

# Merit Award



*Kristine Dean*

**Welding Technology**

Newaygo County Career-Tech Center

Grant High School

Nominator: Aaron Brandon, Welding Instructor

“I love looking at my finished welds and being able to say, I did that.” This is one of the primary reasons Kristine enjoys her welding program at Newaygo County Career-Tech Center (NCCTC). After visiting the Center and investigating her options, Kristine decided to try the Welding program. She liked it so well, that she can envision herself teaching welding someday.

Kristine has participated in the MITES state competition where she placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Regionals and 2<sup>nd</sup> at the State competition. She is volunteering for a service project with United Way and has helped a local artist with her “Freedom” piece, which was part of Art Prize 2013. Her instructor, Mr. Brandon, says that Kristine has outstanding attendance, a mature attitude, and a mastery of the welding curriculum. She goes above and beyond each day in the classroom and in the shop.

Her future plans are to attend Ferris State University to pursue Welding Technology. She also intends to enroll in Technical Education Program at Ferris. Her ultimate goal is to become a Welding Instructor and to share her knowledge with others.



Kristine commented that her program at NCCTC has given her the background she needs to prepare her for college and the workforce.

**D**o what you love and it isn't a job.

~ Kristine Dean