

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Hill-Murray Sophomore Wins Coveted Rigali Barrett Scholarship

ST. PAUL, MN – September 22, 2008. Hill-Murray School, in partnership with the Barrett family, is pleased to announce that sophomore Alexander (A.J.) Gaustad of Woodbury has been awarded the 2nd annual Dolores Rigali Barrett Scholarship.

This prestigious academic scholarship was established in memory of Dolores Rigali Barrett, mother of seven children, all of whom graduated from Hill-Murray School near St. Paul. Mrs. Barrett was committed to both her Italian heritage and Catholic education, and continually emphasized the importance of studying and working hard in order to succeed. Awarded annually to a Hill-Murray student in high school grades 9-12, scholarship eligibility and decision criteria include solid academic standing; Italian heritage; and a written essay describing what the applicant's Italian heritage means to them.

A.J. Gaustad is an A-level honor roll student at Hill-Murray, and is currently enrolled in several challenging advanced placement courses in math, science, art and Spanish. His interest in and affinity for art has gained special attention – as A.J. has been selected to work on a high-profile drawing project for Hill-Murray studio arts professor Brian Sherman this Spring. A.J. remains immensely proud of his Italian heritage – and, along with his family, has continued many Italian traditions passed down over the years initiated by his late great-grandmother Mathilda Coran, who immigrated to the USA from a small town in Italy – eventually settling down with her husband in International Falls.

According to Mark Barrett, one of Dolores Rigali Barrett's seven children, "My family and I are very excited that someone of A.J.'s caliber has been selected to receive this year's scholarship – and we're pleased to be able to help support such an impressive young student." Added Daniel Barrett, Dolores' husband of 44 years, "A.J. is such a worthy recipient of this award, and definitely the type of person Dolores would've loved given his dedication to both his education and family heritage. We all wish him the best of luck as he continues to pursue his goals and succeed at Hill-Murray."

For additional information:

- Dolores Rigali Barrett Scholarship: www.RigaliBarrett.com
- Hill-Murray School: www.Hill-Murray.org