



moments of integrity

PEYTON WILSON

We are pleased to announce our Moments of Integrity recipient for May/June 2016, Peyton Wilson. Congratulations Peyton on this honor! Peyton is currently a 16-year-old sophomore at Har-Ber High School. She is actively involved in tennis and band, and also teaches a kindergarten class at her church. However, she knew at a young age that her passion lies in helping others.

Peyton and her parents started the Wilsons3 Foundation, whose mission is to raise awareness and funds for the betterment of children's lives, specifically the abused and neglected youth in the area. Growing up in an environment focused on charity and helping others, Peyton followed in her parents footsteps and founded her own charitable organization, Peyton's Pals.

Peyton's Pal's mission is to gather her friends and the youth in the region to help make her community a better place for everyone, and they work through many outlets and many other foundations to achieve this. As Peyton herself calls it, "we are kids helping kids". Peyton's Pals has partnered with a number of different organizations across the area to raise money and help families throughout our communities.

Peyton and her Pals raised money for the Miracle League at Painting with a Twist, volunteered at the Children's House of NWA, and distributed blessing bags with the 7 Hills Homeless Shelter to 25 families in Pea Ridge. But they do not plan to stop there. Peyton's Pals is set to work with the Arkansas Watershed Alliance, and on June 5th, you can

join them at Pack Shack to prepare meals for the local area. This incredible display of compassion for others is exactly why Peyton is so deserving of this award.

Integrity Capital CEO Brandon Simmons had the pleasure of meeting Peyton, and was very impressed with her leadership, drive, empathy, and the awareness she shows in helping others. Brandon describes Integrity as being the same person when you are alone as you are when you are in front of others. It means always doing the right thing for the right reason.

Peyton had a clear understanding of Integrity and described what it is not. "Not being authentic to who you truly are. I think it's putting on a face of wanting to fit societal standards, or working towards something for the wrong reason. Staying genuine to who you truly are and being authentic to who you truly want to be, all while staying humble and keeping in mind the importance of the service you are doing, is the only way you can put all your focus on others."

Simmons went on to explain that in selecting our candidates for the Moments of Integrity award we are looking for students that have a reputation for doing the right thing and for being examples. A commitment to community service and a desire to give back factors into it. Integrity of purpose is serving something bigger than yourself and giving to others. That is why we have selected you, Peyton.

Lisa Guthrie - Kindergarten

Teacher - "From the time Peyton walked into my kindergarten classroom with her big brown eyes until now, she has possessed a great love for learning and a desire to help others. It has been a true joy seeing her grow into a beautiful young lady who is so well rounded and has great enthusiasm towards any opportunity presented to her. She amazes me with her talents as a percussionist and athlete, while excelling in the classroom. There is no doubt Peyton will continue to be a wonderful role model and a person of integrity throughout her life. Peyton is a beautiful example of being a leader, a mentor, and a learner."

Michael Fotenopoulos - Department Head/Social Studies - AP

World Teacher - "Peyton comes to class everyday ready for work and performs at a very high level in my Advanced Placement World History class. Some kids are good at jumping through the hoops so-to-speak. They act the role, but when big assignments

are due, they call in sick, are absent, or just come to the review session b/c you said so... turn in work just for the grade, etc. To many kids, everything seems to be an activity with a means to an end. Peyton is noticeably different. You can tell Peyton operates off a certain amount of faith. Peyton has humbled herself and continues to do so every day so as to be able to really learn. She is going to be a life long learner because she is a servant first and a worker right behind that. She is a champion among her peers and I would bet a teacher's paycheck she is going to positively affect many lives for the rest of her life. I had just met her earlier this fall and she found herself as a member of Har-Ber Homecoming for football. As a sophomore, she handled herself with grace and class and even a tough silliness at appropriate times. She was in the moment and wasn't waiting for pictures to be taken, people to notice her, etc. She was just cool. Her friends flocked to her and her family was proud of her. This is the kind of moment that I would assume she will get to live over and

over a bunch. She is mature, witty, humble, smart, and an overall class act. Great kid!"

Darla Lucas - Director of Religious Education -

St. Raphael's Catholic Church - "Peyton stepped in to the PreK-K teacher's assistant position for a trial period, and has continued as a volunteer catechist until present. I have observed her work in, and out, of the classroom on many occasions. I admire her ability to communicate well with children and adults on many levels and maintain her professional demeanor and self-control in challenging situations. Honesty and trust are of utmost importance to Peyton and she consistently exhibits a strong sense of good ethical behavior. There are many detailed and difficult tasks involved in conducting class with this age group. Peyton always shows attention to detail and can set goals and see plans through to completion. She has a strong desire to help children learn and an extraordinary ability to nurture and inspire. She is able to help students develop ideas and consider outcomes. Peyton has outstanding leadership skills that are required in order to hold attention and effectively teach in a classroom setting. The students she teaches show respect and hold her in highest esteem. She also understands the importance of punctuality, accountability and commitment. Her ability to adapt to changing circumstances is essential in order to lead others effectively. She always has the best interest of others at heart."