

# Suburban Life Scholars

## Downers Grove North High School

### Shaun Kelliher

**Academic Achievements:** National Honor Society (11,12); National Technical Honor Society (11); DGN Honor Roll (7 semesters)

**School Activities (clubs, athletics):** Operation Snowball participant (10,11,12) and small group leader (11); Science Club (10,11,12); Outdoor Environmental Club (10,11,12); Varsity Wrestling (9); Swimming (10,11); Gymnastics (11,12); Academic Tutor (11,12); Counseling Office aide (11,12); Student Activities aide (12)

**Community Service:** Cub/Boy Scouts of America, Pack/Troop 89 (2005-Present) – earned Eagle Scout rank w/ Silver Palm (2012). He is also a Vigil Honor candidate in the Order of the Arrow (OA), the Boy Scouts national honor society. Shaun continues to serve Troop 89 as its Quartermaster and the OA representative. Within the OA he has served on the Lodge Executive Board as Publications Chair (2013-15) and the Inductions Director (2015-Present). St. Mary of Gostyn Parish – Alter Server (2009-2016), Eucharistic Minister (2015-Present), The Morton Arboretum – Children's Garden Youth Volunteer - Gardener (2009-2012), Senior Gardener (shift leader, 2013-2015); Special Events Volunteer (2015-Present)

**Nominated by Greg Stolzer, School Counselor:** Shaun has contributed so much to the Downers Grove community. He is a strong student, an accomplished leader and respected citizen within our school and broader community. Through his efforts in the classroom and participation in school activities, he has demonstrated great character and a commitment to pushing himself to accomplish great things. His community service, through such activities as The Boy Scouts of America and The Morton Arboretum, wonderfully highlights how he strives to have a positive impact on the world around him. I am proud to recommend Shaun for recognition as a Suburban Life Scholar.



## Downers Grove South

### Katie Rock



**Academic Achievements:** Honor Roll - Senior Year, AP English Language & Composition - Junior Year, AP Environmental Science - Senior Year

**School Activities (clubs, athletics):** Varsity Badminton - 4 Years - Captain Senior Year, Mad Dash Leader, Mad Dash Director - Senior Year, Mustangs Aware Leader - 10-12th grade, J. Kyle Braid Club 11-12, Volleyball - 9-10, Snowball Leader - 12, Basketball - 10-11.

**Community Service:** Storm Youth Group Mission Trip - 9-10-11-12, 8th Grade Confirmation Leader - 10-11-12, Youth Group Retreat Leadership Fall/Winter - 10-11-12, Homeless Sleep-Out - 9-10-12, Feed My Starving Children - 9-12.

**Nominated by Paul Maggione, School Counselor:** Katie is a gifted, dedicated, and compassionate young woman with unmistakable leadership skills. I have worked with Katie for the past four years, as her counselor, and can assure you that she represents the BEST that Downers Grove South High School has to offer. As her counselor and one of her badminton coaches, I see Katie continually set examples which are emulated by her Badminton Team. I say this not as a coach's hope, but rather as a statement of fact. Her reputation is sterling and her peers have come to know Katie not only to demand of herself, but also to expect the same high level of commitment from her teammates. Perhaps what is most amazing is her ability to raise her peers' level of intensity and commitment while manifesting a "we are all in this together" attitude. Her efforts, her performance, and her spirit command the utmost respect and her peers respond! What has impressed me the most about Katie is that her desire to succeed has never been fueled by personal accomplishment, but by the success of the team as a unit. She is, in the best sense of the word, the "ultimate team player." On a personal note, there are few individuals that I have known in life, adults and young people alike, that I would consider to be as thoughtful and heartfelt as Katie. She enjoys an extremely supportive family which explains, in part, her positive view of life. I recommend Katie Rock to you without reservation. She is as sincere and genuine an individual as I have ever met and is truly one of the most impressive young woman I have had the pleasure to know in my 35 years in education!

# Downers Grove North High School

## Nisha Albert



**Academic Achievements:** National Honor Society - Vice President; AP Scholar with Distinction, 4.0 Honor Roll, Silver Award on Level 3 of the National Spanish Exam, Bronze Award on Level 4 of the National Spanish Exam, Spanish Honor Society, Trojan Pride Award Winner (3 times), Class Rank 25/479 (top 6%), Grade Point Average 4.44 (weighted), 3.75 (unweighted), ACT score 34, AP US History Test and AP Language and Composition Test scored 5

**School Activities (clubs, athletics):** Badminton Team (9-12), Orchestra Executive Committee - Vice President (9-12), Symphonic Orchestra (auditioned) (9-12), Math Team (10-12), Student Council (10-12), Tennis Team (9-10)

**Community Service:** Tutors in Chemistry, Spanish, and Math, Badminton Camp Coach, Orchestra Executive Council: organizes community service events for orchestras (Feed My Starving Children, Humane Society Drive, PADS, Soup Kitchen, Valentines for senior citizens), Lab Aide for the Science Department, National Honor Society- assisted with many local events like elementary school fundraisers and, Salvation Army bell ringing

**Nominated by Nicole Gibson, School Counselor:** Nisha rarely misses an opportunity to engage in life both in and outside of the classroom. She is the Vice President of the National Honors Society and is a valued member of the Math Team, Badminton Team, Student Council, and Independent Women in Leadership. She also serves both North and South High School as the Vice President of the District 99 Orchestra Executive Council. Outside of school, Nisha plays the violin for charity events and has maintained part-time jobs in retail and babysitting within the community of Downers Grove. Unlike other students who are involved marginally or because they think it will impress a college admissions committee, Nisha commits herself because she truly enjoys the personal satisfaction she receives from working hard and contributing to a collective effort.

In addition to her many extracurricular activities, Nisha's academic record is beyond impressive. She has taken the most challenging courses in every academic area throughout all four years. As a senior, Nisha can feel proud that she has prepared herself for the next step both academically and in life, as she intends to major in either pre-medicine or biomedical engineering. We are very proud that she is representing Downers Grove North as this month's Suburban Life Scholar.