

# About the Scholarship

Gabbie was a key leader for the Nebraska Gold 97s team, the second Nebraska Gold team to represent the organization. She played for the Millard Sizzle program starting at 10 y/o and later transitioned to Nebraska Gold until she graduated in 2015. She continued her softball career at Omaha Marian High School (class of '15) where she lead them to a 2nd Place finish in the 2014 Nebraska State Tournament, and helped lay the foundation to the 2015 State Championship. She received multiple All-State and Metro honors while at Marian, including OWH Super State 1st Team.



As many coaches commented, Gabbie had a special relationship with many of her pitchers. Probably the most impactful were during her years at Drake University:

The Drake University softball team won its second-straight Missouri Valley Conference Tournament title with a 4-1 victory over UNI. Drake (42-14) is the first-ever MVC team to sweep back-to-back MVC regular season and tournament titles. The Bulldogs' championship earned them the Valley's automatic berth to the NCAA Tournament as the program will be in the postseason in consecutive seasons for the first time ever.

Gabbie started all 59 games at catcher her senior year where she caught all five perfect games and two no-hitters by Nicole Newman and also caught Nicole Timmons' two no-hitters. She set a single season record for putouts with 542 and is third all-time in career putouts with 1,347 and only committed just two errors and was named to the MVC All Defensive Team.

Gabbie tweeted during the 2019 season, "**I literally caught a perfect game and a no-hitter today. how frickin good are my teammates?!? #rolldoggies**"

Nicole Newman, was Drake's first NFCA First Team All American in program history and ended the 2019 season as the NCAA leader in strikeouts with 423 and posted 13.36 strikeouts per seven innings, the 11th-best single-season mark in NCAA Division I history and Gabbie caught every one of them! Nicole is just the second MVC player to be selected the MVC Pitcher of the Year three times along with being tabbed to the All-MVC First Team four times.

At the end of their college career, Nicole tweeted, "**Had to have a special moment with my catcher who has done it all for me! On and off the field she been one of my best friends! I told her that I love her and we are going to finish this the only way we know how! Love you @gabriellemjonas**"

Gabbie was a one-of-a-kind person who embodied all that the Nebraska Gold organization represents. She has been described as "unapologetically herself" by her family and did not sugar coat anything when it came to family, friends, and teammates. She was a fierce competitor, loyal, and compassionate. Hard work, determination, leadership, passion for the game, team-first mentality were all characteristics she embodied every day while showing all around her the love she had for the game.

The Gabbie Jonas Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a Nebraska Gold senior who best embodies the characteristics that Gabbie brought every day on and off the field.

## ★★★★★ Scholarship Criteria ★★★★★

This young woman doesn't have to be the best player on the team; she needs to be the **best teammate.**

This young woman doesn't have to have the highest GPA on the team; she needs to be the **best teammate.**

This young woman doesn't have to play college softball to be considered; she needs to be the **best teammate.**