

# YOUNG SCHOLARS PROFILE FOR COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

DECEMBER 2023

JACK KENT COOKE  
FOUNDATION

**T**he Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Young Scholars Program is a national scholarship for students in grades 8–12 who demonstrate exceptional academic abilities, unique talents, and persistence to achieve high aspirations. Students must also have financial need. The Young Scholars Program provides comprehensive educational advising, financial support, talent development opportunities, and a stimulating peer community. Since 2001, we have served over 1,200 Young Scholars, preparing them to thrive at our nation's best colleges and make significant contributions to the world.

## GRADUATING CLASS OF 2023

**CLASS SIZE: 59**

NUMBER OF APPLICANTS: 2,302



**2.6%** PROGRAM  
ACCEPTANCE RATE



**47%** FIRST-GENERATION  
COLLEGE GOERS



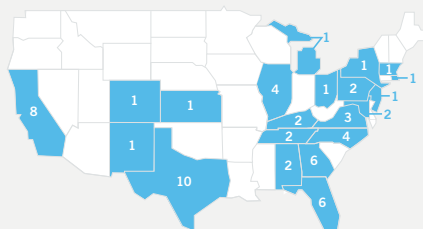
**51%** FEMALE

**44%** MALE

**5%** OTHER/PREFER  
NOT TO DESIGNATE

### GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

21 STATES



TEXAS: 10

CALIFORNIA: 8

FLORIDA: 6

GEORGIA: 6

ILLINOIS: 4

NORTH CAROLINA: 3

VIRGINIA: 3

ALABAMA: 2

KENTUCKY: 2

MARYLAND: 2

PENNSYLVANIA: 2

TENNESSEE: 2

### RACE/ETHNICITY

AFRICAN AMERICAN OR BLACK ..... 10%

ASIAN OR ASIAN AMERICAN ..... 29%

HISPANIC, LATINE OR SPANISH ORIGIN ..... 22%

WHITE ..... 24%

MULTIRACIAL ..... 14%

SOME OTHER RACE OR ORIGIN ..... 2%

ARIZONA: 1

COLORADO: 1

KANSAS: 1

MASSACHUSETTS: 1

MICHIGAN: 1

NEW JERSEY: 1

NEW YORK: 1

OHIO: 1

RHODE ISLAND: 1

### NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

- American Academy of Neurology Neuroscience Research Prize Recipient
- American Regions Mathematics League (ARML) Participant
- B.E.S.T. Robotics Design Contest Winner
- Davidson Fellows Scholar
- Gates Scholars
- Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) Participant
- International Photography Awards (IPA) Recipient
- National Science Olympiad Participant
- National Junior Science and Humanities Symposium Attendee
- North International Music Competition Finalist
- President's Awards for Educational Excellence & President's National Service Award
- Questbridge Finalists & Scholars
- Scholastic Arts & Writing Contest: National Gold Medalist, Silver Medalist, & Honorable Mentions

### 2023 SUMMER PROGRAMS ATTENDED:

- CIEE Abroad—Mexico, Morocco, Portugal
- North Carolina Outward Bound
- Summer@Brown
- Summer Liberal Studies Institute at Carleton College
- UCLA Summer Institutes
- UC Santa Barbara's Summer Research Academies
- Yale Young Global Scholars

Please note that some percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

# YOUNG SCHOLAR EXPERIENCE

# JACK KENT COOKE FOUNDATION

**C**ooke Young Scholars know that being seen as smart is not as valuable as working hard to learn and grow every day. **Scholars own their learning.** They choose challenging courses and build a goal-oriented plan that stretch them outside of their comfort zone. Rising seniors conduct research with university faculty during our campus-based, residential Senior Summit experience, presenting their learning in a final showcase.

**Young Scholars engage and lead purposefully.** Almost a quarter of Scholars have founded an organization in their school or community, while the majority of them serve in distinctive leadership roles. In First Summer, rising ninth-grade Scholars hone their leadership skills to work together on

community-based problems that matter to them.

**Coached to craft annual individualized learning plans, Scholars intentionally develop their talents.** Our financial support enables each Scholar to pursue extracurricular and academic interests to reach their unique goals. We have supported Scholars to develop their talents as a professional yo-yoer, composers, published writers, slam poets, mathematicians, and scientific researchers, among many other emerging experts.

**We believe that the real magic in learning comes when Scholars connect with others and care for themselves.** Young Scholars and their families build strong relationships with their

Cooke Educational Advisers over the five years. Through in-person and virtual activities, advisers foster a peer community grounded in a commitment to wellbeing where Scholars give and get meaningful support. In grades 10–11, Scholars participate together in Cooke Community Summer Programs on college campuses or study abroad.

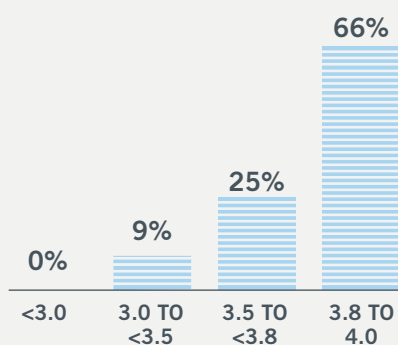
**Cooke Young Scholars contribute to the world through significant achievements and everyday actions.** We encourage Scholars to think big and act in service of their aspirations. What is the mark they will leave on their school? The influence they wish to have in their community? We mentor Young Scholars to use their efforts and talents to benefit others, solve challenges, and creatively produce. Our legacy is our Scholars' legacies.

## ABOUT THE GRADUATING CLASSES OF 2021–2023

TOTAL SCHOLAR COUNT: 139

### GRADE DISTRIBUTION RANGE

(BASED ON CUMULATIVE GPA)



### NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS ..... 12  
NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS ..... 24

### HIGH SCHOOL TYPE

CHARTER..... 6%  
HOMESCHOOL..... 3%  
MAGNET..... 5%  
PRIVATE (BOARD)..... 19%  
PRIVATE (DAY)..... 22%  
PUBLIC..... 45%

## CONTACT US

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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# COLLEGE ENROLLMENT AND PERFORMANCE 2021–2023

## 98.5% OF YOUNG SCHOLARS MATRICULATED TO COLLEGE WITH A COOKE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY .....	2	PRINCETON UNIVERSITY .....	3	UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA .....	1
AMHERST COLLEGE .....	2	PURDUE UNIVERSITY .....	1	AT COLUMBIA	
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY .....	1	QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST .....	1	UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN .....	3
BARNARD COLLEGE .....	1	RICE UNIVERSITY .....	2	CALIFORNIA	
BENNINGTON COLLEGE .....	1	ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE-ANNAPOLIS .....	1	UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN .....	1
BOSTON COLLEGE .....	4	STANFORD UNIVERSITY .....	6	UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS .....	1
BOWDOIN COLLEGE .....	1	STEPHENS COLLEGE .....	1	AT SAN ANTONIO	
BROWN UNIVERSITY .....	5	STEVENS INSTITUTE .....	2	UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA .....	2
CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY .....	1	OF TECHNOLOGY		WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY .....	1
COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO .....	1	SWARTHMORE COLLEGE .....	2	WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY .....	1
DEPAUW UNIVERSITY .....	1	TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY .....	1	IN ST. LOUIS .....	1
DUKE UNIVERSITY .....	2	TRINITY UNIVERSITY .....	2	WEBB INSTITUTE .....	1
ECKERD COLLEGE .....	1	TUFTS UNIVERSITY .....	1	WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY .....	2
EMORY UNIVERSITY .....	1	UNION UNIVERSITY .....	1	WILLIAMS COLLEGE .....	2
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY .....	1	UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA .....	2	WOODBURY UNIVERSITY .....	1
FORDHAM UNIVERSITY .....	1	AT SAN DIEGO .....		YALE UNIVERSITY .....	11
FRANKLIN W. OLIN COLLEGE .....	1	UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA .....	1	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>137</b>
OF ENGINEERING .....		AT SANTA CRUZ .....			
GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY .....	1	UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO .....	5		
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY .....	1	UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT .....	1		
HAMPTON UNIVERSITY .....	1	UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA .....	1		
HARVARD UNIVERSITY .....	10	UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD .....	1		
JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY .....	2	UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT .....	1		
LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY .....	1	URBANA-CHAMPAIGN .....			
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE .....	8	UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA .....	1		
OF TECHNOLOGY		AT LAFAYETTE .....			
MOREHOUSE COLLEGE .....	2	UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS .....	1		
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY .....	2	BOSTON .....			
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY .....	2	UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN .....	1		
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY .....	1	UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA .....	5		
PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY .....	1	AT CHAPEL HILL .....			
POMONA COLLEGE .....	1	UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA .....	1		
		UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA .....	4		
		UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO .....	1		

**3.5**  
AVERAGE  
CUMULATIVE  
COLLEGE  
GPA

**SEE MORE DATA  
ABOUT OUR COLLEGE  
SCHOLARSHIP AND  
UNDERGRADUATE  
SCHOLARSHIP  
PROGRAM [HERE.](#)**



The **JACK KENT COOKE FOUNDATION** is dedicated to advancing the education of exceptionally promising students who have financial need. Since 2000, the Foundation has awarded \$282 million in scholarships to more than 3,300 students from 8th grade through graduate school, along with comprehensive academic advising, career pathway counseling and other support services. The Foundation has also provided \$133 million in grants to organizations that serve such students.

**JACK KENT COOKE**  
—♦—  
FOUNDATION

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