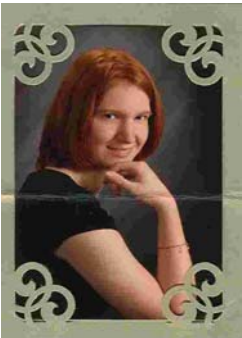


## Meet the 2006 OPWA Scholarship Winners



***Felicia Dominguez***, winner of the \$5,000 OPWA Scholarship in honor of Toshiyuki Horie is a 2005 graduate of Mary D. Bradford High School in Kenosha, WI. As a sophomore at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Felicia will be pursuing her passion for theater as an educator. Felicia sets her academic standards high, maintaining an honor roll status and a place in the National Honor Society throughout high school, and continues to prove this with two semesters of Dean's List ranking. Felicia believes in living life to it's fullest and supports this motto with her challenging schedule. Apart from classes, Felicia enjoys her three jobs, participating in numerous aspects of theater, fundraising for charities, volunteering as a mentor at church and summer school programs, and being a daughter, sister, teacher, and friend. Felicia thanks OPWA and her father, Ed Dominguez, employed by General Binding Corporation in Pleasant Prairie, WI, for this wonderful opportunity.

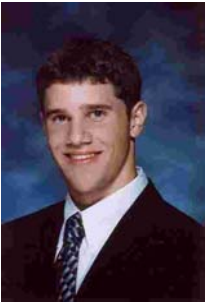
***Allen L. Gascon***, winner of the \$2,500 OPWA Scholarship in memory of David Anderson. Picture and Biography not available.



***Heidi H. Schmidt*** graduated from Gilbertsville - Mt. Upton Central School in Gilbertsville, NY in June of 2006 first in her class. During her high school career she pursued a challenging academic schedule including advanced sequences in mathematics, science and Spanish as well as Advanced Placement in Literature and US Government and Politics and college level Calculus I and II. Heidi was selected from 1.3 million applicants as a National Merit Scholarship winner. She looks forward to continuing her education at Middlebury College in Vermont this fall. Heidi is a member of the National Honor Society. Extracurricular activities included participation in school musicals, concert band and choir, jazz band Mock Trial team, ski club, Student Council, class secretary and Spanish club.

Heidi is an accomplished musician studying piano, clarinet, organ, voice and flute. She has performed with the Catskill Valley Wind Ensemble, All-County band and chorus, Area All-State orchestra and choirs and at Signature Music Camp. She is also an organist for a local church every Sunday.

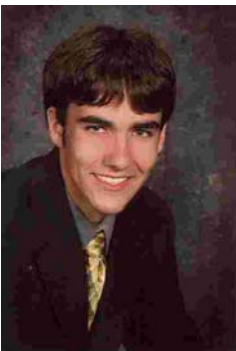
Heidi is an active member of her church and community. She is a member of the youth group and was a delegate to the 2004 Presbyterian Youth Triennium. A longtime member of 4-H, dance lessons, Relay for Life, CROP Walks, Red Cross blood drives and 4-H teen leadership highlight added to Heidi's involvement.



**Peter D. Geist** is a 2006 graduate of Allentown Central Catholic High School in Pennsylvania. While attending Central Catholic, he was a member of the National Honor Society, played football as a defensive end and was the catcher for the baseball team all four years. He was selected as the school's Defensive Player of the Year and Football and Baseball Scholar Athlete. He received several All Conference and All Area awards in both sports and was selected to play in the McDonald's All Star Football Classic in June 2006 with All Stars from 30 other schools. His Red All Star Team won the game.

He also had roles in two Broadway productions in high school and was active in several other clubs, volunteered at a shelter to feed the homeless and poor and also volunteered for Turning Point, an organization that helps to reduce domestic violence and was involved in their program to educate teens on the problems associated with dating violence. He also was a paper carrier for six years prior to college.

In August 2006, he will begin his college career at Penn State University at University Park to pursue a degree in Material Science Engineering and is honored to receive this OPWA scholarship to help him fund his education.



**Robin Lafayette** is the salutatorian of the Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Central School Class of 2006. While at GMU, he has pursued advanced studies in many academic quarters, including mathematics, history and politics, and the sciences. Outside of the classroom, Robin is a member of his school's varsity soccer and track teams, treasurer of Student Council, and president of the school's chapter of the National Honor Society. He is also an avid skier and USSF-Certified Soccer Referee. He was a semifinalist in the National Merit Scholarship Competition and attended the HOBY Leadership Conference for New York State East in 2004. Robin will attend Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY this fall, where he plans to study the engineering sciences.



**Sarah McFee** will begin her junior year at the University of Utah, majoring in meteorology. She has been on the Dean's list for 4 semesters, and is a member of the Division 1 track team, competing in the triple jump in both the indoor and outdoor seasons. In 2005 and 2006, she earned the Mountain West Conference Scholar Athlete Award and the Andrew Bogut Memorial scholarship given to 4 student-athletes who are science majors. She is on the leadership team for Campus Crusade for Christ and teaches 1st grade each week in the children's church program at her church. She traveled to Guatemala for 2 weeks with Athletes in Action on a summer mission's trip last summer, working with the Guatemalan track athletes. She also worked as an assistant for the Broome Community College-College for Kids Program.



My name is **Lori Jane Pedersen**. I was born in Racine, WI on November 21, 1987. I was confirmed at Gethsemane Lutheran Church and since then I have been teaching Sunday School to first and second graders. I helped teach Spanish for two years through Summer School. I am a crew leader for my church's summer day program Splash'n Dash and have been for the past two years. I was a teacher's assistant for the past three years of high school. I am a member of the National Honor Society and Key Club, which allowed me to volunteer for Special Olympics, festival of Trees, Channel 10 Auction, and many other city-wide activities. I grew up at my family-owned office supply store, Easterday's and have worked there everyday after school throughout high school. I've enjoyed working and volunteering while taking challenging courses in high school. I've found making good use of my time to be very rewarding, especially helping others. I graduated from J.I. Case High School in June 2006 and I will continue my education at the University of Minnesota -Twin Cities, majoring in nursing.



**Elizabeth Willy**

- born in Conroe, TX
- Springboro High School, Springboro, OH
- University of Cincinnati
  - Major: Health Promotion & Education
  - \* Athletic Training program (5years)
- National Honor Society, Panther kick-off mentor, Varsity Softball, Air Force JROTC, Principal's List