



2020 Model A Youth Restoration Awards

By Bob Moore

THESE YOUTH AND OTHERS like them represent the future of the hobby. MAYRA will make awards again in 2022, but needs each chapter's help to find and work with youth who are restoring their Model A's — and by providing financial support to the program. It's good for your chapter, and it's good for the hobby.

THE MODEL A YOUTH RESTORATION AWARD (MAYRA) Board is pleased to announce the recipients for our thirteenth biennial awards. We had planned to make this announcement at the MAFCA and MARC summer events, but they were canceled.

Because of the support from our sponsors and taking into account the increasing cost of Model A parts and supplies, MAYRA's Board increased the value of the award for each recipient to \$2,500.

We are excited to have had such great support from MAFCA and MARC, Model A clubs, parts vendors, and other suppliers to the hobby. The number of supporting parts vendors has grown from six to eleven. Another very welcome surprise is that Jim Grundy of Grundy Insurance stepped forward to provide the first year of automobile insurance for each of our USA recipients. When their restoration is complete and the car is registered in the recipient's name, Grundy Insurance will provide the coverage.

The statistic of which we are most proud is that the number of recipients increased from nine in 2018 to twelve. Seven, including one girl, are new to the program. We take this as a good indicator for the hobby's future.

Matthew Goodwin, 18, lives in Prairieville, Louisiana. He is an active member of the Red Stick Model A Club and is restoring a 1930 Pickup named "Henry" in honor of both the car's former owner and, of course, Henry Ford. Matthew was a 2018 recipient, and the funds from this award should get the truck completed. Matthew's brother Conner has been helping him with the project, and they expect to have the truck on the road soon. Matthew says that Conner has also been bitten by the Model A bug.



David Sheehan, Jr., 21, lives in Southwick, Massachusetts, and is a member of the Connecticut Valley Working A's.

He received an award in 2018 for his restoration of a Tudor, which he now drives regularly. In March of this year, his grandfather gave him a 1930 Fordor that also needs restoration. Now he is focused on that car. He says, "with the help of this award, I hope to complete the Fordor and finally have the reliable touring car I have strived for."



Diezel Cook, 16, lives in Sylvania, Ohio, and is a member of the Sweet 16 A's Region. A recipient in 2018, Diezel is nearing completion of a ground-up restoration of a 1929 Pickup. Recently he submitted a picture of the newly painted body sitting on the frame. Diezel expects to have his truck completed in the near future. Diezel's grandpa taught him to drive the Model A at the local cemetery — with no one there for him to worry about hurting.



Luke Richards, 21, lives in Medway, Massachusetts, and is a member of the Blackstone Valley Model A Ford Club. Like most of the other 2018 recipients, he used every penny of the \$2,200 in gift certificates in getting his 1929 Pickup to its current condition. Luke says, "The most important thing I learned about myself is that I can work on a Model A and actually fix things." He hopes to have it completed by the summer of 2021.



Brooke Lindsay, 19, lives in Vancouver, Washington, and is a member of the Sis-Q-A's in Yreka, California. She is restoring her grandfather's 1928 Pickup. A recipient

in 2018, she began her project working with her grandfather. After his recent death, the car was moved to her home where she and her dad work on it. When asked what she learned about herself doing the restoration work, she said, "I can do anything I put my mind to" and "I can do anything a boy can do." She hopes to have her Model A finished within a year.



Benjamin Stone, 14, lives in Huntington Beach, California, and is the youngest member of the Santa Anita A's. Benjamin is restoring a 1930 Tudor with the help of his grandfather, Tom Endy. They began the project in March 2020 and have made amazing progress since COVID-19 closed his school. He and his grandfather have disassembled and rebuilt almost every part of the chassis. No doubt, Benjamin will have the car completed within the year. He says, "I am hoping that by doing this project with my friends and family, I will connect more with them and have even more interest in the Model A hobby, and driving a piece of history myself."



Ryan Spieker, 15, lives in Lincoln, Nebraska, and is restoring a 1931 Tudor. He is the youngest member of the Rocky Mountain A's in Franktown, Colorado, where his grandfather is president. The project is an opportunity for Ryan to work with his older brother, Dillon, and learn from their grandfather, who is experienced in restoring Model A's. The pictures he submitted attest that his Model A is an authentic barn find. He says, "We are excited to learn from and talk with experienced Model A owners from all over to keep the legacy, and Grandpa's love of the Model A, alive."



Clay MacWhirter, 21, lives in Venkleeck Hill, Ontario, Canada. He is a member of Canada's Capital A's. He is restoring a 1929 chassis and has not yet decided on the body. Clay has just completed his third year as a mechanical engineering student at Carleton University in Ottawa. He says, "This summer I plan to have the chassis complete



and running, leaving me three years to find a body and optimize everything for trustworthy, long-distance travel."

Adam Breer, 15, lives in Castleton, New York, and is a member of the Adirondack A's. He is restoring his grandfathers' 1930 Coupe. For many years, the Adirondack A's have operated an educational program that gives hands-on experience in restoring a Model A. The program has completed the restoration of several Model A's that then went to new owners. Adam will undoubtedly have all the help he needs in working on his Model A.



McKay Lank, 19, lives in Canyon Country, California. Along with his grandfather, he is a member of the San Fernando Model A Club. McKay is starting with a 1930 chassis donated by a fellow club member and recently acquired a Fordor body. Like a barn find, this is a total ground-up restoration. He hopes to have it completed by the time he is 21.



Joshua Schubert, 20, lives in Russellville, Missouri, and belongs to the Mid-Missouri Region. Joshua is restoring a 1931 Pickup. His first recollection of a Model A was a sedan that sat in front of his great-grandfather's 130-year-old barn. Joshua began looking for a project car after his senior year of high school and settled on a Model A. He started the project with a rolling chassis.



Madeleine DeFrait, 14, lives in Chalmette, Louisiana, and through her father is associated with the New Orleans A's. Madeleine is working to restore the 1930 Roadster that belonged to her grandfather, a longtime member of the New Orleans A's. While he had restored the car many years ago, Hurricane Katrina took its toll, and the car sat for 15 years. Madeleine hopes to complete the work by next summer. ☹



Bob Moore of Bradbury, California, serves as President of the Model A Youth Restoration Award Board.