



**VALLEY**  
**SCHOLARS**  
*SUMMER 2020*

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2020!!!

While the last few months have not gone the way we all imagined it would, nothing can change how proud we are of the class of 2020! They have put in the time and effort to earn good grades and challenged themselves with advanced curriculums. It has been our pleasure to watch each scholar grow over the course of their Valley Scholars experience and we cannot wait to see the amazing things they will do in the future. Here are the accomplishments of the Class of 2020!



- Class of 2020 graduates plan to attend James Madison University, Virginia Tech, University of Virginia, Radford University, Blue Ridge Community College, and Lord Fairfax Community College
- The graduating cohort has earned over \$400,000 in scholarships from outside sources and other universities. These scholarships include the Harry F. Byrd Leadership Award, SOAR scholarships, and several local community scholarships.
- The Class of 2020 completed 187 Advanced Placement (AP) , dual enrollment, and Governor's school classes, resulting in over 300 college credit hours.
- Six students graduated from the Shenandoah Valley Governor's School in Fishersville and Massanutten Regional Governor's School.

# SHOWCASE 2020

We were absolutely blown away by the quality of the showcase assignments this spring. While we are disappointed that we were unable to have our showcase in April, we plan to have a Showcase in September. In the meantime, stay tuned to the Valley Scholars Facebook page for our new Showcase in the Spotlight series!



## Extracurricular participation

### Juan Resendiz-Perez

East Rockingham High School



**Introduction**

Participating in an Extracurricular Activity(ECA) means to do something outside of school and they are voluntary. In this research, I want to analyze if there could be a way to persuade high school students to participate in an ECA. I also want them to know that participating in an ECA can lead to many benefits through their life in school and beyond.

**Composed Solutions**

There are many ways to convince a student to participate in an ECA, but sometimes aren't effective. If students learn about the benefits of participating in an ECA and how it will affect them in the future, then they will most likely be convinced to participate in an ECA. According to my research, participating in an ECA can benefit not only the students' GPA, but also how they perform at school and as an individual/outside of school. ECA benefits the students by strengthening them academically. Some studies say that students participating in ECA did better academically than students who did not participate. A student's future can be determined by the things they do after school. ECA can also help the student by being more communicative with their teammates, coaches, and other players. Students should participate in an ECA not only to improve their skills, but to have fun.

**Personal Involvement**

With my personal encounters, I have realized that participating in an ECA not only helped me socially, but also helped me in school. Since being included in an ECA means to have a good GPA, I had to force myself to do good in school.

Not having students participate in an ECA can affect not only the student, but the sports or clubs. My high school soccer team needed more students to join the team so there could be a JV team, but unfortunately, there was not enough students to make 2 teams which negatively impacted us. If we get more students to participate, then it will greatly benefit the soccer team. It is all to the students that will affect the sports or clubs. People just saying "you should do this" isn't an effective, but if you say how it will benefit them in academically and in the future, the chances of participating will increase.

**Work Cited**

1. "Extracurricular Activities." *Studydrive*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Oct. 2019. <https://www.studydrive.net/extracurricular-activities>

2. "Extracurricular Activities." *Studydrive*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Oct. 2019. <https://www.studydrive.net/extracurricular-activities>

3. "Extracurricular Activities." *Studydrive*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Oct. 2019. <https://www.studydrive.net/extracurricular-activities>

4. "Extracurricular Activities." *Studydrive*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Oct. 2019. <https://www.studydrive.net/extracurricular-activities>

**Background**

There are many ECA to choose from. There are athletics, to academics, to arts and many more. Each one focuses in something that can benefit your health. It can benefit you mentally, physically, emotionally, and socially. These properties are very vital for students to hone for their future-self. Students can also inherit skills they never thought they would have.

**Additional Information**

The graph below explains the participation rates for each activity type by various student attributes.

Activity Type	Gender	Grade	Participation Rate
Sports	Male	9	0.15
	Female	9	0.10
	Male	10	0.20
	Female	10	0.15
Clubs	Male	9	0.05
	Female	9	0.08
	Male	10	0.12
	Female	10	0.10
Academics	Male	9	0.02
	Female	9	0.03
	Male	10	0.04
	Female	10	0.05
Arts	Male	9	0.01
	Female	9	0.02
	Male	10	0.03
	Female	10	0.04



# NOW INTRODUCING...

We are pleased to welcome the seventh cohort of the Valley Scholars program, the class of 2025. After an adapted application process due to COVID-19, we are excited to welcome 45 new students into the Valley Scholars family. We cannot wait to see all of their wonderful accomplishments!

# GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL

Governor's schools strive to meet the needs of gifted and highly motivated students. Congratulations to our 10 scholars on acceptance to the Governor's schools for the 2020-2021 school year. A total of 21 scholars from the Valley Scholars program have been accepted into the Governor's Schools.





## SWITCHING GEARS

Throughout the transition to virtual programming our scholars have shown their resilience and determination. Since schools closed March 13th, 168 students participated in eight online workshops, which included: transition to college, healthy relationships, SAT preparation, and selected TED Talks. Academic coaches and mentors continued holding weekly meetings via Zoom and Webex in order to further connect with students from a distance. Even when circumstances prevent us from physically being together, Valley Scholars continues to foster a strong sense of community across all cohorts.

## OUR DONORS...

A huge thank you to our donors! We are excited to announce that the Stavros Niarchos Foundation has invested in the Valley Scholars Program for the 2020-2021 school year. It is because of their generous support that we are able to continue our program in these unprecedented times. Thank you!



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