

February 13, 2015 – Lee Student a Candidate for U.S. Presidential Scholars Program

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Lee Student a Candidate for U.S. Presidential Scholars Program

(STAUNTON, VA – February 13, 2015) Robert E. Lee High School senior, Elizabeth Cady van Assendelft has been selected as a candidate for the United States Presidential Scholars Program. Miss van Assendelft is the daughter of Dirk and Laura van Assendelft of Staunton.

The United States Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964 by Executive Order of the President to recognize and honor some of our nation's most distinguished graduating seniors. The majority of scholars are selected on the basis of broad academic achievement, although the program was expanded in 1974 to include students who demonstrate exceptional scholarship and talent in the visual, creative and performing arts.

Each year, over 3,900 candidates are identified for the academic component of the program, based on having scored exceptionally well on the SAT or the ACT. For the arts component of the program, approximately 60 students are nominated by the National YoungArts Foundation.

Miss van Assendelft must complete a detailed application packet to be eligible for the competition. From the pool of eligible candidates, approximately 560 will be named as semifinalists and their applications will be forwarded to the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars for further review in April. The Commission will select up to 121 Academic Scholars and up to 20 Arts Scholars who will be honored for their accomplishments during a National Recognition Program held in Washington, D.C. in June.



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