



TOMMY G. THOMPSON
CENTER ON PUBLIC LEADERSHIP
UNIVERSITIES OF WISCONSIN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Thompson Center Announces Student Leadership Scholarships

MADISON— The Tommy G. [Thompson Center on Public Leadership](#) is pleased to announce that it has awarded Tommy G. Thompson Leadership Scholarships in the amount of \$3,000 each to 13 students across the University of Wisconsin System. These students exemplify Tommy Thompson’s spirit of tackling big problems through teamwork and determination to make Wisconsin a better place. Each of the recipients displayed dedication, inventiveness, and leadership. These young leaders, with diverse interests and goals, will go on to make an impact in each of their communities.

2025-2026 Scholarship Recipients

Samuel Stumo

Neuroscience; Psychology
UW-Eau Claire

Melissa Berrocal Barboza

Management
UW-Green Bay

Nainil Mukesh

Accountancy & Marketing
UW-La Crosse

Tony Jing

Political Science; International
Studies; History
UW-Madison

Ava Kahut

Film; Video
UW-Milwaukee

Aryana McElwee

Elementary Education
UW-Oshkosh

Abbigail Steiner

Applied Health Sciences
UW-Parkside

Kaitlyn Greenwood

Biology; Forensic Investigation
UW-Platteville

Nolan Lacrosse

Engineering
UW-River Falls

Ivan Veenendall

Engineering Technology
UW-River Falls

Marzia Azimi

Business Administration;
International Business
UW-Stevens Point

Tiana Peterson

Construction Management
UW-Stout

Rocco Paulson

Elementary Education
UW-Superior

“The mission of the Tommy G. Thompson Center on Public Leadership is the facilitation of research, teaching, outreach, and needed policy reforms regarding effective public leadership that improves the practice of American government. The Center shall endeavor to carry out its mission throughout all the universities of the system.”
