

LOCAL MIDDLE LEVEL STUDENTS RECEIVE PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS



Abigail Schmidt (left) and Yana Rowen (right), students at Ludlow Elementary School, were recently honored as Middle Level Scholar Leaders at the Twelfth Annual Vermont Scholar Leader Awards Banquet on June 3, 2009, at Norwich University in Northfield, VT. Students from middle level schools across the state were honored. The event is organized by the Vermont Association for Middle Level Education (VAMLE) and the New England League of Middle Schools (NELMS) with supporting sponsorship from Lifetouch National School Studios.

Nearly 390 students, educators, and parents attended, along with Armando Vilaseca, the Commissioner of Education for the Vermont Department of Education, and members of the VAMLE and NELMS boards. The banquet celebrates the achievements of the middle level students who are representative of the many fine young adolescents in all middle level schools in the State of Vermont. Students are selected by their school based on the standards outlined in the “Vital Results” and “Fields of Knowledge” sections of the *Vermont Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities*. The goal of the scholar leader program is to honor students who exhibit BOTH academic and leadership qualities. Dr. Robert Spear, Executive Director of NELMS, praised the students for their willingness to help others and for choosing excellence in their personal and school lives. He acknowledged the many contributions of the parents for creating environments that promote good citizenship and scholarship. Spear noted, “When students, parents, and schools work together, powerful learning takes place.”