



AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB®

## Press Release

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date: January 29, 2024**

**Contact: B. Hunter Munden**

**Phone: 212.696.8220**

**Email: bhm@akc.org**

### **THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE JUNIOR VERSATILITY SCHOLARSHIPS**

**New York, NY-** The American Kennel Club (AKC®), a not-for-profit organization, the world's largest purebred dog registry and leading advocate for dogs, is pleased to announce the winners of the AKC Junior Versatility Scholarships. Scholarships are awarded to the top 10 Juniors who competed in a minimum of three different competitive AKC Events. The dates of eligibility were July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023.

The scholarships are offered by Carolyn and Gary Koch in memory of Pug, GCHP Hill Country's Let's Get Ready To Rumble through the AKC Humane Fund, Elizabeth Fletcher in memory of Doris A. Wall, the North Carolina Triangle Judges Education Group, and the AKC® National Junior Organization.

**First place** (\$3,000): Theodore Moore from Bethel, MN. Theodore competes in Agility, Obedience, Rally, Pointing Breed Hunt Tests, Fast Cat, Junior Showmanship, CGC and Trick Dog with his German Shorthaired Pointers

**Second Place** (\$2,500): Ava Gardner from St. Louis Park, MN. Ava competes in Agility, Fast Cat, Junior Showmanship, and Rally with her English Cocker and her Swedish Vallhund.

**Third Place** (\$2,000): Christopher Plank from Waterloo, IL. Christopher competes in Agility, Fast Cat, Scent Work, Rally, Trick Dog and Virtual Home Manners with his German Shepherd Dog.

**Fourth Place** (\$1,500): Kaylin Smith, from Ballwin, MO. Kaylin competes in Agility, Fast Cat, and Rally with her Standard Schnauzer and Border Collie.

**Fifth Place** (\$1,000): Grant Gooding, from Baldwin, WI. Grant competes in Pointing Breed Hunt Tests and Field Trials, Fast Cat, Junior Showmanship, Obedience, Rally and Trick Dog with his German Shorthaired Pointers, Irish Setter, and English Setter.

**Sixth Place** (\$750): Kirbie Allen from Tupelo, MS. Kirbie competes in Cat, Fast Cat, Junior Showmanship and Lure Coursing with her Borzoi and Whippet.

**Seventh Place** (\$500): Marilyn Dempsey, from Wylie, TX. Marilyn competes in Junior Showmanship, Agility, and Fast Cat with her Chihuahuas.

**Eighth place** (\$250): Anja Cikara-Gocke from Wellington, CO. Anja competes in Fast Cat, Junior Showmanship, Obedience, Rally, and Trick Dog primarily with her Australian Shepherds.

**Ninth Place** (\$250): Allison Chism from Reddick, FL. Allison competes in Agility, Fast Cat, Junior Showmanship, Coursing Ability Test, Virtual Home Manners, and the Agility League with German Wirehaired Pointers.

**Tenth Place**, (\$250): Sarah Ford from Stanford, KY. Sarah competes in Agility, Rally and Scent Work with her Miniature American Shepherds.

###

### **About the American Kennel Club**

Founded in 1884, the American Kennel Club is a not-for-profit organization which maintains the largest registry of purebred dogs in the world and oversees the sport of purebred dogs in the United States. The AKC is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Along with its more than 5,000 licensed and member clubs and its affiliated organizations, the AKC advocates for the purebred dog as a family companion, advances canine health and well-being, works to protect the rights of all dog owners and promotes responsible dog ownership. More than 26,000 competitions for AKC-registered purebred and mixed breed dogs are held under AKC rules and regulations each year including conformation, agility, obedience, rally, tracking, herding, lure coursing, coonhound events, hunt tests, field and earthdog tests.

Affiliate AKC organizations include the AKC Humane Fund, AKC Canine Health Foundation, AKC Reunite, the AKC Museum of the Dog, and the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank. For more information, visit [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org).

AKC, American Kennel Club, the American Kennel Club seal and design, and all associated marks and logos are trademarks, registered trademarks and service marks of The American Kennel Club, Inc.

Become a fan of the American Kennel Club on Facebook and follow us on Instagram  
@americankennelclub

