

IHSAA News Release



Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc.
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Inaugural recipients of new IHSAA Foundation Scholarship announced

The IHSAA Foundation is delighted to announce the inaugural David Cranfill Truehearted Teammate Award winners.

The David Cranfill Truehearted Teammate Award recipients receive a \$1,000 scholarship for post-secondary education. Scholarship award winners must exhibit loyalty and faithfulness by putting their teammates, coaches, schools and community above themselves.

The 2021-22 winners are Maya Murthy of Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School and Coleton Pfoff of Vincennes Lincoln High School.

Murthy, a cross-country and track and field team member, believes a truehearted teammate “is being respectful to your team and genuinely proud to see them succeed.” Nick Klingler, Murthy’s cross-country coach, said Murthy exemplified just that.

“Maya was incredibly supportive of her teammates throughout the season. She would consistently give them tips and affirmations during practice and meets to help them improve their times, while knowing that she may be decreasing the possibility of her own top seven status,” Klingler said. “Maya’s selflessness had a significant positive impact on our team dynamics and helped unify her teammates around our goals.”

Pfoff, a three-sport athlete who participated in baseball, basketball and football, discussed what it meant to him to be a truehearted teammate.

“It’s someone who accepts the role they have been given. Being on a team is about being a part of something bigger than a single person.”

This past football season helps paint Pfoff as a truehearted teammate, according to administrators. “When the season began, Colton was the quarterback. Midway through the season, the coaches decided to switch quarterbacks. Colton took the decision in stride and accepted his new role in another position,” they said. “He didn’t pout. He didn’t whine. He didn’t quit—he worked hard and did whatever the coaches wanted him to do.”

While this is the award’s inaugural year, thanks to the generous donations in Cranfill’s name to the IHSAA Foundation, the scholarship will be given in perpetuity to one female and one male student-athlete each year.

The award was created in Cranfill’s honor after his passing in March of 2021. An advertising agency owner, a writer and a filmmaker, Cranfill worked tirelessly to promote the purity, passion and enthusiasm of Indiana high school sports. He dedicated much of his life to telling the story of education-based athletics in the Hoosier state and how they teach our student-athletes the necessary life lessons. For over 40 years, Cranfill was a truehearted teammate of the IHSAA—someone who demonstrated selfless dedication to the group without the expectation of reward or recognition.



About the Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. (IHSAA)

The IHSAA is a voluntary, not-for-profit organization that is self-supporting without the use of tax monies. Since its founding in 1903, the Association's mission has been to provide wholesome, educational athletics for the secondary schools of Indiana. Its 407 member high schools - public, institutional, parochial and private – pay no annual membership fee or incur entry fees to play in the Association's tournaments. A state tournament series is conducted annually in 22 sports, 10 for girls, 10 for boys and two co-ed (unified flag football and unified track and field). A 19-person board of directors, elected by member school principals, governs the organization.

About the IHSAA Foundation, Inc.

The IHSAA Foundation was created in 2016 as the philanthropic arm of the IHSAA. Its mission is to help protect, sustain, and nurture high school sports in Indiana for the 407 high schools it serves. The 16-member Foundation Board is made up of member-school superintendents from each of the three IHSAA districts, a member-school athletic director, the Chair of the IHSAA Executive Committee, the current IHSAA Commissioner, and 10 at-large members from all corners of the state. Members of the Board are appointed by IHSAA Commissioner, Paul Neidig.