



**For Immediate Release**

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**November 11, 2025**

## **Spotsylvania Teen Receives Young Marines National Award in Washington, D.C.**

Young Marine Sergeant Faith Clevenger of Spotsylvania, Virginia has been presented with the national Jimmy Trimble Scholarship from the American Veterans Center. She received this prestigious honor during the 28th Annual Veterans Conference and 'American Valor Honor Gala' on November 8<sup>th</sup> at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C.

The Young Marines is a national youth organization for boys and girls from age eight through high school graduation. Clevenger joined LCpl. Caleb John Powers Young Marines in Fredericksburg, Virginia in 2017. She is now a senior and home-schooled at Seven Oaks Classical Homeschool Fellowship.

This award is presented annually to a Young Marine who exemplifies the fine qualities of James "Jimmy" Trimble III, a star athlete who passed up the opportunity to play professional baseball to serve his country in the Marines during World War II. Focused and dedicated to serving his country, he remained in combat. He died at age 19 on March 1, 1945, on Iwo Jima.

The award was presented in Washington, D.C. in the presence of over one thousand people who were honoring veterans and others who have served throughout our nation's history. The emcee of the event was actor, comedian and Lt. Colonel U.S. Marine Corps (Ret) Rob Riggie. <https://americanveteranscenter.org/avc-events/annual-conference/>

"Young Marine Sgt Clevenger represents the very best of today's youth," said Col William P. Davis, USMC (Ret), national executive director and CEO of the Young Marines. "She combines humility with drive, leadership with compassion, and discipline with service. Faith has made her family, her unit, and the entire Young Marines organization proud. The Jimmy Trimble Scholarship recognizes not only her accomplishments, but her unwavering commitment to live a life of purpose and honor—values that mirror those of Jimmy Trimble himself."

Upon high school graduation, Clevenger intends to attend Virginia Commonwealth University in 2026 where she plans to major in Public Affairs (Communications) / Forensic Science leading to a career in Forensic Science.

**Young Marines awards:**

- Received 1st place in the 9-12 age division for a multi-unit marksmanship competition
- Junior Leadership School in 2021
- Received unit Young Marine of the Year twice
- Public Affairs Correspondents Class in 2024
- Has led, planned, and coordinated all drills/meetings since early 2024

**School awards and accomplishments:**

- Received the Christian Character Award for three years
- Received the Courtroom Guardian Award for mock trial

**DAV (Disabled American Veterans) Junior:**

- Serve as a Junior Volunteer for over four years, accumulating around 500 community service hours

Sgt Clevenger is inspired by WWII photographer Lee Miller. At a time when women were expected to stay home, she went to the front lines. Miller covered the London Blitz, the liberation of Paris, and even the horrors of Nazi concentration camps. Her photos weren't staged or softened. They were real, raw, and honest.

"As a Young Marines Public Affairs Correspondent, I've learned that a photo is never just a photo," Clevenger explained. "It's a moment, a message, and sometimes, a memory that speaks louder than words. That's why Lee Miller's story means so much to me. She didn't just take pictures—she told the truth behind them. Her courage and resilience remind me why our role as correspondents matters."

Clevenger credits the success and growth in her life to the Young Marines program.

"As a proud member of the Young Marines, I've grown not only in self-discipline and leadership, but also in my ability to serve others through storytelling and design," said Clevenger. "In my role as a Public Affairs Correspondent, I've worked to capture the spirit of our program through photos and video that reflect our core values of leadership, teamwork, and discipline. These experiences have shaped my passion for communication and creative service—skills I hope to carry forward into my professional journey."

**Young Marines History**

Since the Young Marines' humble beginnings in 1959 with one unit and a handful of boys, the organization has grown to over 200 units with over 5,000 youth and 1,950 adult volunteers in 40 states, the District of Columbia, Japan (Okinawa), and affiliates in a host of other countries.

For more information on the Young Marines, visit the website at <https://www.YoungMarines.org>.

**CAPTIONS FOR PICTURES:**

**#1. Jimmy Trimble Award recipients Jadan Rogers of Honolulu, Hawaii and Faith Clevenger of Spotsylvania, Virginia were congratulated by actor, comedian and emcee Lt. Colonel U.S. Marine Corps (Ret) Rob Riggle at the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Gala of the American Veterans Center in Washington, D.C.**

**#2. Jimmy Trimble Award recipients Jadan Rogers from Honolulu, Hawaii and Faith Clevenger from Spotsylvania, Virginia who were awarded the Jimmy Trimble Award with Col William P. Davis USMC (Ret), national executive director and CEO of the Young Marines. They are accompanied by their mothers.**

**#3. Faith Clevenger of Spotsylvania, Virginia received the Jimmy Trimble Scholarship Award from the Young Marines and American Veterans Center in Washington, D.C. on November 8<sup>th</sup>.**

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