

KENT HEO

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EDUCATION

Princeton University

Bachelor of Arts in History Intended

Princeton, NJ

May 2029

Phillips Exeter Academy

English Diploma, *cum laude*

GPA: 10.8333/11.0 Highest Honors

SAT: 1600 (EBRW: 800 Math: 800)

Exeter, NH

Sep 2021 - Jun 2025

LANGUAGES & SKILLS

Fluent in English and Korean. Professional working proficiency in Spanish.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Coolidge Scholarship Finalist and Senator, selected as 1 of 12 to attend Finalist Weekend in Vermont out of more than 4,100 applicants, to compete for a full-ride scholarship to any college in the U.S. Received a one-time \$5,000 scholarship.
National History Day (NHD), Outstanding Entry and Best from State at Nationals, 1st-Place Paper at States, Nomination from Phillips Exeter.

History Bowl & Bee, Varsity Bowl 1st Place and 2nd Place at States, Junior Varsity Bee 2nd Place at States. Qualified for 2023 and 2024 Nationals. Qualified for 2023 and 2025 International History Olympiad.

Phillips Exeter In-House Debate Tournament, 1st Place Speaker, 1st Place Pair.

St. Paul's Debate Tournament, 1st Place Team, 2nd Place Pair.

John Locke Essay Competition, 1st Place in Junior Category, High Commendation in Economics Category twice. Awarded \$2,000 scholarship toward summer Public Policy Symposium and published by the John Locke Institute in 2024.

PLATO Ethics Institute, 1 of 15 published cases, selected from international pool of high school students.

Ethics Bowl, Varsity Bowl 11th Place at Nationals, 1st Place at States twice.

AP Scholar with Distinction, for a score of 5 across six AP exams.

Frederick Whitman Prize, awarded to the highest-achieving student in American History at Phillips Exeter.

Blackmar Prize, awarded for the year's best work in American History at Phillips Exeter.

Glazier Speech Prize, awarded across two years for exemplary work in Debate at Phillips Exeter.

Class of 1882 Debating Prize, awarded for captainship and the year's best contributions to Debate at Phillips Exeter.

Turner Exonian Prize, awarded for editorial leadership in and contributions to *The Exonian*.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Managing Editor and Executive Board Member of *The Exonian*

Dec 2023 - Jan 2025

Supervised entire publication process and managed the editorial and writing staff of the oldest continuous preparatory school newspaper in America. Formerly Copy Editor, Layout Editor, and Staff Writer since Sep 2021. Revised articles and designed pages for print issues. Wrote 70+ articles (~1500 words average). Received full scholarship to attend programs by Columbia Press Association and Harvard Crimson.

Co-President and Board Member of Daniel Webster Debate Society

Mar 2024 - May 2025

Board member and co-president of DWDS, the oldest secondary school student organization. Captain of Advanced A team. Competed in a selected four-person Advanced Team (from ~100 candidates) since 2022. Helped organize and judge novice practices and authored an all-club, comprehensive debate textbook. Organized and led Academy in-house debate tournament with 40+ participants. Led weekly all-club debate meetings.

President of PEA History Society, Captain of History Bowl Varsity Team

May 2023 - May 2025

Led seminars on key historical events and themes. Trained and organized practices for Varsity and Junior Varsity History Bowl teams.

Co-Head of PEA Legal Society

May 2024 - May 2025

Planned lectures and organized seminars for underclassmen on legal theory and constitutional jurisprudence. Initiated efforts to develop a competitive Moot Court team.

Co-Head of PEA Ethics Forum, Co-Captain of Ethics Bowl Team

May 2024 - May 2025

Led open seminars on ethical issues and case sets from NHSEB. Trained four Ethics Bowl teams for state championships.

Class Representative

Mar 2022 - Apr 2023

One of three students elected by members of class (out of 286 students). Represented and voted in Student Council. Organized class-wide events.

First Chair and Section Lead, Alto Saxophone, Phillips Exeter Jazz Ensemble

Sep 2021 - May 2025

Led saxophone section in the Academy's only audition-based ensemble. Played alto saxophone for six years. Played classical piano for thirteen years.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

American Independence Museum (Exeter, NH)

May 2022 - Jun 2025

Volunteer docent, volunteer assistant to Manager of Events and Marketing

Gave tours of the museum (colonial house and tavern) to visitors. Helped organize major events and advertise across platforms. Helped with artifact maintenance and miscellaneous tasks.

Paper Airplanes English Program

Dec 2021 - Dec 2024

Tutor English to Middle Eastern refugees after extensive training. Tutored three students across four semesters.

Ambassador and Tour Guide for PEA Admissions Office

Jan 2022 - Jan 2025

Led daily tours around campus and student panels for prospective applicants and families.

Exeter Student Service Organization (ESSO) Music

Apr 2022 - Mar 2025

Tutored local students in piano. Developed individual curriculum.

Learn to Be Program

Jan 2022 - Apr 2022

Tutored underprivileged students based in the US in humanities subjects (reading and writing).

Summer Parliamentary Debate Program

Jun 2024 - Aug 2024

Taught virtual lessons for debate fundamentals to recent Korean immigrant students in middle school.

EMPLOYMENT

Advanced Placement Tutor

Nov 2023 - Present

Independent tutor for AP U.S. History and AP World History.

“Exeter for Instructors” Summer Conference

Jun 2022 - Jul 2022

Assisted visiting lecturers in Academy classrooms under program coordinator for a two-week period.

Ambassador and Tour Guide for PEA Admissions Office

Jun 2022 - Aug 2023

Paid summer ambassador as continuation of community service work during the school year.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

“Poor Dear Thing”: Distant Mortality for Children in the American Civil War

Journal article in development, co-authored with Dr. Kent A. McConnell, for publication in the *New England Quarterly*.

Gateway to the Confederacy: The Chattanooga Campaign and the Turning Point of War

60-page paper on the Civil War, developed for submission to historical journals.

A Time-Stained God: The Making of Religious Belief in the American Civil War

Internship with Dr. McConnell as a research assistant to finish his ten-year monograph.

Children of Africa, Shall Be Haytians: Prince Saunders, Black Emigration, and the Radical Origins of American Citizenship 1791-1866

Research assistant for ongoing book project by Dr. Westenley Alcenat on the antebellum Haitian emigration movement.

Liberty of Self-Harm: Limits of the Law and the Value of Choice

Philosophy-based analytical paper on paternalism and self-harm, with applications to modern politics and policymaking. Submitted to the John Locke Institute. Awarded 1st Place in Junior Category.

Henry George and the Land Value Tax: Fair, Efficient, or Neither?

Economic analysis paper researching George's “single tax” system, submitted to the John Locke Institute. Awarded High Commendation in Economics Category.

Central Bank Coordination: Finding the Right Anti-Inflationary Solution

Paper outlining cost-benefit analysis on the necessity of coordination between central banks to combat high inflation.

The Iowa Car Crop: International Tariffs and the Value of Free Trade

Paper on “Iowa Car Crop” thought experiment and subsequent analysis of free trade, with applications to twentieth-century nations and modern economics. Submitted to the John Locke Institute, awarded High Commendation in Economics Category.

REFERENCES

Dr. Kent A. McConnell, History Department, Phillips Exeter Academy

Dr. Westenley Alcenat, Assistant Professor, Columbia University