

Q&A with Sam Bevans
2024 Thomas K. Evans Memorial Scholarship winner

High School: Davenport Central High School

Secondary education plans/major: I plan to attend Iowa State University in the fall of 2024 to pursue a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering.

What inspires or excites you most about learning?

I love learning new things and discovering unique ways to solve problems. Ever since I was little, I have asked a million questions (just ask my family), but as I have grown, I have truly realized that I can find the answers to my own questions with just a little research. My curiosity and quest for knowledge keeps me busy, and I love learning about so many different subjects. There is always something new for my wandering mind to explore!

What is an accomplishment in your life that you're most proud of thus far?

I am very proud and grateful to have had such wonderful experiences in high school! I was able to attain my goal of maintaining a 4.0 GPA while still being involved in a variety of activities including multiple band ensembles, theater, National Honor Society, Mentors in Violence Prevention, and volunteering with the Young Eagles program that provides free flights to area youth. I have been very fortunate to have met so many people who have been supportive and encouraged me along the way. The teamwork, camaraderie, and friendships that I have experienced in high school will carry with me into the future as I begin my next adventure at Iowa State.

Why did you decide to apply for the Thomas K. Evans Memorial Scholarship?

As I learned about Thomas K. Evans and his accomplishments, I realized that those are the same goals that I hope to achieve in my own life. I hope to utilize my aerospace engineering education to improve the world through innovation, creativity, and determination.

How does it feel to be chosen as the recipient?

I was absolutely thrilled and humbled when I was notified! It is such an honor to have been chosen and I am thankful for the opportunities that this scholarship will provide as I eagerly embark on my next adventure at Iowa State.

Future goals and aspirations?

I can't wait to attend Iowa State University and immerse myself in all things engineering and aerospace! From their amazing CyRock Rocketry program to the incredible Maverick Mars Rover team, I am hoping to learn from all the other amazing and talented students. My goal is to graduate with a B.S. in aerospace engineering and then have the opportunity to work in the aviation industry.