



wv living  
MAGAZINE

# INCREDIBLE *Kids*

Presented by

  WVU Medicine Children's

  
West Virginia  
KIDS COUNT

**We think our West Virginia kids are incredible!**

During some pretty trying times, kids from all over the state inspired us with their inherent spirit, resilience, and kindness. For the second year in a row, our readers nominated amazing children from around the state. We were blown away by their accomplishments and stories. Meet our 2021 Incredible Kids!

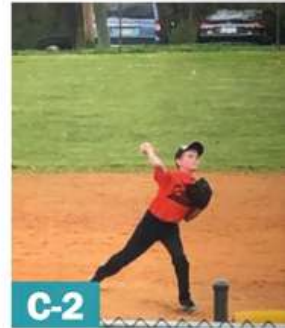




A-2



B-2



C-2

**A-2 Peyton, 10**  
**Morgantown**

Peyton is a smart, creative, and caring young lady who loves to read, craft, and learn new things. She's a hard-working 4th grader who aspires to be a teacher when she grows up.

**B-2 Christian, 18**  
**Morgantown**

Christian is a hard-working, helpful young man who enjoys participating in cross country racing. He's been racing for five years with NECXC and enjoys GNCC races as well. He is always inviting new riders to ride with him and helps them prepare for races by sharing tips and even race gear.

**C-2 Aiden, 11**  
**Augusta**

Aiden experienced debilitating anxiety during the COVID-19 pandemic, but he was able to persevere and get back into sports. This year was the first time he ever pitched for his Little League team. Aiden ended up being the closer for a game and pitched three strike-outs. He even kept his team ahead for its first win of the season.

**D-2 McKenna, 7**  
**Bruceston Mills**

McKenna is a 7-year-old jack of all trades. She is never afraid to try new things and always encourages others to do the same. She always has a helping hand to offer and loves helping others.

**E-2 Jayden, 18**  
**Mathias**

If you're ever having a bad day, you can count on Jayden to make it better. And under his outgoing nature lies a brilliant wordsmith. Jayden's poetry uses imagery and rhythm to transport the listener. Jayden's ability to embrace West Virginia makes him extraordinary—embracing and being himself is what makes him incredible.

**F-2 Daniel, 16**  
**Charleston**

Daniel was born with a rare heart defect known as Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome. Health care professionals warned his family that he might not have a good quality of life, but thanks to Dr. Gustafson and other staff at J.W. Ruby Memorial Hospital, Daniel not only survived but is thriving, and even played basketball in middle school. Today, he loves to travel, explore, and capture beauty through the lens of his camera.

**G-2 Jordan, 19**  
**Davisville**

Jordan is a special needs young man who loves video games, fishing, and his dog Angel. He has a lot of medical problems but is always brave. He likes to swim and ride side-by-sides. He graduated from high school and has participated in Special Olympics each year.

**H-2 Isabella, 10**  
**Morgantown**

After the pandemic hit, Isabella made COVID kits for her neighbors, which included sanitizer, masks, and gloves. This spring, Isabella and her three-person 4th grade team won the Future Problem Solvers State Championship for the Novice division, made up of 4th and 5th grade teams across the state of West Virginia.

**I-2 Robby, 6**  
**Martinsburg**

Robby was diagnosed with leukemia at just five years old. He is very involved with his medical treatment and learns the names of all of his prescriptions. Regardless of the long and sometimes tough days, he always tells everyone he is going to beat leukemia.

**J-2 Landon, 12**  
**Martinsburg**

Landon is very considerate and responsible and always thinks of others. He is the oldest of five siblings, two of whom have been diagnosed with cancer. As the oldest, Landon often takes on the caretaker role with his siblings. In spite of that, he maintains excellent grades.

**K-2 Mason, 9**  
**Beaver**

Mason was diagnosed with medulloblastoma not long after his 8th birthday. He is courageous and an inspiration because of his resiliency and brightness. He has been through a lot with chemo and radiation treatments and has not once shown fear or anger. He loves dinosaurs, playing with Legos, and, of course, video games. He is a true hero.

**L-2 Laura, 18**  
**Wardensville**

Laura is an incredible student and employee. Her creative, artistic expression is mind-blowing, and she has really shone working at the Wardensville Garden Market. Starting out shy, Laura has transformed and recently created a personal goal of creating her own animations.

**M-2 Amiyah, 2**  
**Wellsburg**

Amiyah is a sweet and sassy fighter. She was born with a cleft palate, and shortly after birth doctors discovered she had coarctation of the aorta. She has had many surgeries to repair both, but she is now stronger than ever.

**N-2 Annie, 11**  
**Winfield**

Annie is a very special young lady and an excellent pastry cook. A couple of years ago, after her older sister Katie passed away from cancer, Annie went to the Ronald McDonald House in Charleston to cook meals for families. She is an excellent student and a kind young lady.





D-2



E-2



F-2



G-2



H-2



I-2



J-2



M-2



N-2



O-2

**0-2 Scarlett, 1  
Bruceton Mills**

Scarlett was born at 26 weeks gestation due to PPRM. She weighed only 1 pound 13.3 ounces at birth. She spent 96 days in WVU Medicine Children's NICU until she finally was healthy enough to go home. She faced many challenges but is now on track developmentally.

**P-2 Emma Grace, 7  
Augusta**

Meet Emma Grace! She has had two trigger thumb release surgeries, and this has made it possible for her to play fiddle. She has since completed a year and a half of lessons and knows more than a dozen songs. She has also started piano lessons. Emma Grace loves music and loves playing for local churches.



K-2



L-2



P-2