

Overall Achievement Award Citation: Chris Williams

Chris Williams is the 2021 Outstanding Youth of the Year Award recipient for Overall Achievement. He is a senior at Grafton High School and enrolled in the Early College Program. Chris's exemplary academic achievements include: maintaining a 4.2 grade point average with a demanding curriculum including 8 Advanced Placement classes; earning Highest Honors all four years; membership in the National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society, and earning 13 credits at Thomas Nelson Community College. Chris Williams portrays excellence and achievement in a host of endeavors.

Chris's service and leadership roles are exemplary and he takes pride in all of his school activities. He participates in numerous school organizations and plays multiple sports. He was the photographer for the Special Olympics Club his freshman year, Captain of the Grafton JV Lacrosse team, played Grafton JV Basketball his freshman year, and moved up to play Grafton Varsity Lacrosse his sophomore, junior, and senior year where he earned "Most Turnovers/All-District". He also serves is on the Student Advisory Board for Athletics.

Chris also chooses to serve in significant ways outside of school. He is a faithful volunteer at the Peninsula Community Chapel helping, for many years, with "KidzMin", a biblical foundation program for kids, attends Student Ministries and Leadership and Worship Team weekly, and is a gifted musician on piano leading worship for approximately 50 students during Student Ministries' gatherings. Chris maintains a desire to give back to his community. He also mentors a group of sophomores weekly, volunteers with "Serve the City" a Newport News community cleanup and English as a Second Language volunteer group, Care Net's Peninsula's Walk 4 Life, and prepares meals for the Peninsula Rescue Mission. For the last three years, he has spent time as a counselor and assistant coach for Sports World Camp for children ages five through eleven, and participates in a week-long mission trip with Empowering Youth to Serve in downtown Norfolk.

Chris's mother and nominator Mrs. Meg Williams, mentions his hard work and sincere dedication to helping others, and that he shares his talents as a photographer, being awarded a competitive internship, working alongside two professionals at wedding, family, and artistic photoshoots. She

also notes that he is not a stranger to hard work. Chris manages a part-time job, his school load, and his extracurricular activities successfully and never complains.

Chris's exemplary accomplishments are more than equaled by his character, as affirmed by all who know him.

Chris, tonight the Board of Supervisors publicly recognizes you as a most worthy recipient of the Outstanding Youth Award for Overall Achievement, and you are extended the Board's sincere admiration and appreciation for your outstanding example as a role model to the youth of our community. The Board's best wishes go with you as you continue to use your talents and abilities in making a positive impact in our world.