

Two named Golden Apple Scholars

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Sun staff

The Golden Apple Foundation named Naperville Central High School student Colleen Huck and Waubonsie Valley High School student Emily Densmore two of its 125 Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois.

Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois is the largest pre-service teacher-support program in the nation. Through a rigorous application and interview process, the scholars program annually identifies, recruits and prepares talented students, who represent a rich ethnic diversity, for successful teaching careers in schools of need throughout Illinois.

In exchange for financial assistance for four years to attend one of 53 public and private universities across the state, enrollment in summer programs that include teaching internships and enhanced teacher preparation, and continual mentoring by Golden Apple Award-winning teachers, scholars must agree to teach for five years in an Illinois school of need, which is a school that serves low-income students or has below-par test scores. There are now 1,142 Golden Apple Scholars teaching or on their way to teaching in schools of need throughout Illinois.

The scholars will be inducted April 12 at DePaul University Student Center, 2250 N. Sheffield Ave. in Chicago. Reception is at 4 p.m. followed by the induction at 5 p.m.

The 125 Scholars include 45 from Chicago, 51 from Chicago suburbs, and 29 from downstate Illinois. The Scholars are 55 percent low-income and 56 percent minority.