



**CONTACT:** Joyce Valdez  
Communications & Marketing  
480.963.1900 x3011  
Jvaldez@setoncatholic.org

Victor Serna  
Principal  
480.963.1900 x2000  
Vserna@setoncatholic.org

## NEWS RELEASE

2017 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

### Seton Catholic Prep Senior Finalist for Character Counts Award

#### *Garrett Elkins Excels On and Off the Court*



CHANDLER, Ariz., Jan. 22, 2019 – Seton Catholic Prep’s Garrett Elkins is no stranger to assists – on and off the basketball court.

The Sentinel power forward is one of 10 finalists for the AZ Sports – 98.7 Character Counts Award, which includes a \$10,000 scholarship from Parker and Sons. The winner will be announced Feb. 28 during a ceremony at the Talking Stick Resort Arena.

The student athletes were nominated for their accomplishments in their sport and the classroom, as well as their

contributions to the community.

Elkins (*pictured in photo*) and his mother volunteer with the Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program (I-HELP), which provides homeless individuals with temporary lodging, meals, and case management services.

“It’s one Saturday every month at Chandler United Methodist Church,” Elkins said. “My mom and I go down there, and we help serve food and provide some of the necessities that they need.”

Laurie Elkins said her son’s presence means a lot to the program’s clients, adding, “He really makes more of a difference than I think he realizes.”

In addition to volunteering with I-HELP, Elkins taught Vacation Bible School at Chandler United and was selected for the 2018 Chandler Teen Leadership Academy, which teaches participants about the inner-workings of municipal government.

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Seton Catholic Principal Victor Serna noted, “Our mission here at Seton is to focus on academic excellence, leadership, and loving service to others. Garrett is the perfect embodiment of that mission and I am proud of him.”

Elkins is also a Seton Student Ambassador and was a student leader at the school’s Kairos religious retreat. He plans on majoring in business at DePauw University, a private university in Greencastle, Ind., where generations of his family members have attended.

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

A 2017 National Blue Ribbon School, Seton Catholic Preparatory is a diocesan, coeducational high school in Chandler, Arizona, 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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