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(Neb.) - Gordon-Rushville senior wins 2012 BBB Student Integrity Award

By: John Thayer Posted at: 05/02/2012 06:52 AM

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) Foundation has announced that Emily Hackett, a senior at Aurora High School, Aurora NE and Brent Bon Fleur, a Rushville NE resident and a senior at Gordon-Rushville High School in Gordon NE have been named the 2012 Scott Mecham BBB Students of Integrity for the metro Lincoln/greater NE area. They will each receive \$2,000 scholarships. Emily will be attending the John Brown University in Siloam Springs AK. Brent will be attending the University of Nebraska in Lincoln where is will study Broadcast Journalism.

BBB Student of Integrity Awards are presented annually to six junior or senior high school students for demonstrated ethical behavior and character: two from metro Omaha/southwest Iowa, two from metro Lincoln/greater Nebraska and two from South Dakota - the geographic area served by the BBB.

"Unlike many other scholarships, grades, financial need and ethnicity are not major factors in the selection of a 'Student of Integrity.' Emily and Brent won these prestigious awards because of their personal integrity and commitment to honesty and accountability inside and outside of the classroom," said Jim Hegarty, president and chief executive officer of the BBB. "Even though the BBB is commonly known for alerting the public to current scams in the marketplace, giving business reviews and handling consumer complaints, we feel that the Student of Integrity Awards take the Better Business Bureau and its Foundation's dedication to education to an even higher level."

"We hear all too often that there is an ethics crisis among our youth. That we have to get our kids unplugged and address a better way of living. That may be true for many, but there are also some every 'bright lights' that are doing wonderful things in their schools and in their communities, and this gives me great hope for the future. In fact, for the past several years, the Better Business Bureau Foundation has annually received several hundred applications from students all over our service area," stated Hegarty.

The BBB Student of Integrity Awards were established to honor the memory of Mr. Mecham, a former BBB president and to nurture future ethical business leaders. An independent panel of judges, consisting of teachers, school administrators and guidance counselors selected the Winners. Their applications included an essay and letters of recommendation. The scholarship Winners will be formally recognized at the BBB Integrity Awards Luncheons in October and on the BBB's website at bbb.org.

About the BBB

Better Business Bureau, Inc. (BBB) has been serving the region for more than 70 years and is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting trust between consumers and the business community. Accountability, education and recognition are key components to the BBB's mission of fostering trust in the marketplace. Today, the BBB has a membership of approximately 8,000 companies in Nebraska, South Dakota and southwest Iowa. Consumers are encouraged to report complaints and possible scams to the BBB. The BBB annually honors organizations and companies that demonstrate exceptional business ethics with the prestigious Integrity Award. As a matter of policy, the BBB does not endorse any product, service or company. For more information, please visit bbb.org and “Start With Trust.”