

## NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# 22 Local JMG Students Shine at Career Development Conference

NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN- Twenty-two Jobs for Michigan's Graduate (JMG) students from local schools participated in the annual JMG Career Development Conference in Lansing. The event highlights workplace skills and knowledge, such as creative problem solving, interview skills, and career preparation. Youth have the chance to demonstrate the skills they've developed over the year through the JMG program.

Joshua Woollard, a student at Central Lake High School, received the **JMG Exemplary Youth of the Year award**. This award honors one outstanding participant from each of Michigan's Prosperity Regions. Selected from among the top Youth of the Year nominees, these individuals represent excellence in leadership, commitment, and achievement.

Six other students also received **JMG Excellence in Youth Leadership Awards**. This program-level award honors active JMG participants who demonstrate outstanding commitment to the program and their educational and career goals. These students lead by example and truly embody excellence within their programs. These individuals were Megan Pickering (Boyne Falls High School), Maddy Stange (Cadillac High School), Tierney Lee (Cadillac Innovation High School), Taryn Losee (Charlevoix High School), Sean Humphrey (Northwest Education Services), and Zachary Dezeeuw (Wexford-Missaukee Career Tech Center).

Antrim ☐ Benzie ☐ Charlevoix ☐ Emmet ☐ Grand Traverse ☐ Kalkaska ☐ Leelanau ☐ Manistee ☐ Missaukee ☐ Wexford

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Networks Northwest and Northwest Michigan Works! are supported by the State of Michigan and are proud partners of the American Job Center Network. Projects may be funded with the authorized and appropriate use of federal funds. Contact Networks Northwest for additional information. Equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and service are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Individuals with speech or hearing impairments may call the Michigan Relay Center by dialing 711.

Career-based competitions provided students real-world practice for future employment opportunities while volunteer judges evaluated and offered feedback to our future leaders. The event includes inspirational speeches and student recognition that allow the young people to envision and aspire towards their future careers.

Our local JMG program is facilitated through Northwest Michigan Works! a program of Networks Northwest. The JMG program has partnerships with Northwest Education Services, Wexford-Missaukee ISD, Charlevoix-Emmet ISD, and Northwestern Michigan College.

NOTE to Media: Images are oftentimes available upon request by emailing Dana O'Dell at [dana.odell@networksnorthwest.org](mailto:dana.odell@networksnorthwest.org) and stating preferences for resolution, file format, and file size. Or phone (231) 929-5075. Check our online Media Room at [networksnorthwest.org/media](http://networksnorthwest.org/media)

Founded in 1974, Networks Northwest facilitates and manages various programs and services for the 10-county region. These programs include Northwest Michigan Works!, APEX Accelerator (formerly PTAC), various business services, and many different regional planning initiatives in response to our communities' requests and needs. You will see the broad spectrum of workforce, business, and community services Networks Northwest offers if you visit our website, [networksnorthwest.org](http://networksnorthwest.org). Networks Northwest's member counties are Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford.

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