

Cottage Grove student among those selected for United States Senate Youth program

The United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) announces that high school students McKenna J Lynn Raade and Nabikshya Rayamajhi will join Senator Ron Wyden and Senator Jeff Merkley in representing Oregon during the 59th annual USSYP Washington Week, to be held March 14-17.

Raade of Cottage Grove and Rayamajhi of Eugene were selected from among the state's top student leaders to be part of the 104 national student delegation who will each also receive a \$10,000 college scholarship for undergraduate study.

Due to the pandemic, the 2021 program will break ground as the first-ever fully virtual Washington

Week, and is designed to be a highly interactive and exciting education and leadership forum for the nation's most outstanding student leaders.

The USSYP was created by Senate Resolution 324 in 1962 and has been sponsored by the Senate and fully funded by The Hearst Foundations since inception. Originally proposed by Senators Kuchel, Mansfield, Dirksen and Humphrey, the Senate leadership of the day, the impetus for the program as stated in Senate testimony is "to increase young Americans' understanding of the interrelationships of the three branches of government, learn the caliber and responsibilities of federally elected and appointed



COURTESY PHOTO

Cottage Grove High School senior McKenna Raade

officials, and emphasize the vital importance of democratic decision making not only for America but for people around the world."

Each year this extremely competitive merit-based program brings the most outstanding high school students — two from each state, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity — to Washington, D.C. for an intensive week-long study of the federal government and the people who lead it.

However, this year, the program will be held online.

The overall mission of the program is to help instill within each class of USSYP student delegates more profound knowledge of the American political process and a lifelong commitment to public service. In addition to the program week, The Hearst Foundations

provide each student with a \$10,000 undergraduate college scholarship with encouragement to continue coursework in government, history and public affairs.

All expenses for Washington Week are also provided by The Hearst Foundations; as stipulated in S.Res.324, no government funds are utilized.

Raade, a senior at Cottage Grove High School, serves as vice president of the Student Body and co-chair of the Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council.

On the state level, she is an active member of the Capital Ambassadors program and an advisor on the All Students Belong implementation committee for the Oregon Department of Education, developing an equity playbook for school districts around the state.

She has served on the Rotary District 5110 Interact

Board for two years.

Along with being president of her school's Interact club, she also serves as an officer for Key Club, Future Business Leaders of America, Spanish Club, Link Crew, and as captain of both the varsity swim team and water polo team.

Raade wants to further her education by studying a range of social sciences. After college, she wants to pursue a career in education or human rights law and policy.

Delegates and alternates are selected by the state departments of education nationwide and the District of Columbia and Department of Defense Education Activity, after nomination by teachers and principals.

The chief state school officer for each jurisdiction confirms the final selection. This year's Oregon delegates and alternates were designated by Mr. Colt Gill, Deputy Superintendent/Agency Director.

During the program week, the student delegates will attend online meetings and briefings with senators, the president, a justice of the Supreme Court, leaders of cabinet agencies and senior members of the national media, among others.

In addition to outstanding leadership abilities and a strong commitment to volunteer work, the student delegates rank academically in the top one percent of their states among high school juniors and seniors.

Now more than 5,800 strong, alumni of the program continue to excel and develop impressive qualities that are often directed toward public service.

Among the many distinguished alumni are: Sena-

tor Susan Collins, the first alumnus to be elected U.S. senator; Secretary of Transportation and former Mayor of South Bend Indiana, Pete Buttigieg; former Senator Cory Gardner, the second alumnus to be elected U.S. senator and the first to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives; former New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, the first alumnus to be elected governor; former Chief Judge Robert Henry, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit former Ambassador to West Germany Richard Burt, former presidential advisors Thomas "Mack" McLarty and Karl Rove. Additional notables include former Lt. Governor of Idaho David Leroy, Provost of Wake Forest University Rogan Kersh, military officers, members of state legislatures, Foreign Service officers, top congressional staff, healthcare providers and other university educators.

Members of the U.S. Senate Youth Program 2021 annual Senate Advisory Committee are: Senator Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin, Democratic Co-Chair; Senator James Lankford of Oklahoma, Republican Co-Chair; Advisory Members: Senator Thomas R. Carper (D-DE); Senator Christopher S. Murphy (D-CT); Senator Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ); Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR); Senator Richard Burr (R-NC); Senator Kevin Cramer (R-ND); Senator Mike Lee (R-UT) and Senator Roger F. Wicker (R-MS). Each year, the Honorary Co-Chairs of the program are the vice president of the United States and the Senate majority and minority leaders.

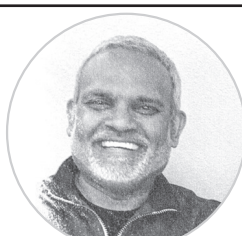
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South Lane Mental Health "Alas"



South Lane Mental Health, located in Cottage Grove, Oregon, is now providing mental health services for Spanish speaking individuals. Our program, Alas, serves children and adults, individuals, couples, and families. Our services include case management, group therapy, individual therapy and peer support services. We offer in-person services or remote services via telehealth. We can assist with your computer needs if you prefer Telehealth services. For more information and/or to make an appointment, please call 541-942-3939

South Lane Mental Health, ubicado en Cottage Grove, Oregon, ahora ofrece servicios para gente hispano-hablante. Nuestro programa, Alas, apoya a jóvenes, individuos, parejas y familias. Nuestros servicios incluyen el manejo de casos (navegación de recursos y educación comunitaria), terapia de grupo y terapia para individuos. Ofrecemos servicios en persona, por teléfono y por video. Nosotros podemos ayudar con sus necesidades de tecnología si prefiere recibir servicios por teléfono o video. Para más información o para hacer cita, por favor llame a 541-942-3939.

6-day weather forecast

FRIDAY

43° | 36°

Rain

SATURDAY

46° | 30°

Showers

SUNDAY

52° | 36°

Sunshine

MONDAY

50° | 36°

Showers

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54° | 34°

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