



CAVU Construction Scholar

Benjamin Stickney

Lexington, KY

Sponsor: LCDR Benjamin Stickney

College: University of South Carolina

2024-2025: Freshman

Major: Biological Sciences & Music Composition

Academic & Extracurricular Highlights:

- Greenville County Youth Orchestras Principal Cellist
- Piano Major at the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities.
- Environmental Club
- National Honor Society
- Volunteer usher for Greenville Symphony Orchestra concerts



Receiving a 2024 Wings Over America Scholarship means more to me than simply receiving aid for me to pursue my studies and passions in college, although that is important to me and something I am very thankful for. To me, it also means a recognition of and appreciation for my father's service to the United States as a naval aviator. I also see it as an understanding of the sacrifices made by military families. My father spent fourteen years serving in the military. He was often deployed for months away from our family, which caused great strain. Military service can also cause trauma, which tends to manifest in alcoholism, PTSD, depression, etc. These disorders can destroy individuals and their families. The Wings Over America Scholarship Foundation is important to me because it understands what military families, specifically naval aviation families, endure and helps those families and dependents to pursue brighter futures. I am very grateful to my father for his service and to Wings Over America Scholarship Foundation for their aid in my college education.