National Catholic Committee on Scouting®

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National Catholic Committee on Scouting Announces Scholarships

David Soberano Awarded $3,000 College Scholarship

Rociada, NM – The National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) has awarded David Soberano from Tyrone, Georgia the $3,000 Emmett J. Doerr Memorial Scout Scholarship. He belongs to Saint Matthew's Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Atlanta and is a member of Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Troop 79 in the Flint River Council. This year, NCCS awarded ten service scholarships totaling $27,000 to recognize Scouts nationwide for outstanding service and leadership in four areas: to the Catholic Church, their community, school and Scouting.

Soberano truly embodies the idea of servant leadership. When asked why volunteering is important to him, he responded, “Growing up, my parents were the embodiment of service. Volunteering became a huge part of my life, an activity I felt called to do; whenever service functions were available, I jumped on the task and even helped lead projects to give back to the community. Volunteering through the Church and through Scouting has provided me with some unforgettable memories with friends, family and others.”

In his parish, Soberano serves as an altar server, youth group leader, retreat leader and lector. He also served as both a religious education teacher and Vacation Bible School teacher. Soberano earned three of the Catholic Religious Emblems offered by NCCS and received the Catholic Youth of the Year Award from the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

Passionate about serving his community, Soberano is the founder of the Heart At Home Catholic Initiative, which served prisoners, cancer patients and people recovering from trauma. He has volunteered to feed others through numerous organizations including the Midwest Food Bank, St. Francis Table Soup Kitchen, Summer Lunch Program for underserved youth, Rise for Hunger Program and Scouting for Food. He is the co-leader of an environmental group called The Green Initiative and has also volunteered with Royal Animal Refuge.

At The Heritage School, Soberano is president of various school organizations including the National Honor Society, chess club and Mu Alpha Theta math club. He is the founder of the self-run peer tutoring program at his school and a member of Key Club, community council and

French language club. In addition to being team captain for the soccer and tennis teams, Soberano also participated in varsity cross country and intramural volleyball and basketball. He received the Star Student award for earning the highest SAT score at his school, and he is a Georgia Merit Scholar and a National Merit Commended Scholar. He was awarded the Yale Book Award for outstanding junior in citizenship and education, along with inductions into the Math, French and Computer Science Honor Societies.

In Scouting, Soberano has participated in National Youth Leadership Training and held numerous troop leadership positions, including senior patrol leader. He is a member of the Order of the Arrow (OA), BSA's honor society, served on OA staff and was chosen to be crew leader at Florida Sea Base. His Eagle Scout Project was building a storage shed for tools and other materials for the parish garden at St. Matthew's Catholic Church. The garden provides vegetables for parishioners and those in need to take home. Soberano led a team of Scouting volunteers who worked a total of about 200 hours to build the 6-by-8-foot shed. To raise the necessary funds to build the shed, Soberano solicitated donations at Masses and from family and friends to raise over $2,500 for materials. There was enough leftover money to purchase plants, gardening tools to put in the shed and make a donation to the church.

Since 2005, NCCS has awarded a total of $272,000 in scholarships to 118 Scouts nationwide. More details about scholarship eligibility requirements and a listing of this year's and past award recipients can be found at https://nccs-bsa.org/college-scholarships/.

NCCS is a Church committee of concerned Catholic laity and clergy, which is advisory to the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) and relates to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) through its Episcopal Liaison. NCCS-sponsored Catholic Scouting is the only Scouting program sanctioned by both the USCCB and BSA. There are nearly 100,000 Catholic Scouts in more than 5,000 units led by nearly 40,000 Catholic Scouting leaders across the U.S. For more information about NCCS, visit https://nccs-bsa.org/and for more information about Catholic Scouting visit https://catholicscouting.com/.