



### **The Amateur Trapshooting Association announces the results of the 2009 Youth Recognition Award**

The ATA Youth Recognition Award was established in 2008 to recognize youth who take an active part in their community and the shooting sports through individual participation, educational pursuits, and accomplishments. To qualify, youth must complete seven core requirements and a minimum of seven elective requirements. Applicants must be ATA members and must have fired 1000 or more registered targets in the last two years, plus they must submit their school transcript, three letters of recommendation and an essay on the subject of “What the shooting sports have taught me”.

The judging panel included individuals from across North American who are actively involved in youth trapshooting and related programs. Scholarship monies are made possible through the generous donation by Frank Brownell of Brownell’s Inc.

The judges have selected as the top three scholarship winners:

First Place and \$3,000 Scholarship: **Collin Wietfeldt**, Hemlock, Michigan  
Second Place and \$2,000 Scholarship: **Jessica Whalen**, Baraboo, Wisconsin  
Third Place and \$1,000 Scholarship: **Jacob Gogno**, Pottsville, Pennsylvania

Brief profiles of these outstanding young people follow here but watch for more detailed write-ups in the October issue of Trap & Field magazine and on [www.aim4ata.com](http://www.aim4ata.com) and [www.shootata.com](http://www.shootata.com)

**Collin Wietfeldt** started shooting trap in 2004. He lists as his proudest achievements so far being selected as a member of the 2007 and 2009 All-American Junior and Sub-Junior Trapshooting Teams, Michigan State ATA Teams, and 2008 US National Junior Olympic Shotgun Team. Collin will represent the United States in August as a member of the 2009 US World Championship Shotgun Team. He has worked since he was 13 years old to help his family with his shooting expenses. He is a member, volunteer and coach at his home club, Saginaw Field and Stream Conservation Club, as well as a participant and volunteer in local charity shoots. An Honor Roll student and a 2009 graduate of Hemlock High School, Collin will enter Lindenwood University in the fall as a chemistry major with a pre-dental study.

**Jessica Whalen**, a rising high school junior at Baraboo High School, has been shooting trap for five years. Her career goal is to become a teacher and she knows dedication to good grades will get her there ... and allow her to continue to shoot trap. She’s already well on her way in her role as a teacher as she is a Wisconsin DNR Junior Hunter Safety Instructor, teaching two classes a year since 2005 at Delton Sportsmen’s Club. Since 2008 she has been Youth Director for the Sauk County Youth Shooting Program

and volunteered earlier this year at the Sauk County Health Fair working a booth to promote gun safety in the home. She capped her 2008 target year being named to the Wisconsin All-State Sub-Junior Team. Jessica is known in her club as a leader and a mentor to new shooters coming into the program. She writes, "If I could tell my father one thing it would be 'Thank You' for everything."

**Jacob Gogno**, a 2009 high school graduate and a four-year honor student with perfect attendance, will attend Penn State this fall so he can stay locally and practice to improve his shooting skills in ATA and International Trap. He started shooting trap at Beckville Rod and Gun Club five years ago and has recently added International trap to his resume. He attended USA Shooting's Advanced Camp last year and was then selected for training at the Olympic Training Center, earning recognition as one of the top three shooters. Jacob has served as a counselor instructing shotgun at the Norm Thornburg Youth Conservation Camp and last year helped plan and instruct Beckville's First Annual Youth Trap Shoot in which 50 new shooters participated. Planning is underway for the Second Annual. He gives back to his club volunteering on work parties and as a trap boy, while putting in over 400 community service hours and earning honors as a football player. He writes of his appreciation to gun club members who have "shared not only their secret techniques with me but have shared their time and equipment."