

ALACRITY

Alacrity (ah LACK rah tee) Cheerful willingness to overcome obstacles



Northeast Texas
Community College

NTCC Honors Presents at 2012 Boston NCHC

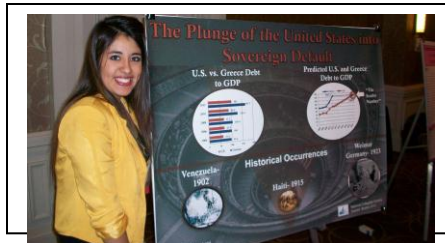


NTCC Honors is the only community college honors program in the nation to have presented at every meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council since 2008. In 2012, with competition from the State University of New York, the University of Alabama, the Colorado School of Mines, and universities throughout the nation, NTCC still placed four

presenters at the Boston meeting.

Jacob Brantley, left, examined research at three great medical mainstays—the Mayo, Johns Hopkins and the Texas Medical Center. He presented a provocative report on the “perils of progress.” **Stephani Calderon**, below, also inspired a vigorous response with her argument that the U.S. is plunging toward sovereign default, and a “scarlet (debt to GDP) number.”

(Continued on p. 2)



January 2013

Volume 5 Issue 2

Honors Highlights

- ❖ NTCC Presidential Scholars present again at the NCHC.
- ❖ Friends in Need.
- ❖ 2 Superlatives for NTCC Honors.
- ❖ The Morris Sheppard Film.
- ❖ Results of the Fifth Annual Elliott NE TX Poetry Contest...

A Five-Year Tradition: Cypress Bank provides Ricky Huitema with a MacBook

Real rewards and wide-open access historically have made Texas a dynamic place.

In Northeast Texas, Cypress Bank’s gifts of laptops to NTCC honors has been of great benefit for rising scholars, and a powerful evocation of this Texas tradition. Previous Cypress Bank Scholars at NTCC Honors such as Shelby Parker, the only NTCC student in history to have won a Caldwell and a Boe Award, and Jacob Brantley,

above, have had the best and newest machines to assist their winning projects. This year’s Cypress Bank Scholar, **Ricky Huitema**, has continued in this tradition. Huitema, a \$400 winner of the 2012 Northeast Texas Poetry competition, had a perfect GPA in his first semester.

We are indebted to Cypress Bank leaders such as Gary Bicknell, and B. Gooding who have made these awards possible.



B. Gooding, Vice President of Cypress Bank and Ricky Huitema



Inside This Issue:

Friends of Honors.....Pg. 2	NE Texas Poetry Contest.....Pg. 3
Honors Alumni.....Pg. 2	Director’s Message.....Pg. 4
The Film, Modern Icarus.....Pg. 3 & 4	Academic Excellence.....Pg. 4

Friends of NTCC Honors



An Anonymous Donor provided \$500 for the four NTCC Scholars who presented work at the NCHC in Boston. The students had a wonderful time traipsing through Boston, with extra dollars on a perfect fall day.

Above: by the Boston Common.



NTCC Honors remains indebted to Elliott Motors, and NTCC alumnus, Michael Whitney (above) for gifts enabling five years of poetry contests. The awards have imbued some of our most ambitious students with an appreciation of words, and meanings, but also a stronger sense of association to Northeast Texas as a unique region of the nation.

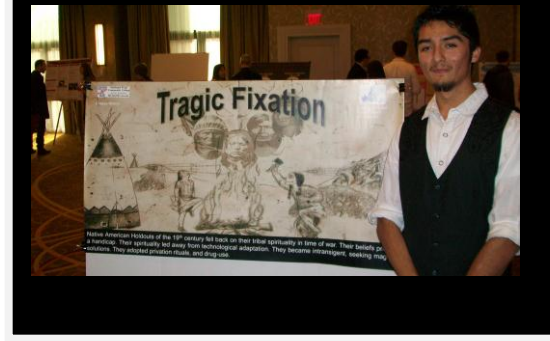
Dr. Charles Florio, former NTCC President, has always had a special impact on NTCC Honors, and he still provides monetary support.



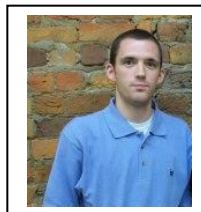
National Collegiate Honors Council and Beyond

(continued from p.1). Emily Parker's poster at the NCHC (right) charted the signs of declining prejudice, in three areas once renowned for distinctive racial problems. Jesse Rivera (right), focused on the ironic responses of Indian holdouts to the wars that deprived them of their homelands.

National prizes result from such prestigious venues. Since 2010 among colleges under 10,000, NTCC ranks tied for first in the nation in the number (4) of higher-level prizes in the All-USA-Coca Cola contest! Three of our 4 NTCC winners presented at the NCHC.



Honors Alumni: Where Are They Now?



Kristin Ellermann, far left, a member of our first, 2007 class of Presidential Scholars, made the Peace Corps and is based in Akhlatsikhe, Georgia, near Turkey. Ellermann received her B.A from Southwestern U, and is an accomplished multi-linguist, and writer. To the lower left, Lisa Lageschaar, continued in the trajectory she established at NTCC in her final year, obtaining a perfect 4.0 GPA at Tarleton State. She is bound for Grad school like Zachary Richardson, now at UNT, right. Richardson is part of UNT's impressive Digital Products Unit.

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Visit www.ntcc.edu/honors or contact

Dr. Andrew Yox at 903-434-8229 or ayox@ntcc.edu

Fall Happenings



Thanks to the Travel Reward Fund established by Dr. Jim and Paula Archer, NTCC Honors enjoyed another lavish trip to Dallas/Fort Worth. Professors Hearron, Rangel, Weinbrenner, and Yox, plus 25 honors students, some of which are shown above, toured the Fort Worth Zoo, the Kimbell, and the Botanical Garden. They saw A. Christie's *Black Coffee*.

Samantha Trickey, Jessica Salaverria, Chelsea Applegate, and Matthew Jordan, below, pioneered a new NTCC Honors



activity, penning a grant proposal for NTCC's Caddo collection that thus far has netted \$1,125!

(Top) Noah Griffin, Andrea Wells, Alisha Richardson, and Andrew Austin represented our film and prospects at the Webb meeting in Huntsville.

(2nd from Top) S. Calderon, J. Brantley, Ricky Huitema, and Matthew Jordan aired on K-Lake, 14 December.

NTCC Honors completes Caldwell Finalist



See cast photo
on Page 4.

We don't know the results of the state Caldwell contest yet, but it is a good sign that the State Webb Society for Texas History has been encouraging access to the 2012 film of NTCC Honors: *Modern Icarus, The Story of Morris Sheppard*. Type <Morris Sheppard> to view the film on Youtube.

Andrew Austin (left) is the film's producer. In the film, he recreated an explosion, adjusted sound disparities, and incorporated musical tracks. He was a tireless persuader. The film is about NE Texas's most influential and forgotten political leader.



2012 Northeast Texas Poetry Contest

We thank **Michael Whitney** and Elliott Motors for their continuing sponsorship of the poetry contests. Above, 2012 Student Winner, Presidential Scholar, **Ricky Huitema**, See: www.ntcc.edu/honors. Other winners included:

**Matthew
Jordan**
2nd Place



**Jacob
Brantley**
3rd Place



**Jesse
Rivera**
4th Place

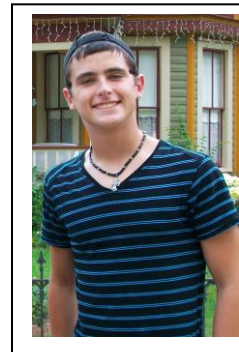


Cast of Modern Icarus



The Cast of *Modern Icarus*, left to right: Elizabeth and Noah Griffin, Emily Peacock, Philip Yox, Andrew Austin, Bonnie Spencer, Johnathan Chambers, Ashley Perzel, Stephen Milburn, Jacob and Alisha Richardson. This action film on the life of the father of prohibition, Morris Sheppard, was premiered at Mount Pleasant Library on 1 February 2013. Other showings of the film are now scheduled for Pittsburg, and Mount Vernon.

Academic Excellence



Presidential Scholar, **Noah Griffin**, led all in the Biotex Honors Seminar in the Fall of 2012, while PS **Jacob Brantley**, compiled the best overall record for students in Humusic Seminar. Other Presidential Scholars with exceptional records in the H seminars were Stephani Calderon, Ricky Huitema, Stephen Milburn, and Alisha Richardson.

A Message From the Honors Director



*Andrew Yox,
Honors Director*

The rising visibility of NTCC Honors is manifest in my own election as President Elect of the Great Plains Honors Council this past October. I will be replacing Dr. Karl Petruso of UT Arlington in November. Honors Directors throughout the region, from Nebraska to Texas, are recognizing that NTCC Honors has had some remarkable student winners, munificent benefactors, a winsome faculty, and creative administrative support.

Special thanks to Honors Professor Chuck Hamilton, left in center, whose professional film rig, and willingness to come to Jefferson helped our film project immensely. Dr. Mary Hearron has been an invaluable trip leader and letter-writer for national competitions. Dr. M. Weinbrenners' leadership of Phi Theta Kappa is another amazing NTCC story.



Honors Committee:

David Rangel,

Joy Cooper,

Robert Fenton,

Jacob Brantley



Northeast Texas Community College

P.O. Box 147 Mount
Pleasant, TX 75456
903-434-8100
www.ntcc.edu

*NTCC is an Affirmative Action,
ADA, Equal Opportunity Institution.*