

ALACRITY

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



At the NCHC 50th Anniversary in Chicago



Above: Dr. A. Yox, Cassia Rose, Morgan Capps, Isaac Burris, Angelica Fuentes, Jessica Velazquez, and Dr. Mary Hearron. Imagine a Division-I level of scholarship at our community college! The benefactors and scholars of Honors Northeast are helping to make the college a true crucible of American life, establishing outstanding opportunities. Like honors at Texas Christian (TCU), Texas Tech, Texas Woman's (TWU), U. of Houston, and San Jacinto (SJ) (continued on p. 2)

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Honors Highlights

- ❖ Present again at the National Collegiate Honors Council.
- ❖ Special Friends, Special Program.
- ❖ National Awards
- ❖ Poetry Contest. Cailee Davidson's Evening Kaleidoscope
- ❖ Appreciating the drama of high-stakes research.

Our Generous Friends of Honors Northeast

In the late 1800s, scientists believed in DNA's monumental effect on cells. They just could not define it. **Dr. Jim and Paula Archer** (right, appearing with Kayleah Cumpian, Texas Tech, and Presidential Scholars Angelica Fuentes, and Cailee Davidson) have had an amazing impact, however difficult to measure, hosting 9 honors-roundup picnics, and enabling 18 trips! Another recent major gift with an IBM match, thanks to Paula, reminds us how fortunate we have been.



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Friends of Honors



Scholar Cruz Gallegos used the 8th laptop donated by Cypress Bank in as many years. Billie Sue Hanson of Cypress looks on.



First Federal Community Bank and Ashley Amerson (above) receive our thanks for their continuing financial support.



American National Bank and CEO Brian Niblett has invested our endeavors with financial help again. An anonymous donor provided \$500--\$100 apiece for our scholars who were accepted at the Chicago NCHC, below. Our thanks also for contributions from Al and Sue Havenstrite, Karen Harmon and Dr. Brad and Vicki Johnson.



Honors Northeast Remains a Regional Vanguard



(cont.) NTCC presented its own panel at the recent meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council in November.

Like students at Abilene Christian, Angelo State, Lone Star, SJ, TCU, TWU, and UT Tyler, Burris, Capps, and Velazquez presented scholarly posters.

In Texas, Honors Northeast ranked with the honors programs of TCU, TWU and giant SJ in fielding both a panel and poster presenters at the 50th Anniversary of the NCHC!

The panel spearheaded by Cassia Rose discussed NTCC's journey into niche cinema, the windfall of social, academic and cultural possibilities for students willing to take, as Angelica Fuentes noted, creative risks. Burris, Capps, and Velazquez won berths for their presentations against the odds of juniors and seniors presenting honors projects. In their favor, Burris and Capps won Caldwell Awards, and Velazquez's essay will be published in *Touchstone*.

The Fergusons of Texas



At 7PM on 5 February at the Whatley Auditorium, Honors Northeast premieres its film on Ma and Pa Ferguson, Texas governors. Cassia Rose & Nathan Johnson (center) will star as Ma and Pa Ferguson, the most politically successful--& corrupt couple in Texas history. Morgan Capps (left) & Elizabeth Griffin (right) play daughters Dorrace, and Ouida. We thank the ongoing support of Jerald and Mary Lou Mowery for our films!

WANT TO HELP?

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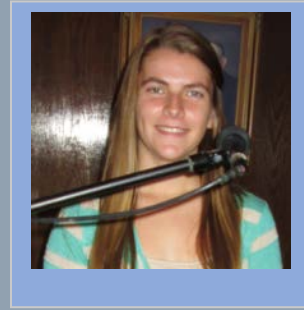
Fall Happenings



The filming of our Ferguson film in the antique town of Salado, Texas, above, attracted attention. The president of the Salado Historical Society, Bill Kinnison, presented a stone in the shape of Texas commemorating the work of Honors NE on the film. The officers of our Honors Student Council, below, Isaac Burris, Angelica Fuentes, Morgan Capps, and Jessica Velazquez, have collected important state and national awards. We are very hopeful about their prospects in the spring



Top: Three of our scholars presented our film work at the Walter Webb Society's Fall meeting in Galveston, Melody Mott, Laney Jordan, and Cruz Gallegos. Above: Texas Star winner Angelica Fuentes became the first student in the history of NTCC to give a paper at a professional history meeting, at the East Texas Historical Society in October.

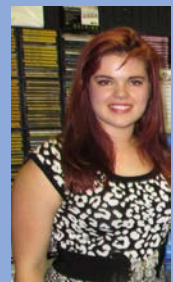


NE Texas Poetry Contest

Cailee Davidson (above) won \$400 condensing ten hours of nocturnal observation into a poignant, 240-word poem. In her work, the "beautiful chaos" of the evening sky--with fabled entrances of gem-like stars and the vertiginous morning sun--provides assurance of the Creator's infinite wisdom.

Elizabeth Griffin

2nd Place
\$300



Emmalea Shaw

3rd Place
\$200



Presley McClendon

4th Place
\$100



National Awards



Presidential Scholars Isaac Earl Burris and Morgan Capps both won prestigious national scholarships in the fall.

Burris was one of ten students in the nation to win the first Pearson Scholarship Award. He receives \$5,000 and is paired with a Pearson mentor. Morgan Marie Capps of Jefferson was one of 200 in the nation to receive the Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Award for \$1,000 from Phi Theta Kappa.

Both Isaac and Morgan are honors standouts. They won two of the four Caldwell Awards in the state for Texas history essays last year in Corpus Christi in the freshman-sophomore division. Isaac placed in the McGraw Hill poster contest last year just as Morgan placed in our poetry contest. Isaac is president of our honors student council. Morgan narrowly lost an election for Student Representative of the Great Plains Honors Council.

Fall Trip



The Dallas Arboretum's formidable pumpkin collection led one of our students to divide the circumference of one by its diameter. He got pumpkin pi. It was a great day at the 43 Café, listening to the quake of the organ at SMU's Perkins Chapel, and attending the theatre. Above, left to right: Nathan Johnson, Hector Zuniga, Isaac Burris, Kason Newman, Cruz Gallegos, Jacob Smith, Tanner Jones (obscured), Alicia Spurlin, Genesis Quezada, Jessica Velazquez, Morgan Capps, Marisol Bautista, Cailee Davidson, William Jones, Angelica Fuentes, William Villalobos, Presley McClendon, Melody Mott, Elizabeth Griffin, Laney Jordan, Dr. Melissa Fulgham, Cassia Rose, Emmalea Shaw, Professor Sarah Rainey, Dr. Mary Hearron, Steven Vaughn, and A. Yox. Our thanks again to Dr. Jim and Paula Archer (p. 1)!

Academic Excellence



Hector Zuniga's zeal to understand Okazaki fragments & William Hobby, as well as Elizabeth Griffin's all-round take on Beethoven's Fifth, and film-making made these two the leaders (above) in the fall honors seminars. Also due for honorable mentions: Morgan Capps, Melody Mott, Emmalea Shaw, and Jessica Velazquez.

Support for Discovery at Northeast



Andrew Yox
Honors Director

Queen Isabella's willingness to pawn her jewels to back the voyage of Columbus is not altogether unrelated to the kind of support for student research that we have received here at NTCC! Whatever the sacrifice, it is a wonderful feeling to send off twenty-five young scholars off each fall on "new world" voyages in learning. Thanks to our friends inside and outside the college, we have been able to imbue our young people with some ardor for creative thought, and high-stakes research. One result has been that we can now say that there are similarities between our Presidential Scholars, and All-American Bowl football players. Both groups actually have earned full-rides to Texas Christian University, the University of Texas, Texas A&M, Texas Tech, and other top universities.

We think of our friends who mentor students during our poster contests, attend our presentation luncheons, provide financial support for our scholars at national meetings, and support social occasions that open up new lines of rapport. We think of our administration which has supported our system, and of the faculty, who serve as poetry and Boe judges, and have provided such above-and-beyond help in inspiring and guiding students.



Honors Committee:

David Rangel,
Joy Cooper,
Robert Fenton,
Isaac Burris

Honors Professors:

Dr. Shirley Clay
Andrew Daniel
Dr. Melissa Fulgham
Dr. Mary Hearron
Dr. Paula Wilhite



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