

# Cream of the Crop



Summer 2018

Volume 6

Issue 1



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**VOLUNTEER**  
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**A CAUSE**  
**NOT FOR**  
APPLAUSE

**JOIN KEY CLUB**

**EVERYDAY IS A  
NEW CHANCE  
TO  
CHANGE  
THE  
WORLD**

**JOIN KEY CLUB**

# What is Key Club?

**Key Club** International officially defines Key Club as “an international student-led organization which provides its members with opportunities to provide service, build character and develop leadership.” However, to many members, officers, board members, and advisers, it means so much more. The mindset of going into Key Club to obtain a few service hours transforms into bonds that last for a lifetime, and a burning passion for service

Key Club easily builds student leaders by utilizing leadership opportunities that are sprinkled throughout the organization. What truly separates Key Club from other organizations are the variety of branches found within the K-Family that all focus on one thing: **the passion to serve**. While there are advisers, board members, and other leaders, each Key Clubber gets to create their own journey.

# A Note From *The Editor*

Hello Nebraska-Iowa Key Clubbers!

My name is Alex Drahos, and I am your 2018-2019 District Bulletin Editor. I am so excited to be able to serve alongside all of you here in Nebraska and Iowa!



This year, I am going to be a sophomore at Linn-Mar High School. I participate in many activities, from cross country and show choir, to Future Business Leaders of America and Student Council. However, this past year, as a freshman, I could've joined several clubs, all unique and different in their own way. Yet, Key Club stuck out to me. Whether it was the bold lettering, or the friendly faces, I decided to sign up. I went to my first meeting, with the welcoming introductions, the bright faces, and the passion to serve. As time went on, we began service projects for hospitals, dog shelters, etc., and I realized how special this organization is. No other activity can say that they are almost completely student led. No other extracurricular can say that they are in 38 countries. No other organization can say that they serve the community more than Key Club. Over this past year, I have come to realize that no other club can replace Key Club. This organization is something special, and I am excited that I have been gifted the opportunity to share this experience with all of you.

As your Bulletin Editor, I manage social media accounts, create bulletins every season, and assist the Lt. Governors in a variety of ways. It is my personal goal to make sure that every Key Clubber, no matter the position, is comfortable when working within this organization. If anyone ever needs assistance, has comments, questions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me, or anyone else on the board. Nebraska-Iowa, I am proud to work alongside all of you. Have a fantastic rest of your summer!

Yours in Service,

Alex Drahos

Nebraska-Iowa District Editor

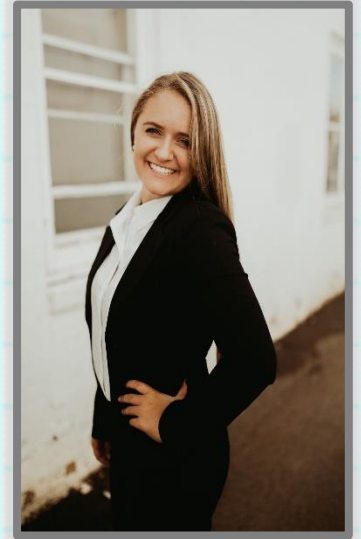




# Executive

*Tatum Vondra*

*District Governor*



## ***Hello Nebraska-Iowa Key Clubbers,***



My name is Tatum Vondra, and I am so honored and humbled to be serving as the 2018-2019 District Governor. I am a rising senior at Milford High School in Milford, Nebraska, and I look forward to growing the district this year.

I have served on the District Board as a Lieutenant Governor of Area One and as District Secretary. I enjoy working with the District Board and getting to meet people from so many places across the world.

I would like to start by welcoming you to the 2018-2019 issue of Cream of the Crop. This bulletin will contain a variety of information ranging from a District Convention Recap to information about our Service Partners. I encourage you to use all the information presented in this bulletin, as they will be very beneficial to you!

The District Board has many new ideas and plans for this year including our Fall Rally at Adventureland in Des Moines, Iowa. This event will be held on September 30th and is open to all members of Nebraska-Iowa Key Club. I would also like to invite you to this year's District Convention March 1-3rd in Nebraska.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me! I hope to see you at future club visits, Fall Rally, and District Convention. Best of luck to you and your year of service.

Yours in Service,

Tatum Vondra  
Nebraska-Iowa District Governor  
Key Club International



*Samyukta Karthik*  
*District Secretary*

*Hello Key Clubbers!*

My name is Samyukta Karthik and I am your 2018-2019 District Secretary. The sun is finally out and shining in Iowa so make sure to use it to your advantage and do some service in your community. I'm very excited for an amazing upcoming service year with all of you. As District Secretary I will be working on creating secretary resource kits, communicating and training club secretaries, working on a member recognition program, as well as collecting all club information and keeping clubs updated about the district by publishing minutes from all board meetings. My goal is to have all club officer information in by October 1. Make sure to check out our district website at [nebraskaiowaclub.com](http://nebraskaiowaclub.com) for secretary resources and the club officer information form.

I hope you guys have an amazing summer and I'm honored to be working with all these amazing student leaders. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments or concerns. Let's make this an amazing year of service for the Nebraska-Iowa district!

*Hi everyone!*

*Tina Duong*  
*District Webmaster*

My name is Tina Duong and I am the District Webmaster for 2018-2019. I'm so excited to be given the opportunity to join the board and demonstrate my skills and passion towards Key Club. As Webmaster, I will be running the Instagram and Facebook of NEIA Key Club, and regularly updating the website to ensure that the newest information is always available and easily reached! My goal is to maintain the positivity and creativity of the website and social media to its utmost potential. I hope my efforts will contribute to a successful year of Key Club! Let's have a great year together!

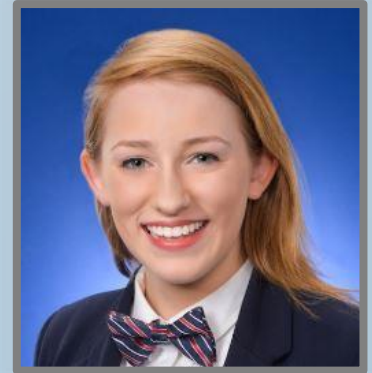
# International Update

## President Emily Rice

Hey Nebraska-Iowa! I'm Emily Rice, your International President for the 2018-2019 year. Let's jump right into it!

### Key Club Website

Speaking of the website, make sure to check it regularly throughout the summer! The website will be updated with new information, updates on the new International Board and International year, and more! Check it now for some information on summer service!



### Youth Opportunities Fund

Many clubs participated in the Halo Movement this year, but they still might need some funding for their dream projects. If that's the case, they can apply for the Youth Opportunities Fund Grant from August until October 15th. Clubs can earn between \$100-\$2000 towards their service project by submitting a detailed application on Reviewr. Applications will be reviewed in November and last year, almost \$70,000 in Youth Opportunities Scholarships were given to applicants! The YOF grant is especially awesome for clubs partnering with other organizations or individuals to fund their projects. Make sure to keep an eye out for the application opening in August.

### Kiwanis Scholarships

As for incoming seniors, some of you will be applying for college soon! Part of the college application process means finding ways to pay for your education. Luckily, Key Club and the Kiwanis Children's Fund have got you covered! Every year, the International and District Children's Fund give out multiple scholarships varying from \$500-\$2500 to Key Clubbers that display all four of the core values. Although most applications are due May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019, it's never too early to check them out! Find them on the Kiwanis website.

Speaking of planning ahead, it's time to do just that. As the Key Club year approaches its end, make sure that you are prepared for this coming year. Take this month to learn about Key Club's programs and initiatives, International business, elections, and amendments, and say goodbye to the seniors. Make sure to tie up any loose knots!

If you have questions about anything feel free to reach out to me at [emilyrice.kci@gmail.com](mailto:emilyrice.kci@gmail.com). I am excited to work with you this year!



# DCON Recap



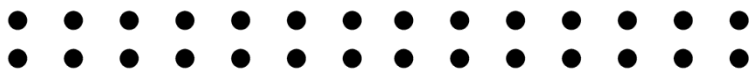
At our 59<sup>th</sup> annual District Convention, Key Clubbers from all parts of Nebraska and Iowa gathered together to celebrate service and leadership, while having a magical time.

We listened to speakers from all different parts of the K-Family. Special thanks to Sue Waldren and Jan Burchfor their wonderful stories and remarks.

The Sheraton Hotel was filled with passion and energy, and we all noticed. It was there that Key Clubbers were taught valuable things, from what the dues do, to how to secretly split a banana.

It was there that we all got loose at the governor's ball. It was there that we watched as board members were pied in the face. And lastly, it was there where we said our final goodbyes, and our new hellos.

**Thanks to everyone who attended!**





# International 2018

## Chicago Convention

At the 75<sup>th</sup> annual International Convention, Key Clubbers gathered from all parts of the world to participate in four days of service and leadership. Pins were traded, friendships began, and memories were made.

In Chicago, Nebraska-Iowa Key Clubbers had lots to do. They listened to entrancing speakers, assisted service partners/preferred charities, and got groovy during two dances.

When there was free time, Nebraska-Iowa toured the city of Chicago. They went to Millennium Park and marveled at the Cloud Gate. They traveled to Chicago 360 and Navy Pier, viewing the city from above. Fireworks were gazed at from the beaches of Lake Michigan, and the trip ended with the Skydeck at the Willis Tower.

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On top of all this, the election of the International Board took place.

The District Board is proud to announce that former Nebraska-Iowa Lt. Governor K'lana Schnack was elected as an International Trustee. Additionally, immediate past Nebraska-Iowa trustee Emily Rice has become the Key Club International President!

International Convention was a blast! Nebraska-Iowa couldn't have asked for a better time!

*We hope to see you next year in:*

***Baltimore!***

# KEY CLUB



# Fall Rally

This year, Nebraska-Iowa is trying something new. Instead of doing the separate Area Rallies, the District Board has decided to have one large rally, known as the Fall Rally.

This year, the Fall Rally is going to be held on September 30<sup>th</sup> at:



This park is split into two areas: Adventureland, an amusement park, and Adventure Bay, a water park. There are over 40 types of rides, dozens of games, and countless memories waiting to be made. More information will be coming to Nebraska-Iowa Key Clubbers soon!

We hope to see you there!

## Major Emphasis: Children: Their Future, Our Focus

Since 1925, Key Club International has provided more than 12 million hours of service to homes, schools, and communities each year. From building bridges, collecting over six tons of food, thousands of dollars raised for cancer research, to helping eliminate iodine deficiency disorder, Key Club International plays a vital role in serving the children of the world.

In 1946, the organization was challenged to build a program to bring together all Key Clubs and members to focus energies on making an international impact. This program is still followed today through the Major Emphasis: Children: Their Future, Our Focus.

To fulfill the Major Emphasis, Key Club International serves children in many ways. By working with Key Club International's partner organizations, clubs serve children by aiding other organizations committed to serving children. Key Club International celebrates its three partnerships: UNICEF, March of Dimes, and Children's Miracle Network.

The Key Club service initiative is another element of the Major Emphasis and is created on a two-year basis. All the hands-on service provided to children by Key Club International members are directed to a single area of need, to make a substantial impact.

Each year, at Nebraska-Iowa's District Convention, an award is given for an outstanding Major Emphasis Project. Projects such as:

- Dance Marathons
- Leaf Raking
- Color Runs

are examples of applicable projects/activities for the Major Emphasis award.

Any club in the district can send in an application before the District Convention. We hope to see your club's projects!

- [www.keyclub.org](http://www.keyclub.org)



# Partners



Key Club International has partnered with Nickelodeon in attempts to better children and their futures. Nickelodeon has two large programs; Worldwide Day of Play, and the Big Help Initiative.

The Worldwide Day of Play is a program that encourages children to get away from the TV or internet. Its goal is to have children spend time playing outside and exercising. Additionally, Worldwide Day of Play hosts outdoor games for children in the community. Key Clubs are encouraged to work on projects like the Worldwide Day of Play

The Big Help campaign puts kids into action to do something about issues communities face. Kids and adults work together to plan events and activities in the following areas: health & wellness, education, service, and environment.

The United States Army is another Key Club partner. The U.S. Army offers several programs to youth. One such instance is the March to Success Program.

The March to Success Program provides an online study course for students. Its goal is to prepare students for standardized tests and to improve school work and review material. Additionally, the U.S. Army offers tools for educators and parents to track their students. This program has specialized courses for STEM, college preparation, admission/financing, and more.

Through the U.S. Army's partnership with Key Club, your home club is provided access to local battalion support and resources.



Landscape Structure Inc. has been creating innovative playground equipment since 1971. The goal of Landscape Structures is to encourage inclusive play, with unique playground designs to include all children. Additionally, Landscape Structures use playgrounds to fight childhood obesity and build social skills. Moreover, they provide grants to replace broken, old, or hazardous equipment. Grants are also provided by: Lowe's, Aetna Foundation, Hasbro, and Walmart.





Key Club has teamed up with the Thirst Project to dominate the global water crisis. The Thirst Project raises money to build freshwater wells in developing countries. In addition, the Thirst Project works to educate students about the 663 million people in the world who do not have access to clean water.

Over the last 7 years, the Thirst Project has provided clean water to over 280,000 people and raised over 8 million dollars. As a Key Clubber, you can help by raising money for the Thirst Project, participating in Thirsty 30, and spreading the word through the Dirty Little Secret Campaign.



Squads Abroad provides affordable opportunities for your club to volunteer abroad and make a meaningful impact in under-resourced schools around the world.

Each trip also includes fun and engaging cultural activities that provide new perspectives. Squads Abroad's home-base model provides safe and private accommodations for Key Clubbers to enjoy healthy meals, relax after a day of service, and reflect on the experiences that have been shared.



Since 2014, Up with People and Kiwanis International members have teamed up to reach a common goal—serving our communities, inspiring youth, and expanding our impact in the world. Up with People programs open a door to service and intercultural understanding, whether it is through a local show, leadership, cultural workshops, or more.

Up with People is helping Kiwanis expand partnership to Europe and Asia. Through this, Up with People strives to serve the children of the world and empower youth to act.

## Kiwanis Gives Online

Kiwanis Gives Online is powered by Access Development, a team-friendly crowdfunding platform just for Key Club. This program specializes in helping your club achieve its fundraising goals through an online fundraising service.

Kiwanis Gives Online not only creates and manages your entire campaign(s), but provides rewards to anyone who donates.

# Cause Partners & Preferred Charities



## NATIONAL PANCAKEDAY®

National Pancake Day falls on February 27<sup>th</sup> each year. On this day, IHOP donates proceeds to the Children's Miracle Network hospitals. Key Clubbers can assist with this event by promoting National Pancake Day around the community, and by encouraging restaurant patrons to support the Children's Miracle Network hospitals.



## Children's Miracle Network Hospitals

The Children's Miracle Network provides financial support to families that must pay thousands of dollars in medical bills. Since 1983, this program has raised \$5 billion dollars to help those in need. The CMN has provided support to 170 children's hospitals, 97 corporate partners, and millions of kids. Key Club members can help by working together to sponsor fundraising events and conducting service projects at local hospitals.



Since the 1940s, Key Club has worked with March of Dimes to positively impact babies around the world. One mission of March of Dimes is to reduce premature births in America. This is known as the Prematurity campaign. Premature birth can be extremely harmful to both the baby, and the mother. Kiwanis members are continuing to serve by supporting the March of Dimes all year long by hosting service projects, raising funds, and education communities about the crisis of premature birth.



UNICEF is an organization dedicated completely towards children. Working with United Nation bodies, UNICEF helps to provide for children's' needs in more than 150 developing countries through health care, basic education, safe water, and other forms of sanitation. Key Club can collect funds for UNICEF by participating in events like Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF. You can collect donations and candy this Halloween and donate it to UNICEF to help children in need.

## Collaborative Partners



K Corps is Kiwanis International's youth exchange program for Key Clubbers. Through the program, clubs, families, and youth develop strong global relationships and intercultural communication skills by attending meetings, experiencing fellowship, raising funds for various causes, and more. It's a chance for Key Clubbers to serve others in host communities half-way across the world!



## Project Happiness

Project Happiness inspires and empowers club members to create happiness within themselves and their communities by addressing bullying at its core. Project Happiness shares exercises, discussions, games, and tools based on neuroscience, positive psychology, and mindfulness to re-wire the brain for happiness. Look through the Key Club Guide to Project Happiness to see what you can do!



# *Club Spotlight*

## **Prairie High School**

*Cedar Rapids, Iowa*



The dedicated efforts of Prairie High School's Key Club have volunteered over 3234 hours at over 72 events around the community during the 2017-2018 school year. From large groups, to individuals, Prairie's Key Club always delivers hard working students to help. Their yearlong Thirst Project helped raise over \$8964.20 this year alone to help pay for a \$12,000 well to be built in Swaziland, Africa. They were successful in raising the money through events like selling fresh fruit smoothies every Thursday morning in the fall, selling candy canes during the winter season, and finals care packages at the end of the year. They finished the year off with a successful Thirst Gala to celebrate the year and raise more money. With 136 members, 93 of which completed the 25-hour minimum requirement and attended at least 4 meetings, there is no question that Prairie High School goes above and beyond to serve.





# CONTACT

Questions, comments, or concerns? Reach out to us.

## EXECUTIVE TEAM



*Governor*

**Tatum Vondra**

nebriowagovernor@gmail.com



*Secretary*

**Samyukta Karthik**

nebriowasecretary@gmail.com



*Bulletin Editor*

**Alex Drahos**

nebriowaeditor@gmail.com



*Webmaster*

**Tina Huang**

nebriowawebmaster@gmail.com

## District Administration

*District Administrator*

**Cara Houk**

nebriowadatwo@gmail.com

*District Administrator*

**Dan Voss**

nebriowadaone@gmail.com

*Assistant District Administrator*

**Byron Tabor**

nebriowadathree@gmail.com

*International Trustee*

**Foster Hillis**

fosterhillis.kci@gmail.com

## Lieutenant Governors

*Lt. Governor of Area 1*

**Rachelle Lopez**

nebriowaltgone@gmail.com

*Lt. Governor of Area 2*

**Isabella Bialas**

nebriowaltgtwo@gmail.com

*Lt. Governor of Area 3*

**Molly Storm**

nebriowaltgthree@gmail.com

*Lt. Governor of Area 4*

**Aubree Holt**

nebriowaltgfour@gmail.com

*Lt. Governor of Area 5*

**Liliana Alfaro**

nebriowaltgfive@gmail.com

*Lt. Governor of Area 7*

**Shelby Dubishar**

nebriowaltgseven@gmail.com

*Iowa Lt. Governor At-Large*

**Kylie Egbert**

nebriowaatlga@gmail.com

*Nebraska Lt. Governor At-Large*

**Anisha Kadubandi**

nebriowaatlgne@gmail.com





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