

TCI Foundation Committee

Re: Dax Martin

I am pleased to nominate Dax Martin of Rio Rancho, New Mexico, for the 2026 Tall Clubs International Foundation Scholarship. He is an exceptional candidate who exemplifies the character, dedication, and leadership this scholarship seeks to honor. Dax consistently demonstrates enthusiasm, a positive attitude, and an unwavering willingness to take on new challenges. His courage and determination regularly push him beyond his comfort zone in pursuit of growth and excellence. Whether in academics, extracurricular activities, or community service, he approaches every responsibility with integrity and resilience. I am confident he would be an outstanding recipient of your scholarship.

Over the past several years, I have had the privilege of witnessing Mr. Martin's steadfast commitment to both Scouting and the Civil Air Patrol (CAP). His leadership is evident through the numerous positions he has held in Scouts BSA, including Senior Patrol Leader and Venture Crew President. In CAP, he currently serves as a Cadet Chief Master Sergeant and Cadet Aerospace Officer, roles that reflect his discipline, maturity, and passion for aviation. Beyond these organizations, he maintains a year-round commitment to soccer and is an active member of the Order of the Arrow, the national honor society of the Boy Scouts of America. His ability to balance leadership, service, and extracurricular involvement speaks volumes about his character and drive.

Mr. Martin is deeply committed to serving his community. He has volunteered hundreds of hours across a wide range of causes throughout the region, earning the President's Volunteer Service Gold Medal Award from 2023–2025, an honor requiring more than 250 hours of service each year, as well as, the Community Service Ribbon through Civil Air Patrol. His contributions include participating in flag retirement ceremonies and open-house breakfasts at our local VFW Post, planting flags on veterans' graves for Memorial Day, supporting the Toys for Tots program, and placing wreaths as part of Wreaths Across America. He has also devoted significant time to assisting fellow Scouts with their Eagle Projects, further demonstrating his commitment to service and leadership.

During the summer months, Mr. Martin serves on the Brownsea Youth Staff as a Patrol Guide. Brownsea is a Scouts BSA program focused on equipping new Scouts with essential skills such as first aid, knot tying, team building, camping, and other foundational competencies. In this role, he is responsible for the care, guidance, and mentorship of up to twelve Scouts, helping them build confidence and develop the skills necessary for success in Scouting.

Academically, Mr. Martin maintains a 4.0 GPA. He is also a graduate of CAP's Encampment and the Scouts BSA National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE), recognized as the

premier leadership training program in Scouting. These achievements reflect his strong commitment to excellence both in the classroom and in leadership development.

As a former Army 82nd Airborne Medevac Pilot and Warrant Officer, I offer my strongest endorsement of Mr. Dax Martin for this scholarship. He exemplifies the qualities of an exceptional and aspiring student—driven, disciplined, and committed to excellence in all that he pursues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Clifton Russell". The ink is black and the signature is fluid and legible.

Clifton Russell

Deputy Commander, Falcon Composite Squadron NM-077
Committee Chair, Scouts BSA Troop 24 and Venture Crew 16
4985 Kokopelli Dr NE
Rio Rancho, NM 87144