



For Immediate Release

June 18, 2018

CCHS Foundation:

LynnErin Tyler, President: lynnlerin@cchsfoundation.org

CCHS Advancement Office:

Sally McArdle: ssmcardle@charlottecatholic.com

Carolyn Tillman: cktillman@charlottecatholic.com

Charlotte Catholic High School Foundation Announces 2018 Winner of the Kara Kloiber Make a Difference Award

[MeKayla Rose Gough Honored at Senior Awards Ceremony](#)

Charlotte, NC – The Charlotte Catholic High School Foundation is pleased to announce the 2018 winner of the Kara Kloiber Make a Difference Award, MeKayla Rose Gough. The \$5,000 scholarship award, generously funded by the Kloiber Family and the CCHS Foundation, was presented by last year's winner, Alexis Pean '17, during the CCHS Senior Awards Ceremony held on May 30th at St. Matthew Catholic Church.

Kara Kloiber graduated from CCHS in 1993. She was exceptionally proud of her Charlotte Catholic education, and she loved the time she shared at CCHS. The Kloiber family, whose time at CCHS spans generations, wished to honor her

memory by creating an annual award for a CCHS senior who embodies Kara's spirit of always making a difference, no matter how small.

The Kara Kloiber Award honors Kara's love for CCHS by recognizing the student who consistently makes a difference in the school and community. It is awarded to a graduating senior who has exemplified and contributed to Charlotte Catholic's spirit of community, inclusiveness, charity, and service. Like Kara, this student is one who seeks to include others, who has empathy for fellow students, who has a compassionate heart, and who leaves a positive legacy of optimism. Academics and leadership are considered, but a heart for service, a sense of justice, and a love for others are most important. Also significant is the ability to see others as unique individuals who all have a place in our community.

Members of the senior class and members of the CCHS faculty and staff may nominate any senior for the award. A selection committee selects the winner.

In addition to the award presentation by Alexis, Mrs. Diane Kloiber, Kara's mother, attended the ceremony and presented MeKayla with a copy of Kara's favorite book, "Falling Up" by Shel Silverstein.

During her four years at CCHS, MeKayla served on two Kairos retreats, once as a group leader and once as a coordinator, and participated in two mission trips through Campus Ministry. She was involved in the CCHS Theater Department throughout her time at CCHS, starting in her freshman year. As President of the Drama Club, MeKayla made it a point to welcome everyone into the club and to make each theater ensemble feel like a family. She volunteered for four years with Bible Discovery, where she acted out various Bible stories to make them relatable to children. She was a buddy to Special Olympics athletes at Camp SOAR. Her friendly, positive, respectful demeanor and her joyfulness permeated the Charlotte Catholic hallways, which called to mind Kara's contagious smile and care for others during her time at CCHS.

MeKayla will attend the University of Georgia in the fall, and plans to study international marketing.

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Carolyn Tillman
Assistant Director, Advancement Office
Charlotte Catholic High School
704.716.2405 direct
ckillman@charlottecatholic.com



Alexis Pean '17, the inaugural winner of the Kara Kloiber Make a Difference Award, with McKayla Gough '18, this year's winner.



From left: Alexis Pean '17, Tom Gough, McKayla Gough '18, Deb Belle Gough '85, and CCHS principal Kurt Telford