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## NEWS RELEASE

2017 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

### Seton Catholic Class of 2018 Earns \$8.9 Million in Scholarships *Sentinels Ready 'To Make the World a Better Place'*



*Bridget Hodges (photo courtesy of Lamar Studios)*

CHANDLER, Ariz., May 9, 2018 —Commencement of the Seton Catholic Preparatory class of 2018 will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 15, at the Mesa Center for the Arts.

Of 127 graduates in the class, 68 percent have received at least one scholarship—totaling \$8.9 million over four years— to state and private colleges and universities. A partial list of universities and colleges offering one or more scholarships to graduating Sentinels includes Barrett, the Honors College at Arizona State University; Loyola Marymount University; Gonzaga University; Lake Forest College; University of Rochester; Creighton University; Purdue University; Vanderbilt University; Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; the California Institute for the Performing Arts; and Fordham University.



*Archie Spindler (photo courtesy of Lamar Studios)*

This year marks the first Seton commencement for Principal Victor Serna, who relocated to Chandler from California in July to head the school.

“We are incredibly proud of the Seton class of 2018,” he said. “Our graduates appreciate the opportunities that have been presented to them and will do their utmost to make the world a better place.”

Seton valedictorian Bridget Hodges and salutatorian Archie Spindler will address their fellow graduates; Danielle Manella was selected to deliver the class prayer.

Hodges, who was offered scholarships by several colleges and universities, will attend Texas Christian University in Fort Worth on a four-year scholarship totaling more than \$187,000. A Gilbert resident, Hodges made the honor roll every semester while at Seton and was a College Board A.P. Scholar and National Merit Scholar.

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### Seton Grads Earn \$8.9 Million in Scholarships to Multiple Institutions – Add One

She was a member of the varsity swim team and is active in the Spirit of Queen Creek 4H, teaching horseback riding for the club.

Spindler, a Chandler resident, has won eight state swimming championships and will pursue his athletic career at Pomona College in Claremont, Calif. The USA All-American swimmer this season led Seton to its first state championship in Swim and Dive. Spindler also made the Seton honor roll every semester and was a student leader of The House of St. Cecilia, one of 15 Houses under Seton's House system.



*Danielle Manella (photo courtesy of Lamar Studios)*

Manella, also of Chandler, will attend Creighton University in Omaha on a \$21,000 academic scholarship, plus \$1,000 from Creighton's Fr. Joseph Award scholarship program. Manella has received numerous Seton academic department awards and was a College Board A.P. Scholar. In April, she was one of 22 young women in metro Phoenix to receive the Girl Scouts of America Gold Award, the highest honor in girl scouting.

#### **About Seton Catholic Preparatory**

A 2017 National Blue Ribbon School, Seton Catholic Preparatory is a diocesan, coeducational high school in Chandler, Ariz., open to students of all faiths and dedicated to academic excellence, leadership and loving service to others. For more than 60 years, Seton Catholic has served the East Valley of Phoenix as the only Catholic college preparatory high school, serving young men and women from parochial, private, charter, public and home schooling backgrounds. Seton Catholic graduates earn scholarships to and attend an array of selective colleges and universities, including state, private and Ivy League schools as well as service academies. Seton Catholic is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, and the Western Catholic Education Association. [www.setoncatholic.org](http://www.setoncatholic.org).

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