

# YOUNG SCHOLARS PROGRAM PROFILE

JACK KENT COOKE  
FOUNDATION

**T**he Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is dedicated to advancing the education of exceptionally promising students who have financial need. Since 2000, the Foundation has awarded almost \$250 million in scholarships to nearly 3,200 students from 8th grade through graduate school, along with comprehensive academic advising, career pathway counseling and other support services. The Foundation has also provided \$125 million in grants to organizations that serve such students.

## THE PROGRAM EXPERIENCE

The Cooke Young Scholars Program is a selective five-year, pre-college scholarship for high-performing 7th grade students with financial need. Cooke Educational Advisers help Young Scholars maximize the high school experience and prepare to thrive at the nation's top colleges. Our programming and support includes:

- » Identifying an appropriately rigorous high school.
- » Engaging in four-year planning and goal-setting.
- » Funding for academic and extracurricular opportunities, such as music and art lessons; supplemental academic classes; and technology.
- » Annual summer programs, including two required Cooke Young Scholar events.
- » Year-round interaction and networking with a community of high-achieving peers.

## WHO WE SELECT

Young Scholars are selected from a nationwide applicant pool each year. Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- » **Grade level**—Currently in seventh grade during the 2022–2023 academic year.
- » **Academics**—Since the beginning of 6th grade, earned grades of all or mostly A's in school, with no C's or below in core academic subjects.
- » **Financial Need**—Demonstrate unmet financial need. We will consider applicants with family income up to \$95,000. The 2022 cohort of Cooke Young Scholars had a median family income of approximately \$24,700. During the selection process, the Foundation will conduct a full financial review which will take into account all income and assets of the student and the student's parents.
- » **Location**—Currently attending middle school in the U.S. and planning to attend high school in the U.S.

APPLICATION OPEN  
FEBRUARY 9–MAY 11, 2023

APPLY ONLINE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE  
JKCF.ORG/YSP

Cooke Scholars come from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds and from rural, suburban, and urban communities. Many Scholars will be the first in their families to pursue higher education upon high school graduation.

# 2022 SELECTED YOUNG SCHOLARS

## ABOUT THE 2022 SCHOLARS

### COHORT SIZE

50

### COMMUNITY TYPE

60% URBAN 34% SUBURBAN 6% RURAL

### RACE/ETHNICITY

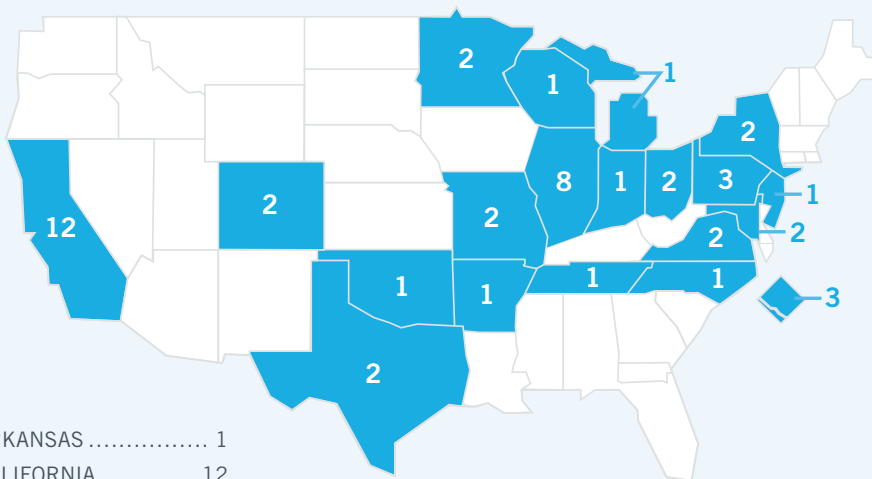
AFRICAN AMERICAN OR BLACK ..... 26%  
 AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE ..... 2%  
 ASIAN OR ASIAN AMERICAN ..... 26%  
 HISPANIC/LATINX OR SPANISH ORIGIN ..... 16%  
 MIDDLE EASTERN OR NORTH AFRICAN ..... 2%  
 WHITE ..... 18%  
 MULTIRACIAL ..... 10%



56% FEMALE 38% MALE 4% NON-BINARY 2% PREFER NOT TO DESIGNATE

### GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

19 STATES + DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



ARKANSAS .....	1	MINNESOTA .....	2	OKLAHOMA .....	1
CALIFORNIA .....	12	MISSOURI .....	2	PENNSYLVANIA .....	3
COLORADO .....	2	NEW JERSEY.....	1	TENNESSEE .....	1
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA .....	3	NEW YORK .....	2	TEXAS .....	2
ILLINOIS.....	8	NORTH CAROLINA .....	1	VIRGINIA .....	2
INDIANA .....	1	OHIO .....	2	WISCONSIN .....	1
MARYLAND.....	2				
MICHIGAN.....	1				

**\$24,700**  
 MEDIAN FAMILY ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME

OUR SCHOLARS INCLUDE PUBLISHED AUTHORS, WINNERS OF INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE PROJECT COMPETITIONS, AND DEBATE CHAMPIONS TO NAME A FEW OF THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. THEY ARE ALREADY TAKING ACCELERATED COURSES IN STEM, HUMANITIES, AND LANGUAGES, GRADE LEVELS ABOVE THEIR PEERS.

*This data on our 50 Young Scholars is compiled from their applications, which they submit in the spring before enrolling in eighth grade.*