



STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.  
State Superintendent of Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 27, 2023

Contact: Communication  
334-694-4686  
[comm@alsde.edu](mailto:comm@alsde.edu)

**ALABAMA STUDENTS SELECTED FOR UNITED STATES  
SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM – ATTENDING WASHINGTON D.C.  
EVENT AND RECEIVING \$10,000 SCHOLARSHIP**

**Montgomery, Ala.** —The United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) has officially announced Alabama high school students Ella Ryan Duus and Stanley Jerome Stoutamire, Jr., will join Senator Tommy Tuberville and Senator Katie Britt in representing our state at the upcoming *61st annual USSYP Washington Week*, which is being held on March 4-11.

Students ***Ella Duus of Huntsville*** and ***Stanley Stoutamire of Calera*** were selected from among our state’s top young leaders to be part of the 104 national student delegation. Each delegate will also receive a \$10,000 college scholarship for undergraduate study.

The USSYP was created by Senate Resolution 324 in 1962 and has been sponsored by the Senate and fully funded by The Hearst Foundations since inception.

The goal of this initiative is "to increase young Americans’ understanding of the interrelationships of the three branches of government, learn the caliber and responsibilities of federally elected and appointed officials, and emphasize the vital importance of democratic decision making not only for America but for people around the world."

Each year, this highly competitive merit-based program provides outstanding high school students - two from each state - with an intensive week-long study of the federal government and the people who lead it. The primary mission of the program is to help instill within each class of USSYP delegates a more profound knowledge of the American political process and a lifelong commitment to public service.



*In addition to Washington Week, The Hearst Foundations also provide each student a \$10,000 college scholarship. They encourage every student to continue their coursework in government, history, and public affairs.*

**Ella Duus**, a senior at *New Century Technology High School*, serves as the president of the Student Government Association. She is a National Merit Semifinalist, a two-time national qualifier in Congressional debate, and a RISE Global Winner. She is also the co-founder of *Datakata LLC*, a machine learning startup that has contracted with NASA, and has won first place in the 2022 Alabama Economics Challenge.

–more –

- Alabama State Board of Education
- Governor Kay Ivey  
President
- Jackie Zaigler  
District I
- Tracie West  
District II  
President Pro Tem
- Stephanie Ball  
District III
- Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.  
District IV
- Tony S. Chestnut, Ed.D.  
District V
- Marie Manning  
District VI
- Balinda McRae  
District VII
- Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.  
District VIII  
Vice President
- Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.  
Secretary and Executive Officer

*UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM 2023 - Alabama Delegate Announcement*

Additionally, Ella is the Speech and Debate captain, Model United Nations founder and head delegate, and Academic Team captain for her school. Ella served as the Federalist chair at Alabama Girls State. She plans to enroll in a Bachelor's and Master's program in public policy and computer science. Upon graduation from college, she intends to seek hands-on experience in the technology industry before entering a public service career field.



**Stanley Stoutamire, Jr.**, a senior at *John Carroll Catholic High School*, serves as the Student Government Association treasurer, a student ambassador, a 2022 Alabama 4-H state ambassador, and a 2022 Alabama delegate to 4-H Citizenship Washington Focus. He also serves as the drum major of the Marching Cavaliers and treasurer of his school's Eco Club. During the summer of 2020, he began an annual community food drive to support his local food bank.

He is a member of the National Honor Society, a National Merit Commended Scholar, and an Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction. Stanley plans to attend college to

pursue a degree in the medical field. His ultimate goal is to bridge communication barriers between healthcare providers and the government.

Also, selected as *alternates for 2023 are Alabama students **Noah Michael Sanderson**, who attends *Colbert Heights High School* and **Anna Elizabeth Wingate** of *Eufaula High School*.*

Student delegates and alternates are selected by state departments of education nationwide, after nomination by teachers and principals.

The chief state school officer for each jurisdiction confirms the final selection. This year's Alabama delegates and alternates were designated by Eric G. Mackey, State Superintendent of Education. During the program week, the student delegates will attend meetings and briefings with senators, the president, a justice of the Supreme Court, and leaders of cabinet agencies, among others.

In addition to outstanding leadership abilities and a strong commitment to volunteer work, the student delegates rank academically in the top one percent of their states among high school juniors and seniors.

Now more than 6,000 strong, alumni of the program continue to excel and develop impressive qualities that are often directed toward public service. For more information please visit: [www.ussenateyouth.org](http://www.ussenateyouth.org)

Questions about our state's delegates, alternates, or state selection process can also be obtained by contacting State Coordinator, Dr. Carolyn A. Jones at [cajones@alsde.edu](mailto:cajones@alsde.edu)

###