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OSU Student Jax Richards Named a Truman Scholarship Finalist

Friday, February 18, 2022—Today, the Harry S. Truman Foundation’s Finalist Selection Committee selected 189 students from 126 institutions to interview virtually with the Foundation’s Regional Review Panels between March 1st and April 4th. The 2022 competition elicited 705 applications from 275 institutions. Read the full list of finalists [here](#). The 2022 Truman Scholars will be announced by April 15, 2022

Jax Richards (He/Him) of Beaverton OR is a third-year Honors student quadruple majoring in economics, public policy, political science, and communications. In his first year at OSU, Jax started a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides a platform for youth to advocate higher quality youth services, and he has since been a volunteer leader in numerous organizations. As a result, Jax has found himself pushing for more equitable and accessible youth services everywhere from Corvallis, Oregon, to the 2021 United Nations Climate Conference in Glasgow. Additionally, he’s served as a legislative aide in the Oregon Senate and now functions as an intern in the U.S. House of Representatives. Jax works as an Honors College ambassador and serves as the Student Trustee on the Oregon State University Board of Trustees. With the Truman Scholarship, he ultimately wants to pursue concurrent master’s programs in Public Administration and Social Work in order to address the public policy gap within social service.

Truman Scholars demonstrate outstanding leadership potential, a commitment to a career in government or the nonprofit sector, and academic excellence. Each Truman Scholar receives funding for graduate studies, leadership training, career counseling, and special internship and fellowship opportunities within the federal government.

Established by Congress in 1975 as the living memorial to President Harry S. Truman and national monument to public service, the Truman Scholarship carries the legacy of the 33rd President by supporting and inspiring the next generation of public service leaders. President Truman embodied this commitment to the future of public service by asking Congress to create a living memorial devoted to this purpose, rather than a traditional brick-and-mortar monument. For more than forty years, the Truman Foundation has fulfilled that mission: inspiring and supporting Americans from diverse backgrounds to public service.

Jax Richards will interview for the Truman scholarship on March 7th. In addition to being named a Truman Scholarship finalist, Jax has also been admitted to the Public Policy and International Affairs (PPIA) Junior Summer Institute at the Evans School of Public Policy and Governance at the University of Washington. This is a rigorous seven-week summer program with a curriculum that includes economics, quantitative methods, policy analysis implementation & evaluation, and leadership & community engagement – all designed to sharpen students’ quantitative, analytic, and leadership skills.

Truman scholarship nominations are administered at Oregon State University through LeAnn Adam, Director of National and Global Scholarships Advising and OSU Truman campus representative. For more information about applying for the Truman Scholarship or other national and international scholarships and fellowships, please contact LeAnn at leann.adam@oregonstate.edu and visit: <http://topscholars.oregonstate.edu>



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