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NEWS

Local students to attend Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp *High school juniors Engelken, Khung and Talbot sponsored by La Plata Electric*

DURANGO, Colo. – Local high school juniors Jenna Engelken, Delaney Khung and Miranda Talbot have been selected by La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) to participate in the Colorado Electric Education Institute Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp, an all-expense paid educational/leadership camp set for July 17-22, 2016 at Glen Eden Resort outside of Steamboat Springs, Colo.

Each summer, the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp brings together approximately 100 high school students selected by electric cooperatives in Colorado, Kansas and Wyoming to learn about the organization and operation of a cooperative, as well as to build leadership skills designed to assist students in meeting future challenges.

Engelken is a junior at Durango High School and a member of the National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, Varsity Tennis, DHS Band, DECA and the Mayor's Youth Advisory Commission, among other activities. She intends to pursue study in chemistry.

Applicants are required to pen an essay on leadership, and in her winning essay Engelken observed, "Leadership originates from a mental vision and an excitement in the heart. Inspired and motivated toward a mission, leaders will reach their goals regardless of the challenges or uncertainties which accompany new ideas."

A junior at Pagosa Springs High School, Delaney Khung is involved with the Future Business Leaders of America, Student Council as well as the Jazz/Concert Band, Cross Country and Track, plus is a member of the National Honor Society. She plans to focus on the sciences in her college career.

In her essay, Khung wrote, "A leader needs to know when to command, inspire, or compromise with his or her followers. Leaders need to recognize when a team needs to be pushed to a higher standard or be taught alternate methods to improve performance."

Miranda Talbot is a junior at Bayfield High School. A member of the National Honor Society, she is active in a variety of athletics, including Varsity Volleyball where she is team captain. She has also led a number of school committees, including Prom organization. Her subject of choice is math.

Using the analogy of a wolf pack in her essay, Talbot noted, “Being a leader does not mean commanding others to do what you tell them... He uses his power to lead, to take his pack and run with them. The alpha strategy is to guide and protect.”

To learn more about the opportunity to participate in the Colorado Electric Education Institute Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp, contact Jeannie Bennett, jbennett@lpea.coop or 970.382.3505, or visit www.lpea.coop.

LPEA, a Touchstone Energy Cooperative established in 1939, provides to its more than 30,000 members, with nearly 42,000 meters, safe, reliable electricity at the lowest reasonable cost, while being environmentally responsible.

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