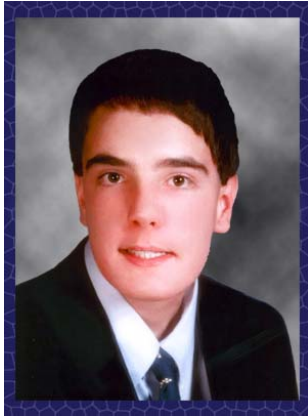




Davidson Fellow

Richard Alt, II

(\$10,000 Scholarship Recipient)



Personal Info

Richard Alt, II

Age: 17

Fredericksburg, Virginia

School, College and Career Plans

Richard is a rising senior at Stafford High School. He is still considering his college choices and plans to major in premedical studies or biomedical engineering. Richard hopes to become a biomedical engineer or physician in the fields of anesthesiology, dermatology or ophthalmology.

Davidson Fellows Submission (*Science*)

In his project, "A Comparison of Three Seasonal Snowfall Forecasting Methods for Winter 2004-05," Richard compared three weather forecasting methods for accuracy in predicting snowfall with historical climate data for his hometown and synthesized this information to create a new forecasting mechanism. Through analysis and interpretation of large-scale, upper-air and surface climatological circulation patterns, dynamics, and physics, Richard created a universal forecasting method that can be used anywhere on earth with sufficient, historical weather records. Richard's research can help meteorologists compile more accurate forecasts and help public officials prepare seasonal response plans.

Biography

Richard has been fascinated with weather since he was 6 years old and a blizzard struck his community setting new snowfall records across the East Coast. Several years later, another record-breaking snowstorm was predicted but fizzled, Richard's interest was piqued and he wanted to offer his community a new and innovative type of forecast method.

Richard's educational career has included entrance to the Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth, where he participated in a Model United Nations debate program and an instructional session on genetic engineering. He is enrolled in a public half-day magnet program through his high school where he takes a variety of Advanced Placement courses.

Beyond meteorology, Richard enjoys tennis, public speaking, competitive debate and a variety of community service activities. For the past three years Richard has maintained a weather forecasting, data, and warning service for his local community through his website.

Please see next page.

The Davidson Institute for Talent Development

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Davidson Fellow
Richard Alt, II
(Cont.)

Honors/Awards

- 2007 Davidson Fellow
- 2007 Discover Card Tribute Award State Winner
- 2007 Harvard Prize Book Award
- 2007 National Merit Commended Student
- 2007 American Legion Boys State of Virginia Best Citizen Award
- 2007 Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction
- 2007 Virginia State High School League All Commonwealth District Forensics
- Member of American Meteorological Society
- 2007 Commonwealth Governor's School Award of Excellence in Dual Enrollment, Chemistry
- 2006-2007 National Honor Society Member
- 2006 Commonwealth Governor's School Award of Excellence in Advanced Placement Biology
- 2006 Chesapeake Bay Foundation Summer Leadership and Service Academy
- 2005 Commonwealth Governor's School Award of Excellence in Honors Earth Science
- 2001-2004 The Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth Mathematics and Verbal Talent Search Award

Community Activities

Richard attended the American Legion Boys State of Virginia where he was a national finalist in the Samsung American Legion Scholarship competition, honoring the legacy of Korean War veterans through dedication and community service. He also serves as the captain of the Stafford High School Debate Team and Battle of the Brains Team.

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