***Fauquier County Chamber of Commerce Max Tufts, Sr. Memorial Scholarship:***

 ***Erin Irvin - Fauquier High School attending Syracuse University***

*Honors and Awards:*

Top Decile Student

- Virginia DECA Merit Award Winner

- DECA State Competitor

- Selected to be a West Point Leadership and Ethics Conference Attendee

- Voted National Honor Society President

*Community and Other Activities*:

- Editor-in-Chief, The Eyrie (Yearbook Publication)

 - Oversaw production of yearbook: approved budget decisions, layouts, & spreads. Developed theme & raised $53,000 through ad & yearbook sales.

- Field Hockey - Team Captain, Fauquier High School Varsity Field Hockey Team

 - Increased speed & agility. Selected 1st team All District. Directed team through clear communication. Developed leadership skills & strong work ethic.

- Field Hockey, Hammers Field Hockey Club (Travel Team)

 - Learned attention to detail & improved decisiveness. Supported teammates on and off field.

- Volunteer, Saint James Episcopal Church/School

 - Developed a deeper understanding of what it means to serve. Served as acolyte in church services. Assisted teachers in classroom projects.

- Softball, Fauquier High School Varsity Softball Team

 - Learned to work hard toward my goals & to take criticism. Assisted team in scoring 163 runs in one season. Developed life long friendships.

- Vice President, Student Council Association

 - Selected to represent peers in student government. Led fellow officers in organizing meetings to discuss school-wide events. Raised $15,000 last year.

- Committee Member, Superintendent's Council Committee

 - Selected by faculty to assist in providing insight & recommending solutions to issues such as bullying & drug use in the county school system.

- Head Ambassador, Morgan's Message (Non-Profit Mental Health Organization)

 - Led meetings & developed communication skills. Gained awareness about student-athlete mental health. Advocated for those struggling w/ mental health.

- City Party Chair, American Legion Auxilliary Virginia Girls State

 - Selected as single representative to attend leadership conference. Developed leadership skills & worked with a diverse group of girls from Virginia.

*Employment:*

Hollin Farms Pick-Your-Own

 - 54 hours worked per month

 - Seasonal employee, employed for 3 years

*Essay Excerpt:*

 Throughout my high school career, I have gradually learned what makes me a unique, robust, and open-minded individual. These traits will take me far in a collegiate setting and allow me to flourish as a young adult who constantly seeks knowledge. As a student who has worked hard for everything they have achieved thus far, obtaining this scholarship will benefit me immensely for years to come.

 Success will always be an eternal goal of mine. However, I find comfort in knowing it is okay if I fail. Resiliency is a trait of mine that I plan to utilize in my collegiate years and throughout the rest of my life. I have learned how to pick myself up when I fall and emerge from these shortfalls stronger than before. Through receiving this scholarship, I will continue to push myself academically and strive for greatness, even if I face obstacles along the way. I plan to participate in various research opportunities and take advantage of my institution’s plethora of unique classes, and this scholarship would aid me in doing so.

 I have strong roots in the small rural town of Warrenton, Virginia. I am a third-generation student at my local high school, and nothing means more to me than being surrounded by the hills, streams, and roads that my family has called home for so many years. While these roots will always ground me, I am ready to spread my wings and find new horizons. I am eager to adapt to my new environment in Syracuse, New York, as I will forge my own path and prepare a life for myself after college by pushing myself and working hard to reach my goals. I hope to double major in Business and Environmental Studies, engaging in student research opportunities and immersing myself into the internship programs my institution has to offer. This scholarship will open many doors for me during my college career that will lead me to a bright future.