mother when she was two, but they weren't allowed to re-enter the United States for six years, until her father could obtain visas for them.

"I didn't begin speaking or studying English until I was eight years old," she says. "That might be why I didn't do so well on the critical reading portion of the SATs." She fell just short of her goal on the SATs—a perfect score.

Roxanne will be attending Berkeley, which she says is one of the most competitive bio-science schools in the country. Fiercely competitive, she welcomes the challenge. "I work hard, and I enjoy it," she says. That will serve her well in her medical specialty—genetic disorders and childhood diseases.

High School: Edgewood High School
College: IUPUI
Major: Mechanical or Bio-Medical Engineering
Ambition: To create a better prosthesis for amputees

A clear sign that a child is a budding engineer is his penchant for tinkering. As a boy, Trever enjoyed dismantling things and putting them back together: furniture, the phone, the VCR. Now he plans to combine his physics, math, and problem-solving skills with his competitive nature and his "fascination with fixing things" to study mechanical or bio-medical engineering. His goal, he says, is to fix an extraordinary problem. "I want to design an artificial hand that responds to nerve impulses in the brain," Trever says. "It will be as articulate as a normal hand."

He got the idea when he saw a television program about an Iraqi war veteran who had lost his arm and was fitted with a large, awkward robotic claw as a prosthesis. "I want to make something that amputees can use."

Recognition is not what Trever is craving. "Engineering is not something you do for fame," he says. "It's something you do for fun, and to help people."



Trever Ryan



Grady Wang

High School: Bloomington High School North
College: University of Southern California

Major: Electrical Engineering
Ambition: Filmmaker

Although Grady's aptitude in science got him accepted at MIT, he chose a school on the other coast so he could pursue the career he really wants. Grady has been making documentaries and feature films since the 8th grade. He will study electrical engineering at USC, he says, because it is a basic component of so many other fields, such as movie production.

After graduation he plans to work for a company like Intel or Microsoft and save enough money to produce and direct independent films. Ultimately, he wants to establish his own film production company.

Grady is focused on his career path, but, he says, "success is just a means to an end. It can be used to help people, to make bad situations better."

This charitable attitude may stem in part from the supporting roles played by his parents and the "good and dedicated faculty" at North. "They demonstrate an interest in every student," he says. "They personalize the classroom to treat each student as an individual."

5 more bright stars

High School: Bloomington High School South

College: Depauw University

Major: Communications

Ambition: To be the next Oprah

Like so many of her peers, Lauren is determined to enter a career where she can reach out to people, make a connection, and have a positive influence in their lives. “So many things in the world can be improved,” she says, adding that communications, her intended major, “is a way to get ideas out there to accomplish many things.”

Lauren says she is looking forward to entering The Media Fellows Program at Depauw. “I am very comfortable with writing and speaking in public,” she says, and welcomes the chance “to explore all the options, hands-on.”

She spent her last three years of high school as either president or vice president of the student government and served in the Helping Hands volunteer club. **Lauren says she has been inspired by Oprah Winfrey’s good will and generosity.** “People who can help,

should. Sometimes it takes just one person to say something to make a difference.”



Lauren Weatherall

Megan Maloy

High School: Bloomington High School South

College: Indiana University

Major: Psychology

Ambition: Psychologist or Lawyer

Megan overcame the anxiety of making new friends when she moved to Bloomington from upstate Indiana in her freshman year. Her participation in the school’s Advisory Board, the National Honor Society, and Girls’ Varsity Tennis helped to ease the transition. Her interests are psychology and negotiating—skills that will serve her well, whether she chooses psychiatry or law as a career.

Kyle Moulden

High School: Bloomington High School South

College: Indiana University

Major: Criminal Justice

Ambition: Police officer

Kyle believes that the biggest challenge of his career in law enforcement will be fighting the perception people have of police officers. After studying criminal justice at IU, Kyle hopes to help dispel many of the myths and misunderstandings about police work. Law enforcement, he says, “is a great way to help people, and that’s forgotten sometimes.”

Amy Rubinger

High School: Bloomington High School North

College: Connecticut College

Major: Fine Arts

Ambition: Broadway set designer

Amy is interested in many school subjects, but she is most passionate about art. She was first chair violin in her school orchestra, and she is an award-winning painter. Her goal, she says, is to design scenery for Broadway shows.

Sam Russo

High School: Bloomington High School North

College: Loyola Marymount University (Los Angeles)

Major: Business Administration and Public Relations

Ambition: To work in professional sports

When members of the Black Coaches Association spoke at his high school, Sam knew what field he would enter. They opened Sam’s eyes to the variety of jobs available in professional sports. “I want a career that allows me to be around the kind of people that I dreamed of being as a kid,” Sam says.

Chelsey Ryan

High School: Edgewood High School

College: Purdue University

Major: Bio-medical Engineering or Pharmacy

Ambition: To develop artificial organs

Twelve-hour school days, including softball, volleyball, and show choir (she sings and dances)—not to mention other activities like calculus—have prepared Chelsey for the rigorous demands of a career in bio-medical engineering. This co-valedictorian (one of four at Edgewood) is considering a career developing prosthetics or artificial organs.

How the Students Were Selected

Principals and staff at each high school were asked to select students they felt had special talents and the potential to contribute to society. The Bloomington North and South principals were asked to pick five students each; the principal at Edgewood High School in Ellettsville to choose three; and the principal of the Harmony School to select two.

From this group of 15, the editors of *Bloom Magazine* chose the final ten based on interviews with the students. Also taken into consideration was the variety of skills and ambitions that would be represented in the story.